



Contra Costa Branch 146
Minutes of the Branch Executive Committee Meeting
Concord Hilton-Club Room 2

March 30, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Big Sir Bill Holly called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, welcoming 10 BEC members, and 8 committee chairmen and guests with 3 additional joining later.

BEC ROLL CALL/QUORUM

A quorum was present as 11 of 12 officers and directors were in attendance. Secretary Alan Elnick was excused. Ten committee chairmen and eight guests were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the February 16, 2015 BEC meeting were approved as submitted.

BIG SIR'S REPORT (Bill Holly)

- Bill attended the 50th anniversary luncheon celebration of Branch 8 and reviewed the packet that this branch distributes to new members. It includes a new brochure aimed at SIR spouses, which can be used to encourage their husbands to consider SIR. The brochures can be gotten for \$21 per 100, which was considered to be a good price. The brochure lists Branch 8 activities, but that may not matter. Additional brochures and other information in their packet on activities, etc. are documents, which we already include in our orientation packet.
- Bill attended a Big SIR meeting on March 12, which was primarily a teambuilding meeting. Ed Benson is now the Area 2 Governor, a position which was recently vacated. Bill noted that Ed has written a Mission Statement for Branch – something Bill said he was willing to work on for our branch. There is available a DVD which contains information from the state website, and could be put on a thumb drive. Terry Marchione noted that any changes would soon make such information outdated. Corrie Oranje noted that a recent potential member told him that he joined Branch 8 because our website was more difficult to negotiate. A discussion ensued regarding follow-up of guests. A follow-up phone call was suggested as well as forwarding any interest in a particular activity to the pertinent chair. Our conversion rate of guests to members is 60%.
- Bill also noted that that for a State meeting at the Hilton on Aug. 3 we are asked to solicit sponsor tables for \$200 each to subsidize the meeting. This meeting includes all Big Sirs

and State Officers. The discussion of this request included potential sponsors such as Boundary Oak, Grocery Outlet, and Trader Joe's.

- A number of Branch 146 officers attended an area 2 RAMP (Recruitment, Activities, Membership and Publicity) on March 26. Among the topics of discussion were how to recognize and encourage sponsors of new members. The recognition of sponsors of many new members was discussed – the top ten sponsors of new members in 146 were named. Walt Schick has obtained a list of retired men in the Martinez area and suggested “walking the block” to knock on doors – a similar list could be purchased of other areas. There was little enthusiasm for this approach. It was noted that of our branch membership, 56% reside in Walnut Creek, 13% in Concord, 5% in Pleasant Hill, 4% each in Alamo and Clayton, and 18% elsewhere.
- We now have 100% payment of the annual dues, thus no need to follow up.

LITTLE SIR'S REPORT (Walt Busenius)

- We have resolved all the no-shows for February so no need to follow up.
- Today's Speaker is Tim O'Keefe, the executive director of Shelter, Inc. The organization assists homeless or potentially homeless people to obtain housing.
- The speaker originally scheduled for April from SportsNet is not now available and we will instead have Joseph Campbell from the Contra Costa Water District.

SECRETARY REPORT (Bruce Borgman)

- The Assistant Secretary reported that he will be filling in for Alan Elnick today and next month as well.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Rob Melrose)

- The Treasurer's Report (Form 28) showed a cash balance of \$35,029.67 as of the end of February. Again the Book Of Mormon ticket sales accounts about a \$10,000 increase from January.
- A question arose whether the larger balance might jeopardize our nonprofit status. Follow up with the state organization was suggested.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN REPORTS:

Travel (Ken Richter)

- Ken indicated that he had two busloads (80 people) for the Book of Mormon trip.
- Requested approval for being paid for two unsold tickets to the Day at the Races. He fully expects these tickets to be sold eventually. The request was approved.
- Final approval was requested for a Transatlantic cruise on the Symphony of Crystal cruises in March/April of 2016. Approval was moved by Brad, and seconded by Bruce; and unanimously approved.
- The trip during Fleet Week in October already has 20 people signed up; capacity is 40.

Activities Coordinator (Jerry Kaplan) No report

SirCall (Richard Hockenbrock)

- It was noted that Richard spent many hours in completing the Newsletter, which is later than usual in order to incorporate information about the luncheon meeting since there was more time between the February and March meetings.

Biographies (Paul Dubow)

- We now have 136 Bios from members and expect to get four more.

Communications (Jeff Baily) No Report

Historian (Pete Gates) No report

Honorees (Dennis Hallett)

- One twenty- year member will be recognized.

Ladies Day Luncheon (Steve Dawkins)

- Scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2015 at Boundary Oak. The signup form can be found on p. 5 of the Sir Call. Richard Hockenbrock indicated that the goal is to be able to fill in the application form on line as well as by hand, but it will still have to be printed out and submitted. This will be available for other forms as well.

Luncheon Attendance (Max Hinkle)

- Guarantee for today is 217. 62 excused absences. Hotel commitment 224.
- 2 new members, 6 guests, 1 speaker guest.
- Allowance for no-shows was 7, but we've received four additional notices, so we are tight.
- The guess on entrees choices was 60% corned beef, 40% mahi mahi.

Membership (Ben Gleason)

- Two new members approved: James Pope (sponsor Jim Stedman), Larry Gray (Ben Gleason),
- 2 Resignations – Raphael Belluomini and Elliott Kapchen
- 1 Death – Gary “Skip” Thomas
- 1 Member dropped from inactive list – Joe Fitzsimmons
- Active membership count now at 274.
- A new procedure for introducing guests and new members was proposed by a committee of Ben Gleason, Brad Hatcher and Corrie Oranje, wherein they would be introduced by the Big Sir, rather than their sponsors. This would streamline the process. Approval of the proposal was moved by Brad Hatcher, seconded by Richard Hockenbrock and approved by voice vote.

Member Relations (Brad Hatcher)

- A reminder will be sent to sponsors reminding them of their responsibilities. Brad indicated that the guidelines for sponsors needs to be updated – he will work on that with Ron Plachy.
- Brad’s name will be added to Corrie Oranje’s name for information on the branch webpage in the event that Corrie is away.

Nominating Committee (Doug Eisner)

- The Nominating Committee consisting of Jim Burk, Terry Marchione and Doug Eisner has been active in developing a slate of candidates, meeting twice.
- The Committee indicated that all positions have been filled and that they will report the names at the April BEC meeting in Executive Session.

Publicity (Al Munayer) No report.

Recruitment (Corrie Oranje)

- 6 Guests: Tom Flosi (Terry Marchione), John Foster (Dennis Hallett), Richard Lyon (Corrie Oranje), Fred Reich (Corrie Oranje), and Larry Brown (Jeff Baily)
- New inductees (named above)
- 1 resignation

Sunshine (John Pearl)

- There are six names on the list
- No cards will be sent out since all have previously been sent out.

Webmaster (Ron Plachy)

- Google analytics sent out.

Reports from other Chairs None

Chairmen wishing time on Luncheon Agenda

- Ken Richter would like time for the travel programs.
- Flyers with detail of the Wine Tasting event for April 22 at the Borgman’s will be placed on each table.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The renovations at Boundary Oak, which required our luncheon relocation to the Hilton will be completed by the end of April, slightly earlier than expected. There are indications that the two subsequent phases will be compressed into one; perhaps allowing us to only move in 2016, but not in the following year.
- The table arrangement at the Hilton has been modified to put 10 individuals at a table giving more room for the servers.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned @ 10:40 am.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 20 at 9:00 a.m., at the Concord Hilton Hotel.

(Submitted by Assistant Secretary Bruce Borgman)

Attachments:

1. Attendance Roster March 30, 2015
2. Lunch Count for March 2015
3. February 2015 luncheon no show resolutions
4. Treasurer's Report and Form 28 (Melrose)
5. Membership Report and Form 27 (Gleason)
6. Ad Hoc committee report to revise guest and new member introductions
7. Sir Form 53, Request for Approval Branch Travel Event: "Big Band Voyage Across the Atlantic" March 25 to April 10, 2016 – Crystal Symphony
8. Sir Form 52 Travel Event Financial Report: "Spring Training ", March 10 -14, 2015
9. Sir Form 52 Travel Event Financial Report: "Day At The Races" - March 27, 2015
10. Sir Contract Form 50 - Crystal Cruise from Miami to Monte Carlo, March 25 to April 10, 2016
11. Luncheon Agenda March 30, 2015
12. Google Analytics 2/27-3/29 Ron Plachy
13. Sunshine Report (John Pearl)