

**SIR BRANCH 146  
BEC MEETING MINUTES  
9:01 to 10:42 A.M  
November 12, 2020**

**Note: Due to COVID-19 virus, SIR luncheon cancelled; BEC meeting held via Zoom call**

***Branch 146 Executive Committee for 2020***

<b>Big SIR</b>	Brad Hatcher
<b>Little SIR</b>	Richard Hockenbrock
<b>Secretary</b>	Jerry Kaplan
<b>Treasurer</b>	George Mon
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Rich Lyon
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Ross Abbott
<b>Directors (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)</b>	Milt Smith (Travel), Brian McCarthy (Sunshine), Ron Lew (Membership)
<b>Directors (1<sup>st</sup> Year)</b>	Paul Beretz (Recruitment), Peter Plante (Publicity) Bob Lucido

All officers and directors were present. Also in attendance were several committee chairs as well as some visitors (some for part of meeting): - See Attachment #1 for list of attendees. The minutes of the October 8th regular BEC meeting minutes were approved (M by RonL, S-BradH.) unanimous approval with no changes (Attachment #2). The agenda was reviewed; Brad changed the meeting order to add State Treasurer, **Roy Hodgkinson** for an early discussion of recent correspondence from State SIR regarding COVID affecting branch activities and financial issues (Attachment #3). Brad announced that **Henry Thatcher** has agreed to join the 2021 BEC as a Director and asked for committee approval. (M by BrianM, S-RichardH.) unanimous approval. Brad noted that the Branch146 regulations did not state that HLM (Honorary Life Members) and Senior HLM's are exempt from paying annual dues and asked for a motion to include this in the regulations. (M by RichardM, S-BobL.) unanimous approval. This is in effect for the 2021 dues. The secretary will amend the Branch Regulations to document this policy (reference to amended Regulations – see branch website).

Brad noted the secretary is providing the following list of approved members for the 2021 BEC.

***BRANCH 146 Executive Committee (BEC) Positions for 2021***

<b>Big SIR</b>	<b>Richard Hockenbrock</b>
<b>Little SIR</b>	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Rich Lyon</b>
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	<b>Bob Wilkenfeld</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Ross Abbott</b>
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	<b>John Alexander</b>
<b>Director 2<sup>nd</sup> Term</b>	<b>Paul Beretz – Recruitment &amp; RAMP member</b>
<b>Director 2<sup>nd</sup> Term</b>	<b>Peter Plante – Publicity &amp; RAMP member</b>
<b>Director 2<sup>nd</sup> Term</b>	<b>Brian McCarthy – Sunshine Chair</b>
<b>Director 1<sup>st</sup> Term</b>	<b>Bob Lucido – Activities Coordinator &amp; RAMP member</b>
<b>Director 1<sup>st</sup> Term</b>	<b>Henry Thatcher – Branch Photographer</b>
<b>Director 1<sup>st</sup> Term</b>	<b>George Mon – Membership Chair</b>
<b>Other - RAMP member</b>	<b>Ed Brands – Member Relations &amp; RAMP member</b>

**1. BIG SIR'S REPORT- Brad Hatcher**

- a) Discussed that Henry Thatcher is planning to set up a photo session in a COVID-safe location to take pictures of new members that have joined during the pandemic.
- b) Reported that officers and RAMP positions should be completing their "buddy training" with incoming members who will take on their position in 2021. Bill Holly reported that State training is scheduled for the

week of January 11th. More information will be forthcoming. Ross questioned how many check signers will be needed for 2021. JerryK will work with Ross regarding the necessary meeting at the bank to update signatures. DougE noted that a set of minutes noting the 2021 BEC members will be needed for the bank.

- c) In the November 9<sup>th</sup> email from the State SIR president to Big SIRs, all indoor and group activities in all branches are to be suspended until further notice, in line with California State rules. This includes all SIR branch activities, including golf. Brad will shortly notify all members of this policy, which is effective immediately. The relevant wording in the November 9, 2020 email is as follows (The full email is included as Attachment #4):

d)

On October 9, the Department updated its [guidance](#) (please click to see the document) to allow limited, outdoor social gatherings of no more than three households for duration of under two hours. This new guidance effectively prohibits SIR-sponsored meetings, activities and events. The new guidance applies to all California counties, regardless of their current risk classification or risk tier. State regulation is of a higher tier than County or City, and must be obeyed.

**It is, therefore, the directive of the SIR Executive Committee, based upon the current California Department of Public Health requirements, that there will be no in-person SIR-sponsored meetings, luncheons or events of any kind until further direction is received from SIR State Executive leadership.**

For the purposes of this directive, a meeting or event shall be considered SIR-sponsored unless it is organized and sponsored by an identifiable third party. Should the sponsoring third party sponsor a private activity, luncheon or event, it is important to note that it too must comply with all California and applicable county directives. Of course, since the private activity, luncheon or event is not approved by SIR or any SIR-affiliated organization, it would not be covered by SIR insurance.

Roy Hodgkinson clarified the new directive by stating that, after further legal review at the state SIR level, all in-person group activities that are “perceived to be organized by SIR are illegal.” This includes golf, hiking, cycling, etc. On-line SIR activities, such as cribbage, hearts, the book group, and photography can continue legally.

- e) Rich Lyon asked Brad if SIR insurance covers errors and omissions (E&O) for Branch officers and directors, and he concurred that it does.

## 2. Roy Hodgkinson – State Treasurer *(added to Agenda)*

- a) Reported that State SIR has waived the first quarter assessment (at \$1.75/member) with the understanding that there will be no in-person activities that could affect SIR insurance coverage.
- b) Discussed digital methods of payments that the branch could consider. Some branches have begun to use a payment service such as PayPal, Square, or Stripe which allows members to use their personal charge cards to pay monies due to the branch (luncheons, dues, etc.) Roy has provided more written detail on how this could work. Attachment #5. Noted that it should be set up as a business account (linked to the branch account). The payment service could also be used to pay vendors directly from the account. Discussion followed – some preferred to continue to use checks with paper records (especially considering the age of branch members), other acknowledged that we will eventually need to go to a cashless system. Roy suggested that it should be tried while the SIR branches are in a slow period due to COVID. Set up the process and test it in our branch (perhaps just among the branch leadership to see how it works) which should make it easier to switch over when needed to. The bank is not involved. Roy will get information on who George and Ross can contact at other branches that are using these services. GeorgeM provided an analysis of the payment option (Attachment #6)

## 3. LITTLE SIR’S REPORT - Richard Hockenbrock

- a) Richard noted that the December Ladies Day meeting has only 5 or 6 tables reserved at this point. Needs to be promoted more. Some older members are not comfortable with Zoom. Asked assistance from BEC members. Phone calls may need to be made to encourage attendance. Several BEC members either have signed up, or plan to, and have offered to make calls to past table organizers. Richard will send out the

table list from last year and the names of those signed up for this year. Pete Bishop will send out his reservation procedures to everyone.

- b) Reported on RAMP positions for 2021. Ed Brands will work with Tony as he transitions into the Member Relations position during 2021.
- c) Speaker for November is Captain Jerry Devine of the US Pacific Fleet in Alameda.

**4. SECRETARY'S REPORT - Jerry Kaplan**

No report

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT –George Mon**

- a) Reported 294 members with a bank balanced of \$35,902. 226 back of 289 dues letters sent out (78% response). Waiting to hear from 63 members.
- b) Monthly Treasurer's Report and Form 28 were accepted by the BEC. (Attachments #7 and #8)

**COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

**6. ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR – Bob Lucido**

- a) He will contact activity chairs regarding the hold on in-person activities once he hears from Brad. Brad may send out e-blast to the full membership alerting them of the new directive.

**7. BIOGRAPHIES & FISHING ACTIVITY REP - Paul Dubow**

- a) Reported that he had 219 biographies completed (an all-time high) and they are on the website. November is a slow month for fishing activities, but recent activity is noted in the SIR Call.

**8. COMMUNICATIONS – SIR CALL - Richard Hockenbrock** No report

**9. GREETERS –No Chair as yet** (no live meetings)

**10. HISTORIAN - Gary Brown** (not present) No report

**11. HONOREES –Doug Eisner, Walt Busenius, Jim Burk**

- a) Doug noted that there would be two honorees at today's Zoom luncheon, both are anniversary awards. The first Senior Sir award is to Lo McCarley (90 years old), the second is a Super Sir award to Russ Bliese (95 years old).

**12. LUNCHEON ATTENDANCE - Rich Lyon** No luncheon report

- a) He also reported that the database project is close to completion

**12. MEMBERSHIP - Ron Lew**

- a) One new member added, Bill Vizza, sponsored by Tony Aducci. Total membership is currently 292, since the branch also has lost several members. Motion by RichardH, S- RossA, unanimous approval of new member. Bill Vizza's intro information is attached (Attachments #9).
- b) Ron's membership report and Form 27 (final form) provided to BEC prior to meeting. (Attachments #10 and #11)

**13. MEMBER RELATIONS - Tony Greco**

Tony commented earlier in the meeting (see 3.b) that Ed Brands will assist him in this position during 2021 and assume the role during the year.

**14. NOMINATING COMMITTEE -Jonathan Korfhage** (present for part of mtg) No report

**15. PUBLICITY - Peter Plante**

- a) Will continue to promote current activities that are available. Have had some responses from *Patch* articles. Also had some inquiries from *Next Door* site and provided them with branch info. Pete Bishop suggested that *Next Door* may be able to host a group just for SIR members. PeterP will look into it.

**16. RECRUITMENT - Paul Beretz** (not on Zoom, but listening, tech problems)

- a) Brad received a note from Paul that a guest (Bill Newman) may attend the luncheon meeting today.

**17. SUNSHINE - Brian McCarthy**

- a) Two members were added to sunshine list. Chuck Campbell and Bob Royster (Attachments #12)

**18. TRAVEL - Milt Smith**

- a) Noted that the St. Lawrence Seaway trip next fall is still on. Other trips are a go or no go depending on COVID restrictions. Provided Form 53's from October trip approvals (Attachment #13)

**19. WEBMASTER AND E-COMMUNICATIONS - Ron Plachy**

- a) Reported website is working well, appreciates getting information in a timely manner.

**20. REPORTS FROM OTHER CHAIRS** None

**21. CHAIRMEN WISHING TIME ON TODAY'S LUNCHEON AGENDA?** NO MEETING

**22. OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Status of BEC approved donations to Boundary Oak staff because of COVID job loss– still no response from BO.

**23. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Discussed possibility of changing time for Zoom luncheon meeting to avoid direct conflict with eating lunch. BEC suggested that Brad send out an email to membership to determine interest in adjusting time for meetings. Tony suggested that it also ask why they are not coming to the Zoom meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** December meeting not scheduled as yet. To be determined later by Brad.

**ADJOURN** at 10:42 AM to **Executive Meeting** to discuss possible awards for 2021.

Submitted by: **Jerry Kaplan, Branch Secretary**

**DIGITAL ATTACHMENTS FILED [Can only be accessed using the link below] (may need to paste)**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yEyGtFZUkBqoMcCG0E7trAq1l-lxH1Tr?usp=sharing>