



Contra Costa Branch 146
Minutes of the Branch Executive Committee Meeting
Club Room 2, Hilton Hotel

SIR BRANCH 146
9:00 to 10:45 A.M. – CLUB ROOM 2– HILTON HOTEL
February 22, 2016

BIG SIR (Walt Busenius)

Walt Busenius called the meeting to order at 9:03 am with all 12 officers and directors present and 12 committee chairmen and guests. The minutes of the January BEC meeting were approved.

BIG SIR'S REPORT (Walt Busenius)

Walt noted that the Hilton had run out of one of the entrees at our last luncheon. He and Max wrote Jessica (corporate sales manager) who responded promptly. They had a taste test last Wednesday, which was very good and it was agreed that we would have salmon as one of the entrees for our last two meetings at the Hilton. They also requested that the head and guest tables be served first. The manager of the Hilton has been good to work with.

The Boundary Oak renovation is on schedule and will be done by May1.

Walt called on Steve Siljestrom for the Audit Committee report. In summary, the finances of the branch were in good order and Steve commended last year's treasurer, Rob Melrose, for the excellent organization of the information. The report is attached for detailed information and recommendations of the committee. The board approved the report and its recommendations.

Walt called on Richard Hockenbrock, Sir Call Editor. Richard noted that we are looking for two additional individuals to be added to the editorial board of the Sir Call. Jeff Baily has agreed to return to also assist with this responsibility. In addition, Richard requested that we purchase four copies of Microsoft Publisher, which is used to prepare the newsletter, as well as copies of Lynda.com, which is training software for Publisher. The total would be about \$1000 and the board approved this amount for the stated purpose.

Walt indicated that only a single active individual has not paid his dues, and this Sir will be contacted today. Walt also noted that long time member Ralph Fowler had indicated his wish to resign, but he may consider going on inactive status. Alternatively, he may be eligible for emeritus status and this will be reviewed.

Walt also noted a discussion with Robert Walton, who is a Senior HLM, and Walt suggested that we excuse Bob Walton from paying the annual dues. The board approved these recommendations.

An update on the travel leadership was given. No-one has stepped forward at this time.

LITTLE SIR REPORT (Alan Elnick)

Alan passed along a request from Gary Schaub for approval of a theater activity on July 20 at the California Shakespeare Theater, Orinda. The play is “Fences” and the cost will be \$49.50. The board approved the request.

The speaker for today is Joe Canciamilla, the County Clerk/ Recorder and Registrar of Voters of Contra Costa County. He has also served on the Board of Supervisors and in the State Legislature.

The speaker for March will be Muriel Smalheiser from HICAP (The Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program).

Alan also asked if there was interest in having the manufacturer of SIR logo apparel (Embroidery and More) return in April or June. The consensus was that June was better.

SECRETARY’S REPORT (Bruce Borgman)

Bruce reported that the Branch roster was sent to Dwight Sales.

Bruce reported on the Area 2/Region 6 meeting of Big Sirs, which he attended in lieu of Walt and Alan on February 1. Pertinent discussion related to the following:

- Membership for the area was good last year with a 3.2% increase
- Budget review of the area finances
- Annual meeting of area leadership upcoming – date and place TBD
- Issues at each of the branches were discussed, which included guest conversion, cliques, finding leaders and speakers, and inclusion of spouses in activities.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Jim Barry)

The report indicates a decrease of \$9,843 in cash balance from last month due to timing of expenditures with respect to receipts. Form 28 was submitted.

The change of the bank account signatories has been made.

The Board approved the Treasurer’s report.

.COMMITTEE CHAIRS REPORTS

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR (Jerry Kaplan)

Jerry reported that the number of activities remains at 44 activities. We are still looking for leadership for the Travel activity. Walt noted a recent discussion among area leadership to ensure that branches are counting activities consistent with guidelines, which we are.

BIOGRAPHIES (Paul Dubow) – No report

PUBLICITY (Jim Saavedra)

The number of papers has been expanded to include the Clayton Pioneer, added to the Contra Costa Times, the Walnut Creek Journal and San Ramon Valley Times.

GREETER (Dick DeVoe)

Dick is working with new members to assist in the greeting function. Four Sirs are on the greeter committee to include Bob Lucido, Jim Kohl, Bill Schultz and Dick. It will be kept simple, with three for the regular meeting with one of the group the coordinator. The greeters will meet at 10:30 the day of the meeting. There are about 80 Sirs who fit the criteria for greeter pool.

HISTORIAN (Pete Gates)

Pete is composing a short version of the branch history to be posted in the Sir Call.

COMMUNICATIONS – SIR CALL (Richard Hockenbrock)

Things are going well, with timing of the publication a small challenge because of the dates of the Hilton meeting. The remainder of the report was discussed earlier.

TRAVEL (Bob Spellman, interim)

Bob indicated that several brochures about upcoming trips will be on the activities table.

HONOREES (Doug Eisner)

Doug will present one Branch Honoree award to Ken Richter and two 20 year Membership Certificates to John Lively and Lew Thompson.

LADIES DAY (Walt for Steve Dawkins and Steve Ybarra)

The announcement for the Ladies Day Luncheon will appear in the Sir Call after the next one.

LUNCHEON ATTENDANCE (Max Hinkle)

Last month our calculation for the luncheon attendance was off by just 1. The Hilton has addressed the complaints about the fish entrée. The Hilton is going out of their way to be responsive. We have guaranteed 217 meals for today's luncheon. The menu for March will be corned beef along with a salmon entrée.

MEMBERSHIP (Brad Hatcher for Ben Gleason)

Two new members will be inducted today – Jim Browning and Mike Risser. Two members are removed from the active roster; Bob Bogardus by transfer to Branch 8, and Randall Davis asked to become inactive. Subsequent addition: Ralph Fowler resigned. The Board accepted the Membership report.

MEMBER RELATIONS (Brad Hatcher) – No report

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Bill Holly)

The nominating committee will contact the nomination slate in March.

RECRUITMENT (Corrie Oranje)

There are seven guests today. John George sponsored by Bruce Borgman; Steve Lane sponsored by Rich Ahlf, Richard Egan sponsored by Howard Charlop; Carl Feil sponsored by Frank Ascagnò, Howard Smalheiser sponsored by Jim Saavedra, Joe Starkey sponsored by Steve Ondeck, and Milton Smith by Russ Anderson.

Of the six guests from last month, two have joined and others are considering joining.

SUNSHINE REPORT (John Pearl)

The Sunshine list has three names, submitted and attached.

ANALYTICS (Ron Plachy) – no report

REPORTS FROM OTHER CHAIRS - none

CHAIRMEN WISHING TIME ON TODAY'S LUNCHEON AGENDA

Richard Hockenbrock for Photography, and Bruce Borgman for Couples Dining Out.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be at 9:00 A.M. Monday, March 21, 2016 at the Concord Hilton.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Borgman
Branch Secretary

Attachments:

1. BEC Agenda
2. 2015 Audit Committee Report
3. Request for Branch Travel Event
4. Treasurer's report, Form 28
5. Membership Report (amended) and Form 27
6. Luncheon Attendance Chairman's Report incl. amendment
7. Sunshine Report
8. Attendance Sheet