



## Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 25 May 2022 at Somme Branch Legion &  
Via ZOOM Conference Meeting



The Monthly Meeting of SAOC(E) was held at RCL Somme Branch & via Zoom. Emails had been sent out and a posting made on Facebook Group to inform everyone that the meeting would commence at 1700 Halifax time so members could attend or connect at home.

**Opening** the Chairman, Sylvain Rouillard, brought the meeting to order (open up for dive) at about 17:13. He greeted all in attendance and those connected via Zoom. You get to supply your own drinks tonight. As this is our 2nd meeting at RCL Somme Branch it was held upstairs in a back room. Very large and satisfactory. The Wi-Fi for the Zoom connection appears to be satisfactory but periodically cuts out. Not many complaints.

**Attendance** 13 members were in attendance and 6 connected via Zoom. Those attending were Terry Chatham, Brian Cooper, Ron Cooper, Keith Estabrooks, Claude Gendron, Jim Gordon, Jim Harris, Bert Houde, Brian Lapierre, John Meehan, Scotty Parsons, Sylvain Rouillard, Nigel Walsworth, Those connected via Zoom were John Clahane, Sherm Embree, Shaun MacDougall, Jim Northrup, George Roach & Harold Tucker. Regrets received were from Douglas Birch, Cliff Boettcher, George Byzewski, William Cleal, Boyd Thomas, Brum Tovey & Willy Waugh.

**Health and Wellness** Dick Newman apparently has undergone his hip surgery on 4 May 22 in Fredericton. I tried to call him but the nurse wouldn't let me talk to him. Nothing I could do. Also, I heard from Ron Carrier that Gord Hamilton is making progress in the hospital in Moncton which is good. He actually connected on our bi-weekly zoom which was good to see him. Tony Halvorson is still in a long-term facility in PEI. Brian Hills and Dave Yeo are in regular contact with Tony. If you have any info on an ailing member please contact the Association by telling Sylvain Rouillard or Brian Lapierre.

**Minutes** The 27 April 2022 MGM minutes were distributed by email. No errors. The minutes were adopted as distributed.

**Correspondence In** No correspondence in. I did receive a cheque from a member for dues which was passed to the Treasurer. I again received an email from Valerie Braunschweig about the Newsletter. She wants articles and dits to be published in the Newsletter. Her email is [valerieanddick@telus.net](mailto:valerieanddick@telus.net). Also email from various Associations in the UK and they are distributed.

**Correspondence Out** The Chairman hand delivered a nicely worded letter to RCNA Peregrine thanking Peregrine and in particular Gary Wiley for their past service and warm hospitality during the COVID-19 pandemic, however we would be seeking a new venue to hold our meetings to better align with our schedule and our limited budget. Our new venue is the Royal Canadian Legion Somme Branch #31. Discussion as to why we can't hold it back at MOG5. However, due to the difficulty dealing with entrance to the Dockyard, emails back and forth, COVID restrictions, I think we would have difficulty going back to MOG5.

**Reports Chairman** Sylvain reported that Nicola Glover was supposed to talk tonight about the use of Medicinal Cannabis however it was cancelled as she did not show up. Perhaps next month.

**Vice Chair** Scotty Parsons has nothing to report. Scotty and Ron said they had planned a 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday for Brum Tovey at the Legion in Elmsdale. It went well.

**Treasurer** Ron Cooper gave his report. We started with a balance of \$18,428.91 at end of last month. Paid RBC their \$3.75 for services. Scotty was paid the \$358.47 for the bill for the "Beer Call". Closing Balance for end of May 2022 is \$18,066.69.

**Secretary** Brian Lapierre is recording the meeting and will transcribe it. Effective on the 21 April 2021

our mailing address is **73 Portovista Drive, Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1P3**. Most everyone pays their dues with E-Transfers. Please note this and also the address has been changed on the website for the mailing address. Brian stated that his dialogue with the Submarine Force has been good in trying to establish a good working relationship for obtaining information on the Submarine Force and on serving members. Ted Hirtle continues to support the Website and is making progress on it. Brian continues to put out the posters for both monthly meetings and the weekly Zoom meeting.

**Slops** Claude Gendron said he is probably not going to Ontario because of the cost of gas. He will bring the Slop items to the BBQ and set up a table. He had got a couple of hats made for Sandy Sadler which will be given to Sandy when he come down at the end of June. I displayed it on the camera for zoom. They are \$25.00 plus tax. If anybody is interested contact Claude.

**Membership Update** Brian Lapierre. Brian reported there are 39 Life Members, 93 Members paid for 2022 and beyond for current total of 132. Brian has been searching to find out the status of some of the Veterans and have found that a few have passed away and the Association did not know. He is continuing this task. Brian encouraged people to find out their status and pay their dues. As a reminder if people have not paid their dues and are lapsed for one year then their name will be taken off the list and they will no longer receive any emails from SAOC(E).

Send Dues via E-Transfer to: Sylvain.Rouillard@outlook.com

Send Dues via Canada Post to: **Submariners Association of Canada East, 73 Portovista Drive, Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1P3**

**Social** Brian Cooper asked about the summer BBQ. We have voted to have a summer BBQ on 16 July 2022 at John Meehan's. Further details will be posted when it is more organized.

**Old Business** The Battle of the Atlantic Ceremony was attended by Sylvain and Brian. They laid the wreath. SAOC(E) obtained a new wreath and we will now be in possession of it for future events. Sherm Embree also had a speaking bit where he read off the names of the Merchant Ships lost during the Battle of the Atlantic. John Meehan was actually in the Cyclone helicopter which dropped the wreath off of Point Pleasant Park. He said it was a great experience and enjoyed it. He got a tour of Halifax, along the Eastern shore and over his place in Musquodoboit Harbour. A good day all round. Upon the finish of the Ceremony at the Sailors Memorial the procession proceeded to the Bonaventure Anchor Memorial, where wreaths were laid by the Lt. Government and Admiral, and we also re-laid our wreath there. People pay respects by laying poppies and wreaths. If anyone wants to find out more about the Bonaventure Anchor Memorial go to the Facebook Group "Friends of Bonaventure" to find out more about the specifics on the names displayed. After the Battle of Atlantic Sherm Embree met up with Dr. Heather MacKinnon. They had a chat about her father and Sherm's uncle Bill Embree who were close friends. Her father and Sherm's uncle were both Doctors in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Core and were going to be going to Europe on the SS Nerissa. Sherm's uncle Bill Embree pulled rank on Dr. MacKinnon's father because he was senior. Bill Embree sailed on the SS Nerissa and was lost in the sinking of Nerissa. Dr. MacKinnon took a later ship and made it to Europe and served in the war. A very nice conversation according to Sherm Embree.

**New Business** Summer BBQ is being planned for the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 at 13:00 at the home of John & June Meehan's 7210 Marine Dr, Head of Chezzetcook, NS B0J 1N0. We are in the process of gathering names on who plan on attending. Brian Cooper and John Meehan are working out the details for the food, accessories etc. The big thing is if you plan on attending you need to contact Brian Lapierre with your information and names of people attending. Cut off date is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July to get your name in.

**Around the Room.** Brian also mentioned that a few months ago he was contacted by the Submarine Force in Halifax asking if he wanted an Oxygen Generator. Of course, he said yes so now Brian has an Oxygen Generator at the Museum which needs to be transported to the Ojibwa in Port Burwell. So, in the summer of 2022 if anybody is going to Ontario and would like to transport an Oxygen Generator to the Ojibwa please contact Brian. It is in a metal box about 30" x 18" x 18". The Naval Museum of Halifax is open but COVID protocols are still in place and wear a mask. A new batch of summer students have

arrived and are in the process of doing inventory.

We had a discussion on the time for holding the meetings since 17:00 presents difficulties to working members. With a show of hands, it has been decided to hold our meetings starting at a new time of 18:00. Also, a discussion was had about the Pig Roast in Groton, however there doesn't seem to be a positive response in anyone going down.

**50/50 Draw** Was won by Scotty Parsons. Total \$35.00. Also \$35.00 to the Association.

**Submariners Prayer** was read by Jim Harris.

**Adjournment** There being no further business, it was moved by John Meehan and seconded by Keith Estabrooks to adjourn the meeting at 1735 hrs. **Carried.**

The next MGM will be held at the Somme Branch Legion on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 1800 and via Zoom. We will let everyone know in advance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Lapierre

SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC (E) Chairman