



SUBMARINERS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

CENTRAL BRANCH

Minutes of the meeting held 20 April 21 over ZOOM

1. **Opening Remarks:** The following members were present:

Jerry Brown	Peter Heppleston	Pierre Bouchard	Gord Burns	George Roach
Bob Bush	Moe Allard	Ron Ewan	Dave Robinson	Gord Hunter
Mike Young	Gilles Porrier	Fred Schatz	Dave Anderson	Rob Quai
David Soule	Fred Rowe	Ted Stiles		

The President opened the meeting at 1905 by welcoming and thanking everyone for their attendance. He stated that due Covid, the Zoom meetings may become the new normal and thanked Jerry Brown for setting up the Zoom conferences. He then commenced the meeting.

2. **Previous Minutes:** George Roach made a motion to accept the previous minutes as presented, seconded by Mike Young and without opposition the motion was carried

3. **Reports:**

- a. **Treasurers Report** – Pierre Bouchard presented the treasurers report, refer to new business for details.
- b. **Membership** – Fred Schatz reported that membership was down. He said he is no longer sending out requests for renewal as he never gets any responses. Membership stands at 118 (2021), 67 (2022), 43 (2023) and 24 (2025). Fred made a motion to accept the report as presented, Gord Hunter seconded and without opposition the motion was carried.
- c. **Entertainment** – Jerry Brown presented the Entertainment Report- He indicated that it was unlikely that the AGM weekend would come to fruition but he and others from southern Ontario like Dave Robinson are still going through with the planning efforts. Jerry stated that they need very little time to turn on or off the support services. George Roach indicated that members would need some time to plan hotels and travel etc. therefore we couldn't leave the decision to the last minute. Jerry indicated that the final decision must be made by the 1st week of July. Rob Quai suggested that we change the terminology and divorce the AGM from the AGM weekend. We still need to hold the AGM regardless whether or not we have the AGM Weekend in Port Burwell. All were in agreement. The President indicated that business may need to be conducted in a virtual world and that bylaws

may need to be changed (for discussion in new business). A motion to accept the entertainment report as presented was made by Rob Quaia, seconded by Dave Soule and without opposition the motion was carried.

d. Services – Nil Report

e. Slops – Nil Report

4. Old Business:

a. Recommended Structure of a National SAOC Organization – SAOC W Proposal - The President stated that he reviewed the proposal by SAOC (W) and pointed out that the vision is to have greater international representation in submarine communities. Their proposal meant to address the requirement by establishing a point of contact for international matters. However he also indicated that the proposal didn't specifically address that and he requested further clarification which he has not yet received. He then opened this business for discussion. Mike Young said if anyone wanted an international POC they should appoint one, however creating a bureaucracy to support international matters is not desired. Dave Robinson went on to say that Bo Guffstason belongs to international submarine organizations and that anyone can join if desired, so what is gained by creating an administration within the SAOC. The president indicated that everyone in SAOC Canada should have the opportunity to attend international events if they wanted. But to do so they would need to know that they are taking place. Peter Heppleston asked if there was any more information provided w.r.t. a financial structure or any associated costs related to the proposal. The president said that he did not believe that the proposal would add any costs outside what we already pay with our dues. The secretary asked if it was the intent of the SAOC to fund the participation of individuals to attend international events. The president indicated that was not the intent and advocated that that the proposal was very worthy of thinking about. Most of us have some connection with other submarine forces around the world. As we were not voting on the proposal at this meeting it was decided move on and the President stated he would provide more information as it becomes available.

5. New Business:

a. 2020 Financial Report - The 2020 Financial Report was presented by Pierre Bouchard. Fred Schatz identified a discrepancy between the monies obtained from membership dues and the numbers reflected by the actual membership. The president asked that Fred and Pierre get together to identify and correct any discrepancy(s). As the 2020 report was already audited, Moe Allard made a motion to accept the 2020 Financial Report as presented, seconded by George Roach and without opposition the motion was carried.

- b. 2021 Budget – Pierre Bouchard presented the 2021 Budget. Fred Schatz stated that our 2021 budget was greater than our 2021 income (membership dues). Jerry Brown indicated that was incorrect as our income was more than just dues it also includes monies charged for the BBQ and raffles etc. Fred Schatz asked why we spent money on the BBQ last year and Pierre said we didn't and went on to explain that we were in the hole \$97 from the previous year and that was carried over to last year and the monies not spent last year on the AGM were carried over to this year. The Secretary stated that budgets or expenditures should not be carried over, that was agreed by many. The President asked Pierre to correct the budget numbers and present them at the next meeting and asked that the reports be sent to the membership before the next meeting.
- c. Proposal Ojibwa Charity – Max Wood gave an excellent brief on the “Not for Profit” Proposal for HMCS/M Ojibwa (proposal is attached to these minutes). He indicated that the intent is to create a historical working group to promote and support the Museum in Port Burwell, Submarines, Submariners and other “Sneaky Bastards”. Max asked that the SAOC members consider the proposal and requested our input and support going forward. Peter Heppleston inquired what Max wanted us to consider w.r.t. his report. Max indicated that he wanted the members to consider supporting the initiative whether it be a charity or NFP Organization by joining their organization and/or supporting financially as able to do so. He indicated that the majority of the funds would be raised via Govt. grants etc. He wanted to make it very clear that they were not asking for financial support from the SAOC in any way but requesting our members consider supporting the initiative as they feel appropriate. Dave Robinson then provided another presentation on how they were using joined sea cans to present and secure the submarine memorabilia. Dave Robinson went on to say that all submarine artifacts would be displayed not only Oberon Class. The president mentioned that there were some artifacts from Victoria Class submarines that may become available through Lockheed Martin due to the upgrade of the Victoria Class Combat Systems. The President applauded their efforts and stated that asking the SAOC members for their input and support is a good thing for Submarines in general and that the members can support if they desire. He asked that they keep the Association abreast of their progress and the Association will make the members aware of their work and their needs. He expects that members will step up and support where they can.
- d. Bylaws Update – The president indicated that the bylaws will require an update to ensure that business can be conducted in the Covid environment. We need to ensure that the business conducted and decisions made at Zoom meetings are official. Moving forward using Zoom or social media to conduct official business is the way of the future.

The president undertook the task of drafting the required changes to the bylaws and asked that members forward any suggested changes to him.

- e. New Website Webmaster – The President stated that we needed a new webmaster and that he was really not capable of carrying on with that role. The website is our link to the members and the rest of the world and someone has to manage its content. All association websites are now on the same host and its costing us much less. All we need now is a webmaster. It doesn't have to be a member but someone with some interest in doing it. Perhaps a young family member might help out? Any suggestions are welcome.
- f. Unseen Warrior Society – This business was covered by the Ojibwa Charity.

6. Any Other Business

- a. Peter Heppleston indicated that it was time to stand-up the nomination committed for the upcoming AGM. All agreed especially the incumbent executive. SAOC (C) is now looking for volunteers for the nominating committee. We currently have empty positions, positions that are unofficially filled (not voted in) and there is dire need for “new blood” in the executive. Secretary to send out nomination forms for the elections.
- b. Peter Heppleston brought up the fact that the volunteers for the OBIBWA PAINTEX have still not received their Certificates of Appreciation. This has been outstanding for almost a year now and the optics are bad. The president stated that he put the T-shirt design requirement out to the other two branches but didn't get anything back from them. Pierre Bouchard said he had the certificate in hand and would present it at the next meeting and send an electronic copy this week for review. The president said if the certificate is acceptable and we have the information for the recipients that we may as well send them out. Rick Duff previously volunteered to pay for the printing and shipping of the certificates to the recipients because he wasn't able to volunteer for the work party.
- c. Jerry Brown briefed the Ojibwa Spring Work Party. The work Party will take place form 30 May – 6 Jun. If interested please contact Jerry. Further information is forwarded with these minutes.

7. Round Table

- a. Moe Allard mentioned that the local TV station had developed an App for giving virtual tours of the Onondaga over their phone and that the Museum Director is retiring.
- b. Gord Hunter stated how happy he was with the Zoom meetings as he has not been able to attend meetings for over 20 years since he left Ontario. He hopes they continue post Covid.

- c. Dave Soule queried the name of Gord Hunter's book "No Badge Killick" and asked where he could get a copy. Gord responded by telling him the best way would be to send him an email and that there weren't many left.
- d. The President said we will continue with the Zoom meetings and at some time figure out how to do both in-person and Zoom. He thanked Dave and Max for helping preserve the submarine culture. Due to the success of the Zoom meetings, a decision was made to hold monthly meetings over Zoom.

7. Adjournment:

- a. There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at 2109. The next regular meeting will occur on the 18th of May 2021 @1900 over Zoom.

Original signed by:

R.E. Bush

Date

Original signed by:

G.A. Burns

24 April 21

Date

Attachments:

- 1. 2020 Financial Report
- 2. 2021 Draft Budget
- 3. Update to Ojibwa Charity/NFP
- 4. Nomination Form 2021 Elections
- 5. Update of the Ojibwa Spring Work Party Information