BASTION CITY PROBUS
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, May 27, 2026 AT COUNTRY GROCER, BOWEN ROAD

ATTENDANCE: Heather, Jim, Chris, Faye, Nancy, Diny, Joanne, Elaine, Margaret
REGRETS: Joan, Gail, Greg, Linda, Debbie, Bill

Call to Order: 10:00

First off, I have to admit that capturing all the various discussions was a bit of a challenge this time, as was getting them recorded under the appropriate Headings. Hopefully, I was able to capture them all somewhere, mostly in the order they were discussed.

PRESIDENT: Heather welcomes all in attendance. She suggested that the next MC Mtg. be in August, all in agreement.
She discussed the need to acknowledge living on the unceded territory of first nations. Various opinions expressed. All agreed to leave it to the President's discretion.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Faye said all is well with financials to date and presented the latest update.
Many issues were then discussed related to Special Events and Day and a Bit Trips.
Faye said that she had rec'd an envelope from an "anonymous donor" with $300 in cash in her personal mail, as a donation toward the costs of this summer's Western Event. More info on the event can be found under "Special Events".

There was much discussion on recent developments related to the potential March 2027 Murder Mystery Day-and-a-Bit Trip to Quadra Is. at Herriot Bay Hotel. The principal issue was the need to pay a non-refundable deposit of $1,000 to hold the dates, in spite of not yet knowing the cost's per person or the number of people yet committed to attend (many at the mtg. had planned to attend). The need to commit this amount of money without authorization from the club's member's approval is not within the MC's authority. Faye agreed to contact Herriot Bay to see what alternatives we might have to reschedule in the fall for a possible alternative date. This came after Elaine Evans said that she was resigning from organizing these activities. Diny said she would be happy to follow up with organizing this trip, if necessary, and with support.

We then moved on to discuss payments to speakers at our general mtgs. Diny was surprised to hear that we were paying $50 to each and noted that many speakers had rejected the payment. Jim noted that John O had told him that was what most local clubs were doing. After

some discussion, it was agreed that we would go back to giving a PROBUS pen and a thank you card, unless the speaker had incurred some unreasonable costs in coming to speak to us. Greg has ordered 20 pens, and will cover any extra amount and shipping.

Another issue that was discussed was the "Garden Club's" planned trip, to Milner Gardens. Faye said that not all participants that were required to fill the bus had as yet signed up. No one present knew the cancellation policy. Heather said that Kathy Galvin was organizing this, and it was more like a Day Trip, than a planned trip lead by Helene Sullivan's Garden group. Heather volunteered to discuss status and cancellation policy with Kathy. (Heather contacted Kathy and all is well. There is no need to pay in advance and we have the minimum number of paid (8) attendees so it is a go.)

Faye said we were still trying to resolve cheque signing authority with our Credit Union. This has been most frustrating,

NEW BUSINESS- Discussion was held relative to the Island PROBUS president's advice that holding 50/50 draws was illegal, without a gaming licence. Faye said that she had researched this and that we could apply for a Class D licence ($10/YR) to hold up to 10 events in the coming year (if the tickets were sold at less than $2 each). It was agreed that Faye should apply for a licence and that we should advise other clubs of the process.

Another issue raised by the Mid-Island Presidents' lead was related to permission to share member's photos without their consent. Apparently, this led to a lawsuit within one club. Our application for new members authorizes us to share their photos. In addition, the photos on our club website are from PROBUS Canada, not of our actual members.

SPECIAL EVENTS – Margaret read out the following report that Debbie had submitted via email. "To date we have 49 people that have signed up and paid for this event. We have a possible 6 people making Chilli for the chilli cooking contest.
The caterer has been paid the deposit and all is a go. Our committee is meeting June 16th to finalize the food selection.
We had put the offer out to Ladysmith Probus Club to join us in this event and we had Set their ticket price at $50.00/person. Vicky from Ladysmith contacted me and advised That they won't be joining us, as the ticket price was more than what their club could pay. She asked that if we have any other activities that we might need more people to make it a go, they would be happy to join us. She also said that maybe we could do another event together at another time."

MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Chris said we had 141 members with 3 new in the last month. At least one new member is anticipated in June. Chris said that we had 2 "renewals" from past members. It was clarified that members that had not renewed by the cut-off date must submit a new application to join. Chris to follow up with one of the 2 "renewals" on this.

NEWSLETTER/PROGRAMS – Heather said she had been unsuccessful in filling either of these vacant positions so far. She indicated that Greg and Ken Swain might be willing to take on Programs. To be confirmed. In the meantime, she has arranged a speaker for June and will get the name and bio for the June Newsletter. The speaker for September is Mayor Leonard Krog. This brought on some discussion about the proximity to the civic election in October and politicking. It was agreed that he be introduced as the mayor and that he would be giving an update on the state of affairs and projects currently underway in the city.

Joanne volunteered to produce the June Newsletter, but requested Heather to continue to search for a new lead. There was discussion about publicizing the application for scholarships from the Belair Direct (PROBUS recommended insurance company) for children or grandchildren of our members. It was agreed that the application process be published in the June newsletter.

WEBSITE – Joanne reported as follows: I have now learned how to grant access to the managers to view the Management Meeting Minutes that are stored on the website. Each of the managers will now have access to the past minutes simply by logging in using their Username and Password. The only difference that you will see is that on the drop-down Members-Only menu, there will be an additional page showing a page that only the managers will see. On that page you will find past meeting minutes. Please note, as we had no secretary for 2024/2025, the minutes are sparse. If anyone has a copy of any notes that were taken during those meetings, please send them my way and I can add them to the website. Once a manager ceases to be on the management committee, their access will be removed.

We are using a free version of MailChimp, however currently, we are billed monthly from MailChimp an extra fee or the ability to add the newsletter to emails. This was added so that there was no need to logon to the website to read the newsletter. I chose to go monthly for a few months to see if it works. I believe it has, and if all agree I will switch payment to yearly. This will free up the need for Faye to reimburse me every month and instead we'll have one bill a year. It was agreed to switch to the yearly payment.

ACTIVITY COORDINATORS – Diny reported that Sandra McAuslin has stepped down as the lead of the Lunch Bunch activity and therefore there will not be a lunch in June. She hopes to find a new lead by the return in the fall.

There was an update on Group 2 Canasta on Mondays. Barb O'Connell had stepped down to be replaced by a new lead that then stepped down due to some disagreements within the group. Marrian Daem has now taken over the lead of that group. And then, having both Monday groups meet together in June for one gathering, became a new issue.

As indicated earlier in these notes, Elaine Evans has indicated that she is stepping down as the lead of Day and a Bit Trips.

SUNSHINE: Margaret reported that 1 card had been sent out in the last month. It was mentioned that Donna Hay had been admitted to hospital on Monday. Margaret to send her a card.

HOSPITALITY/GREETERS – Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT – 11:18