Carl Bulger presided. There were no visitors or guest speakers.

Carl Bulger said that he, Ken Godstrey, and DJ Campbell now have completed the bank paperwork so that they all three have access to the Club's bank account.

Sharon Bachelor solved her laptop's password problem by holding down the zero key while the Toshiba Laptop booted up. Somehow she was able to bring up the Recovery partition. She used it to restore the computer to how it was when it was new. She lost any data that the previous owner had left on it, but that was OK. There are two kinds of passwords, the usual Windows password and the BIOS password.

Flo Strawzer brought in her Dell Dimension 3000 desktop computer which has been running slo-o-o-o-o-wly in Windows XP. Furthermore, the icons on the desktop were too large and print jobs weren't going to the printer. Dan Lee had been working on it with her and thought that it would be good discussion topic and learning experience for us.
The printer settings were accessed via the Control Panel and the proper printer was reset as the default printer allowing the print jobs to be printed.
The icons were too large because the screen resolution had somehow been reset to the lowest resolution which makes everything on the screen larger, in fact so large that it all doesn't fit. After resetting the resolution from 600 x 800 to 768 x 1024 the display was more satisfactory for Flo.

There were lots of ideas about what would speed up the computer:
Usually the first thing that experts recommend is to install more memory. This computer has room for two memory sticks. Flo had one 512 MB stick and a 256 MB stick for a total of 768. We went to Crucial.com, the website of an American firm that manufactures everything in a memory stick. Someone asked, "What is High Density Memory". Best way to find out is to "google" "High Density Memory" Some of the articles will explain all of the specialized terms for memory and convince you that it is a good idea to consult Crucial.com's website to determine what your computer needs.
Bob Blum loaned her a 1024MB (1GB) stick which sped up the computer.

The next thing to consider is the hard drive, which is small relative to today's hard drives. Flo and Dan had already defragged the hard drive.
Bob Blum noted that there was only 7.6 GB free on the hard disk. That isn't enough for that small hard disk to run efficiently and to operate as a temporary overrun location for the memory. Generally, a hard disk should have at least 20% free capacity.
Sam Duff suggested replacing the hard drive with a newer, larger, faster one.
Tom McCabe suggested before doing that running CHKDSK and then running Hard Disk Sentinal (a free download) once. Delete it after it gives you the results because after 30-days they will want to charge you. He also suggested running Puran Utilities (free) for defragging. It's more thorough than Microsoft's defragging routine. It will do multiple passes and also defrag the registry and the page file.

Submitted by Barry Hammond, Outgoing Secretary, and Bill Long, Incoming Secretary

Dick Henthorn pointed out that Microsoft users can now store a limited amount of data in the cloud on Microsoft Windows' One Drive.

For both the memory sticks and the hard drives, Dan Lee demonstrated how he could find them cheaper on EBay.com than at Best Buy.

Malware can also slow a computer. Dan and Flo had run MalwareBytes and Microsoft's Security Essentials. Neither program found any malware.

Dan Lee shops for computer items on EBay. He finds much lower prices than at Best Buy. Of course, many items are used so you must be careful. Some items may be very old. High Density Memory sticks are usually intended for servers. On EBay you can either buy at a listed price or bid a lower price. Dave Hackenberg said he bought 25 foot long HDMI cables to connect to the monitors at the front of the classroom for $7 each on EBay vs. $70-$80 each at Best Buy.

Does it take too long to boot up? Run msconfig, go to the Start Tab, and uncheck every startup item. The operating system will reinstate any routine which is absolutely necessary, but you'll find a reduced waiting period every time you boot up. On second thought, it might be wise to not uncheck your security software. You want that running before you start using your computer.

Dave says that the Computer Classroom has sufficient volunteers for Computers I & II. John Jones could use some help in the more advanced classes. Speaking of advanced classes, Barbara may teach a course in the Spring called Internet and Social Media.

Dave Hackenberg said the Senior Center's Recertification will be celebrated December 15th in the Great Hall. Our Senior Center is only the 174th to be certified out of the approximately 15,000 Senior Centers in the U.S.

Bob Blum demonstrated Windows 10 which he is beta testing. His overall impression is that a more realistic name would be Windows 8.2! It will change a lot between now and next Fall when it will become available to buy.