

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD AT 9:30 A.M. ON AUGUST 6, 2019 AT THE
SHAUGHNESSY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

ATTENDEES: Peter Scott – Chair, Hugh Chaun, Doug Cucheron, Raymond Greenwood, Peter Hamilton, Bill Hooker, Hugh Lindsay, Tim Sehmer, Roy Williams
REGRETS: Peter Brock, David Pulfrey, Jack Zaleski
GUESTS: Ken Waithman, Doug Graham

1. President Peter Scott called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed all. Tim Sehmer acted as secretary. The agenda circulated by the president on July 30 was approved.
2. A quorum of the board being present, the president declared the meeting properly constituted for the transaction of business. The president noted that with the exception of the Website & Database Committee, all the committee chairs were present in person or through a representative (the president acting as representative of the Newsletter Committee in David Pulfrey's absence, and Doug Graham acting as representative of the Activities Committee in Jack Zaleski's absence).
3. Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes of the May 28, 2019 board meeting were approved.
4. Business arising from the May 28, 2019 board meeting:
 - (a) Licence Plate Frames: It was noted that PROBUS Canada license plate frames will be given to newly inducted members starting at the August 13 meeting, and continuing until the supply of frames is exhausted;
 - (b) Membership Application Form: It was noted that the membership application form has been revised (but not by the Membership Committee) as contemplated in the minutes of the May 28 meeting.
5. Treasurer's Report: Doug reviewed the income statement for the Club's operating year ended July 31, 2019, as circulated by him on August 4. It was noted that our operating surplus of approximately \$2,200 results primarily from:
 - (a) membership renewal revenue being up significantly over our previous operating year – reflecting the increased rate for annual dues; and
 - (b) our operating surplus of approximately \$2,200 results primarily from insurance costs and website operating costs coming in substantially below budget.

The budget for the Club's August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020 operating year was approved at the May 28 meeting. Doug reported that collection of membership renewal fees for the August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020 operating year is going well.

6. Speakers' Committee: Bill reported that Jonathan Manthorpe, who was scheduled to speak at the September meeting on the topic "The Claws of the Panda – China's position in the world",

had backed out, and that former CKNW reporter and current VP of the Volunteer Cancer Drivers Association - George Garrett (who is acknowledged to be an excellent speaker) will fill that slot. He also indicated that Mike Harcourt may be willing to speak on the topic of "Livable Cities", perhaps at the January meeting. There is a long list of potential speakers for 2020 resulting from the Committee's annual "think tank" session held in June. Possible speakers include Andrew Trites (head of the Chinook-Orca Study) and Chris Hinkson (Chief Justice of BC).

7. Membership Committee: Peter Hamilton reported that there are now 387 active and 3 inactive members, with 7 applicants for membership on the waiting list. With three of those applicants being introduced at the August 13 meeting, the waiting list will be reduced to 4. It was noted that applications tend to be slow in the summer, when many people are away, but typically pick up in the Fall.

At the last meeting the Committee was asked to recommend a policy for dealing with the reinstatement of members whose membership has been terminated for non-payment of fees. Peter reported that his committee recommends the following policy:

"A terminated member may, subject to Board approval, be reinstated by paying a reinstatement fee (equal in amount to the then current initiation fee for new members) plus the annual membership fee for the then current financial year, pro-rated over the balance of that financial year."

After discussion, the Board approved and adopted this policy.

8. Activities Committee: Doug Graham reported that:
 - (a) A Vancouver Art Gallery tour is scheduled for October 15 (Chris Finch organizing);
 - (b) The tour of indigenous art at YVR is scheduled for September 24 (Rich Carson organizing);
 - (c) The VSO events for 2020 include the following:
 - i. February 14 – Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band;
 - ii. March 13 – Beethoven Experience
 - iii. April 30 – Bernstein on the Town and Gershwin's Porgy and Bess;

It was noted that the Arbutus Club has been booked for the Presidents' Lunch in October.

It was noted that eight men's and eight women's Division 1 NCAA teams have now confirmed their attendance at basketball tournament that Canada 1 Foundation is organizing for November. The Committee is looking into organizing a group discount purchase of tickets on behalf of interested members and their grandkids who commit to attend this event.

9. Newsletter Editor: Peter Scott suggested that we make a greater effort to make ourselves aware of the passing of members, so that we can inform the membership through notices in the newsletter.
10. Member Services Committee: Raymond had nothing to report, but noted that our contact at the McMillan Space Centre had changed. He also raised the following topics for discussion:

- (a) using Survey Monkey to get information from our members about their interests and preferences (including: would they be interested in a Probus travel club (in which case, what places would they like to go to)? Would they serve on a small committee? Do they enjoy the special “theme” days observed by the Membership Services Committee?); and
- (b) other ideas for lunch after meetings.

11. Website & Database Committee: No report.

12. Historian: Roy had nothing to report. He noted that Hugh Lindsay has agreed to be his back-up as historian.

13. New Business: Peter Scott received an enquiry from one of our members as to whether or not it might be appropriate to invite Jody Wilson-Raybould as a speaker. We’ve had a number of politicians (Elizabeth May, David Eby) as speakers in the past, but not while they were actively campaigning for election or re-election. The last time the issue of having politicians speak to us came up for discussion, the consensus of the Board was that politicians should not be invited when they’re actively campaigning, unless it’s an “all candidates” type format.

14. Nominating Committee: Hugh Lindsay noted that the Bylaws require 12 directors, and with Hugh himself retiring as past president, David Pulfrey retiring as Newsletter Editor and Publisher, and Peter Scott both becoming past president and being nominated to serve as Newsletter Editor and Publisher, there would only be 11 directors. The Nominating Committee is accordingly submitting to the board a supplemental Nominating Committee Report adding the nomination of Ken Waithman as director-at-large. Hugh introduced Ken to the Board, and Ken provided some background on himself. He was born and raised in Winnipeg, but worked in Toronto for a number of years before returning to Winnipeg, and then moving to Vancouver in 1984. Ken was in charge of National Sales and Marketing for Wedgewood, worked for Nabisco running a coffee company in Winnipeg, and ran Dicksons Coffee and then Canterbury Coffee in Vancouver. He lives in Yaletown with his wife of 48 years, and they have two children and five grandchildren. Ken is a member of the Optimist’s Club and was active for many years in the Pacific Coast Coffee Association.

The Nominating Committee’s supplemental report, nominating Ken Waithman as director-at-large, was approved by the Board.

The meeting ended at 11:58 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the board will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at the Vancouver Lawn Tennis & Badminton Club.