



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
March 21, 2016

BIG SIR (Walt Busenius)

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

BIG SIR'S REPORT (Walt Busenius)

Walt noted that we will have one honoree at today's meeting – Steve Dawkins-Doug Eisner will discuss later.

Walt reviewed the progress of the renovations at Boundary Oak. Much renovation is taking place with electrical, plumbing and structural work. It is still expected to be completed well before our Ladies Day luncheon in May. Solar panels are going in at the upper parking lot.

An update on the Travel leadership search: Walt and Bob Spellman had a discussion with Bill Dastic and Ray Kan, who had expressed interest, but Bill declined citing a family reason. Other Sirs have been identified as potential leaders, including some of our new members. The search will be posted in the Sir Call.

The Dinner-Dance was discussed. It has been suggested that we inform other branches about this activity. We do not have a chair at this point, but there was general consensus that it is a great event and should be continued. Last year's event suffered from attendance issues related to many activities being scheduled around the date of the Dinner-Dance. It will be mentioned in the Sir Call's Big Sir corner and at the luncheon.

Walt noted that Ed Benson, our area governor, sent out regulations regarding a branch offering a raffle. We have not had a raffle and presently no interest in doing one, although other branches have used them as a fundraising and social activity.

Walt noted that the Sonora branch (136) has approached us to participate in an RV activity. Walt will mention it in his Big Sir corner in the Sir Call.

LITTLE SIR REPORT (Alan Elnick)

The speaker for today is Muriel Smalheiser, who is volunteer with HICAP – the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy group, who will speak on “Everything You Wanted to Know about Medicare” – a timely topic for all of us. Next month the speaker will be Rich Schlenker, a former advance scout for the Los Angeles Angels.

Alan mentioned the luncheon no shows for February, has contacted some, and noted that some will pay today. Walt confirmed that Sr HLM Bob Walton has been excused from luncheon attendance and should not be on the list.

SECRETARY’S REPORT (Bruce Borgman) No report

Walt noted that the minutes for January and February should be posted on the website; Bruce will forward these to Ron Plachy. Similarly, the treasurer’s report should be forwarded to Ron. Also, the minutes will be sent to Ed Benson.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Jim Barry)

The report indicates about an increase \$7000 increase in cash balance from last month due to posting of a deposit from January in February. There were a few refunds of lunch payments to annual payers.

The Board approved the Treasurer’s report.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS REPORTS

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR (Jerry Kaplan)

Jerry reported that we still have 44 activities. He reported that he had received an email from the chair of Bridge group 3, Sid Landman, that they had space for four additional members to join their group of 18. It was noted that bridge is played in groups of four, so that perhaps just two are needed. Jerry will announce this at the luncheon.

BIOGRAPHIES (Paul Dubow)

We currently have 170 biographies, down by 2, but five are pending.

AREA FISHING (Paul Dubow)

Fishing activity continues. Walt asked if the rain affects the fishing and Paul indicated that wind is a bigger factor.

PUBLICITY (Jim Saavedra) No Report

GREETER (Dick DeVoe)

We have three greeters named Jim today. Dick encouraged the BEC to go out and meet the greeters, since the BEC starts prior to the greeters getting there.

HISTORIAN (Pete Gates)

The short and long version of last year’s branch history have been completed and the short version is available on the website.

COMMUNICATIONS – SIR CALL (Richard Hockenbrock)

There continue to be some issues with email. Google apparently changes the rules of what they will allow. One recent email had to be sent using the “To” line rather than the “Bcc” line, since there is a limit with the number of addresses that can be placed on the latter. The Ladies Luncheon form will be in the next issues and may be completed and sent to Steve Ybarra. Cost is the same as last year. Deadline for submission of articles for the Sir Call is this Saturday.

TRAVEL (Bob Spellman, interim)

Bob indicated that we are short of the minimum number for the Reagan Library, which needs 30. We need about 8 or 9 more and Bob will make an announcement at the luncheon. It was noted that the Reagan Library is a very interesting destination. The date for the trip is May 3-5.

HONOREES (Doug Eisner)

There will be one Honoree presented at today’s luncheon as indicated earlier. Doug indicated that there is change in the schedule of honorees for the rest of the year. This occurs when either the honoree or the presenter is not available for the scheduled month. Thus, we will have two honorees in November.

LADIES DAY (Walt for Steve Dawkins and Steve Ybarra)

These gentlemen will handle the May Ladies Day. The price will be same as last year (\$28), the menu will be posted in the Sir Call. It will be announced at today’s luncheon. As noted earlier, the reservation can be completed on the notice in the Sir Call, and may be mailed to Steve Ybarra.

LUNCHEON ATTENDANCE (Max Hinkle)

There are 22 tables set up for today’s luncheon. We have guaranteed 205 meals, with a 60/40 split between the corned beef and the salmon. We have three guests today. Max continues to be pleased with the Hilton staff. There continues to be a problem with reserved seats by our members – Walt’s method of asking for open seats appears to be the best way of dealing with the search for an open seat. Max said that at Boundary he had reserved one table for late arrivals, but it was never honored. It was noted also that some reserve not only for themselves, but reserve additional spots, which may not be used.

MEMBERSHIP (Ben Gleason)

We had a good month with five inductees, and we are thus up for the year in total membership at 282. We are on track to meet our goals. Ed Benson has contacted a few of the BEC about our goals, and we have responded that we are optimistic our goals will be met. The five inductees with employer and sponsor are as follows:

Carl Feil – Quantas – Frank Ascagnino

John George – Hewlett Packard – Bruce Borgman

Howard Smalheiser – Various Companies – Jim Saavedra

Milton Smith – John Muir Health Foundation – Russ Andersson
Gene Voelkel, MD – Diablo Cardiology – Russ Anderson
The Board approved the new members.

MEMBER RELATIONS (Brad Hatcher) – No report

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Bill Holly)

The nominating committee is close to completion with the slate for next year and will report next month.

RECRUITMENT (Corrie Oranje)

There are three guests today. Russ Abbott sponsored by Jim Saavedra; Gerald Benoit sponsored by Russ Anderson and Richard Egan sponsored by Howard Charlop.

SUNSHINE REPORT (John Pearl)

The Sunshine list has three names, submitted and attached. John raised a question about one on the list who has missed several meetings and will likely miss more – and who is annual payer. The consensus was that their payment should be refunded and that they would pay on a monthly basis. It might also be an issue with deceased members. The Board approved this general practice with the acknowledgment that it may need to be decided on a case-by-case basis.

PUBLICITY (Jim Saavedra)

Good publicity in the papers.

ANALYTICS (Ron Plachy)

The report was submitted and attached. An Analytics ‘Cheat Sheet’ was also provided and is attached. The communication issues with Astound and G-mail have been resolved by Richard and Ron.

REPORTS FROM OTHER CHAIRS - none

CHAIRMEN WISHING TIME ON TODAY’S LUNCHEON AGENDA

Jerry Kaplan, and Carl Tilchen.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Dick DeVoe commented that the wives really enjoy the luncheons that include them, and we should encourage our members to participate. However, we could max out our capacity at Boundary Oak in the future. Bruce noted that the Dining Out activity also is dealing with issues of capacity, and also is an activity where the wives are involved. It was noted that other branches have Dining Out activities, which may be done more frequently in smaller groups.

It was also noted this is a non-issue since we are a men's organization and that it is up to our members (we can only encourage) to involve the wives in events like the Ladies Day Luncheon, which can handle more couples.

NEXT MEETING:

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

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Borgman
Branch Secretary

Attachments:

1. BEC Agenda
2. Luncheon Agenda
3. Treasurer's report, Form 28, updated
4. Membership Report, Gains and Losses and Form 27 (revised)
5. Luncheon Attendance Chairman's Report & Luncheon Attendance
6. Google Analytics and Cheat sheet
7. Sunshine Report (amended)
8. Attendance Sheet
9. Branch History – summary and comprehensive
10. Revised Schedule of Awards