



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
April 18, 2016

BIG SIR (Walt Busenius)

Walt Busenius called the meeting to order at 9:00 am with 10 officers and directors present and 12 committee chairmen and guests. A quorum was present. The minutes of the March BEC meeting were approved.

BIG SIR'S REPORT (Walt Busenius)

Walt noted that we will have two honorees at today's meeting – Jim Burke will receive a Certificate of Appreciation and Bill Weinburg will receive the Branch Honoree award.

Walt reviewed the progress of the renovations at Boundary Oak having been there last Thursday. Much renovation is taking place with electrical, plumbing and structural work. The work is still expected to be completed before our Ladies Day luncheon in May. Work on the solar panels in parking lot will not be done at the time of our meeting.

Walt introduced Milton Smith who has agreed to chair the Travel Activity. Milton just joined last month and expressed an interest. At this time the assistant chair remains vacant.

No leadership for the Dinner-Dance has emerged. Walt will be contacting some who have attended to see if there is interest from this group.

Walt discussed the Project 2016 Findings, a project initiated by the state organization. It was followed by forums with various branches. Walt attended one at Fuddrucker's with Ed Benson. Walt discussed some of the findings – the report is attached to these minutes. He noted that our branch follows the great majority of the recommendations.

It was noted that we are fortunate having members who have expertise in maintaining a comprehensive website. The use of social media was discussed and it was suggested that we consider developing a Facebook page.

LITTLE SIR REPORT (Alan Elnick)

The speaker for today is Rich Schlenker who most recently was an advance scout for the LA Angels and no doubt will have stories from his baseball career. The speaker for next month – our Ladies Day - will be Sandra Risser, a comedienne,

and the wife of one of our members. Alan requested approval for the honorarium of \$150, which was approved by the board. The speaker for June is still being finalized. He mentioned he is still following up on the luncheon no shows. The apparel company Embroidery and More will be present at the June meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Bruce Borgman) No report

TREASURER'S REPORT (Jim Barry)

The report indicates a decrease of about \$1000 in cash balance from last month due to posting of expenses and receipts. Walt noted that we are subsidizing the cost of the meals at the Hilton. There are also additional costs at the Hilton, which have to be covered by our surplus. It was noted also noted that some have been excused from the luncheon at the Hilton because of the longer walk from the parking lot; and for having schedule conflicts on Monday.

We have also paid for the cost of Publisher for Jeff Baily. A question was raised as to whether the \$150 for the May speaker was budgeted and Walt confirmed that it was. We have also recently paid our assessment from the state organization.

The Board approved the Treasurer's report.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS REPORTS

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR (Jerry Kaplan)

Jerry reported that we still have 44 activities.

BIOGRAPHIES (Paul Dubow)

We are up by 4 this month, up to 174 biographies. Paul suggested that he might try to develop a database of members' interests from the biographies. Ben was asked whether he sends information about new members' interests to various chairmen, but he indicated that there are some practical difficulties with such a task.

AREA FISHING (Paul Dubow)

We still have our various fishing trips.

COMMUNICATIONS – SIR CALL (Richard Hockenbrock)

Richard indicated that there are continuing challenges with sending out mail to all members. Ron and he had moved from the "bcc" line in Google, but the "to" line also has had a limit of 70 so that they've had to break the membership into five groups. The golf group noted they don't have such a problem – they may be using gmail. Richard noted that other branches in area 2 have had a problem as well.

Richard also reported that an article on the Acoustic Musicians will have links to some videos he took in February on Youtube. Richard has set this up as an Activities channel so that other activities can post videos as well. We may also be able to post part of the speaker at the Ladies Luncheon, taking into consideration copyright issues.

GREETER (Walt Busenius for Dick DeVoe)

We will have three greeters today.

HONOREES (Dennis Hallett for Doug Eisner)

Dennis will present the two awards as noted earlier.

LADIES DAY (Steve Dawkins)

Boundary Oak will be ready for this event. Walt will make an announcement and Steve will distribute a flyer today. A question was raised as to the quality of the AV system and it was noted that the speaker will bring her own.

LUNCHEON ATTENDANCE (Max Hinkle)

We have guaranteed 195 meals, and had a record number of timely notifiers (74). We have set up 21 tables. Walt expressed his appreciation to Max for his work in arranging the luncheons at the Hilton, which in some ways was more challenging than Boundary.

MEMBERSHIP (Ben Gleason)

We are up to a total membership at 283 active members. One inactive member, Bob Madge, was dropped upon his request. Up to this month we have had 15 guests and converted 9 to members for a ratio of 1.3. We are up 4 members for the year and thus ahead of our goal. The two new members, Joe Starkey and Steve Lane were voted on and approved.

MEMBER RELATIONS (Brad Hatcher) – No report

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Bill Holly)

The nominating committee will report in closed session.

PUBLICITY (Jim Saavedra)

The Ladies Day Luncheon will not be publicized in the papers. Our notice for today's meeting was not in the East Bay Times (WC edition), but there was an organizational change at the paper. Jim will verify our notice.

RECRUITMENT (Corrie Oranje)

There are three guests today. Angelo Costanza sponsored by Sal Costanza; John Kelly sponsored by Jerry Kaplan and Ken Sihler sponsored by Ben Gleason.

SUNSHINE REPORT (John Pearl)

The Sunshine list has seven names, submitted and attached. Bruce mentioned that Jim Bogue was not in touch with any other member and we were not aware of his illness. The question was whether we could have done more to ascertain the reason for his absence inasmuch as he lives alone and does not do email. It was suggested that we have an emergency contact for our members, and that we solicit this information on our application.

TRAVEL (Milt Smith)

Milt Smith was introduced as the new Chair.

ANALYTICS (Walt Busenius for Ron Plachy)
The report was submitted and attached.

REPORTS FROM OTHER CHAIRS - none

CHAIRMEN WISHING TIME ON TODAY'S LUNCHEON AGENDA
Bruce Borgman, Gary Schaub, and Paul deVoe, and Paul Masta.

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS
Dennis Hallett asked if in the renovations at Boundary there were any improvements made in the audio system. Walt indicated that there have not. While Boundary Oak has added some large front speakers this last year, improvement has been marginal. It was surmised that any upgrading of the sound system was eliminated from the budgeted renovations.

NEXT MEETING:
The next meeting will be at 9:00 A.M. Thursday April 18, 2016 at the Concord Hilton.

ADJOURN
The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Borgman
Branch Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bill Holly, Terry Marchione and Doug Eisner presented the slate of officers and directors to the Board Executive Committee. The slate was approved by the board.

Attachments:

1. BEC Agenda
2. Luncheon Agenda
3. Treasurer's report, Form 28
4. Membership Report, Gains and Losses and Form 27 (revised)
5. Luncheon Attendance Chairman's Report & Luncheon Attendance
6. Google Analytics Report
7. Sunshine Report
8. Attendance Sheet
9. Project 2016 Findings