

BARNSTABLE NEWCOMERS CLUB
Meeting Minutes - September 18, 2019

Tonight's meeting was called to order by Charlie Sroczyński, President, at 7:20 PM following a refreshment gathering which began at 7:00 PM. Highlights of the meeting:

Membership – 48 people were present at the meeting, including 4 potential new members.

Minutes from May 16, 2016 Meeting –It was moved and seconded that minutes be accepted as submitted. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Current balance - \$2436.29. Moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. All in favor.

Announcements:

- Construction - Renovations are being done in the kitchen and adjacent meeting room at the Barnstable Adult Activity Center. Until we hear differently, we will need to meet in the adjoining room next door.
- Summer get togethers took place at Dowses Beach on most Wednesday nights beginning in June. It was a great chance for members to gather during the summer.
- BNC's Crazy Whist/Pot Luck Event will be held on Wednesday, October 23, at 5:00. Helen and Stephen Briggs are the coordinators. Sign up sheets were available at the meeting for volunteers to help out. Members will also be signing up for their food donations.
- A 50/50 raffle was held, which raised \$25 for the Club.
- Club support activity coordinators and current officers were recognized. Some activities coordinators, including Book Club, kayaking, bowling, bridge, mahjong, dine-in, movie discussion, sociables, round robin and duplicate bridge, and walking, reported on their activities. Members were encouraged to sign up for activities. Helen McWilliams announced that perhaps Canasta can start up again if there are enough interested members.
- Frank McIntosh was recognized as the webmaster for the Barnstable Newcomers Club website. Frank does a great job updating the website and posting all of the BNC activities.
- Charlie reminded members to fill out the registration form and pay their dues ASAP. Dues are still only \$20 per person.
- Recognition was also paid to:
 - Ron and Lea Lyons for coordinating the annual Dine-Out, which will be held in April
 - Joe and Rosemary Mooney, for being the Sunshine Fund ambassadors
 - Wendy and Colin Baird and Jean and Jim Walker for being Hospitality coordinators and making sure we have refreshments at our meetings
 - Michael and Joanne O'Connell for taking care of Publicity.
- Joanne reported that ads for the current meeting were in the newspapers, lawn signs were placed around town, civic organization were contacted, and signs were put up (thanks to Ron Lyons and Frank McIntosh) at all post offices and libraries. Members were asked to take some advertising posters and brochures to bring to their local churches or any place where there is a community bulletin board.

- Joanne announced that plans are in the works for a Holiday Reception to be held on Sunday December 8 in the afternoon. This year we will not plan to attend the Cape Cod Symphony concert as a group. We are investigating having appetizers and cocktails at West End, Road House, or another place. Any members with different ideas and who would like to help plan this event should contact Joanne at joanne1951@yahoo.com)
- Charlie announced the following speakers for future meetings:
 - 10/16 - Nate Mayo from Vineyard Wind
 - 11/20 - C.L. Fornari, “The Garden Lady”, to talk about “Sand and Soil” - How gardening has changed since she was a Barnstable Newcomer.

Guest Speaker:

Charlie introduced tonight’s guest speaker: John Townes

- John represents BARS, the Barnstable Association for Recreational Shellfishing
- John gave a very informative talk about aquaculture, focusing in particular on the propagation and harvesting of oysters
- He talked about threats to oysters and the efforts that are being made on Cape Cod and elsewhere to increase the oyster population
- John showed videos of what scientists are currently doing to increase the oyster population in Chesapeake Bay
- He also talked about Quahog shellfishing here on the Cape and showed some pictures of the “Blessing of the Rakes” which was held in June.

Charlie thanked John for his very informative presentation and gave him a Barnstable Newcomers’ Club hat as a token of appreciation.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45.

Respectively Submitted,
Joanne O’Connell (filling in for Bette Silva)