



## MEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF NEWMARKET

### GENERAL MEETING

### MINUTES

Wednesday, 17th January 2024-10:00

Newmarket Legion Hall

#### Presidents Welcome

President Paul Bath

- President Paul opened the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of 2024 at 10:00.
- O Canada A Capella
- Warren MacRobie helped welcome 5 guests who identified themselves.
- Recognition of far too many members who unfortunately passed on in 2023.
- Reminder to members to complete the survey that was handed out at the greeters table to help us improve on the operation and direction of the club.
- Reminder to all new members who joined in 2023 to sign up for Probus 101 session in January or February.
- Acknowledged Vern Petry and David Lenard for chairing the club's Golf Events over the past several years.
- Recognized Bob Thivierge and Mike Ballard for taking over the role of Golf Chairs going forward.

#### Management Reports:

- **Secretary** *Brian Keddy*
  - Brief high lights of the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed.
- **Treasurer** *Sunny Lau*
  - Reminder to members to let Sunny know if they are interested in receiving a copy of the monthly Treasurer's Report.
  - Web Site changes will be summarized and changes will be highlighted in a newsletter to be issued.

- **Walking Group**

*Mike Ballard*

- A reminder especially for all of the recent new members that the walking group meet every Thursday morning at 10:00 for a walk followed by lunch.
- Walks are divided into two groups for those preferring a shorter/slower pace, are held along the Tom Taylor trail during winter months, and expand to hikes through York Region Forest and other nearby trails when better footing is available.
- Members encouraged to talk to Mike if they are interested to join, and be added to the weekly notification list for location of weekly hike.

- **Programs**

*Dave Brisley*

- February Speaker Adam Scholtz – Adventurer’s Expedition-Journey from Southern Ontario to the Arctic.
- March Speaker John Taylor What’s happening in Newmarket. Be sure to bring your questions!

- **Marketing Team**

*Dick Furlong*

- The team has deemed 2023 a success with 16 new members added
- The teams Goals are: Membership Satisfaction and Recruitment, and the team is inviting members to join the team!
- Club Events for 2024 with the chairperson for each are:
  - Home Show: Bill Kidd
  - Yuk Yuk’s: Paul Bath
  - Newmakeit: Dave Brisley
  - Rib Fest: Dick Furlong
  - Golf Day: Bob Thivierge and Mike Ballard
  - March Bring a Friend Month: Paul Bath and Dick Furlong
- Team will be looking for volunteers for each of the events above, to help make them successful.
- Be a Friend-Bring Friend Event is March 20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting followed by Lunch catered by Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

- **Newsletter**

*Bill Kidd*

- Next edition to come out at the end of March
- Looking for input from members in the way of photos and activities.

**Membership**

*Warren MacRobie*

- Total of 54 attending today’s meeting, including 6 guests.
- Membership now totals 80 with 2 new members joining today.

- **Who Am I?**

**Bill MacTavish** gave an interesting summary of his life. A leap year baby born and raised in the Fergus/Arthur area. Related a scary incident of being pulled from a river as a young child. Bill's work career involved moving frequently to 13 communities in Ontario and Alberta in the Financial /Investment services industry. Retired 5 years ago to enjoy physical activities of golfing, skiing while still remaining active in a family run Cider business.

- **50/50 Draw**

Lucky winner went home with \$109. Second and third winners received a book by a Local Author.

- **Other Business**

- Dick recognized John Parkin who collects empties for the Food Bank, referencing his story highlighted in a recent Newmarket Today.
- Mark Robinson a member of A Capella York has agreed to provide us with a four-part harmony experience, performing O'Canada to open our February General Meeting.
- Mark and his quartet to return in March to perform, This Town is Your Town as an introduction of our March guest speaker John Taylor.

**Guest Speaker**

*Dick Furlong Introduction*

- Paul Wylezol gave an interesting presentation of the British navigator and explorer Captain James Cook. He led us on a journey of James Cook born with a common background rising to the esteemed nobility position of Captain of the British Navy. He related Cook's adventures of mapping in great detail the coastline of Newfoundland and the shoals and coastline of the Saint Lawrence River in the 1760's. Then his 3 trips to the South Pacific in the 1770's where on his 3<sup>rd</sup> trip he was unsuccessful in searching for the North West Passage and unfortunately meet his death in 1779.

**Adjournment noon for lunch at Cousin's**

