

**Minutes of Sons in Retirement, Luther Burbank Branch 17
BEC Meeting, Legends Banquet Room, Santa Rosa CA
Thursday, February 20, 2020**

Big SIR George Traverso opened the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

No audio recording

Traverso called roll:

Present: Former Big SIR Dennis Mangan, Big SIR George Traverso, Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister, Assistant Secretary Jim Gurke, Treasurer Glenn Seime, Past Big SIR Bob Reuther, Directors Gary Bondi, Chris Nolen, Paul Willihnganz, Gordon Boulton, Al Petrie, Lance Thompson, Membership Director Rich DeLambert, Audit Committee Chair Marvin Mai.

Absent/Excused: Director Elias Zegarra.

Other members present: Marvin Mai, Ted Scapeccia

Secretary's Report/Minutes from January 16, 2020 read aloud by Secretary Wehrmeister. **Approval moved by Bondi, seconded by Seime, Passed unanimously by the Board.**

Treasurer's Report from Glenn Seime: Balance on hand 1/31/2020 \$5,402.58; Balance on hand 12/31/2019 \$4,566.19. Net gain of \$836.09 for the month—largely credited to incoming calendar year 2020 membership dues. Approval moved by Gurke, seconded by Willihnganz; **Passed unanimously by the Board.**

Membership report. Bondi confirms submittals of Forms 27 and 28. Approval **moved by Gurke, seconded by Bondi, Passed unanimously by the Board.**

Discussion of wine purchases. BEC is informed that previous supply of wine to be used as gifts for monthly speakers is just about depleted. Ted Scapeccia notes that he also needs to purchase wine for the June 17 Branch picnic. A total of five cases, not to exceed \$600, will be purchased by Bondi and Scapeccia. **Moved by Gurke, seconded by Boulton, Passed unanimously by the Board.**

Discussion of "rewarding" member sponsors with one free monthly luncheon. Noted, as before, that this practice had started only because it had been customary for the sponsor to buy the guest/prospective new member his lunch during his first visit. Now that the cost of the prospective member's lunch is covered out of Branch funds, this is no longer necessary. **Moved by DeLambert, seconded by Petrie, to discontinue the gift of a free lunch to new-member sponsors. Passed unanimously by the Board.**

Gurke updated Board on letter he drafted and sent to seven members long in arrears on dues as to whether they wished to continue as members. Gurke advised he'd received a letter from Jim Lamar thanking him for the reminder. But had heard nothing from six others: C. Greene, J.T. Rose, Bud Giacomelli, Don Mink, Adu Ebrahim. **Gurke moved, Boulton seconded, to remove those six from the membership roster. Passed unanimously by the Board.**

de Lambert reports on Wednesday weekly coffee meetings. Announces he's canceling them; "the concept never really got off the ground; it's a golf day." Petrie noted that the event is working for the Windsor branch, but not here in Santa Rosa—here, the BV senior men's golf group plays starting at 7:45am. (SIRS Golf is on Mondays.) Point of information; no vote required.

Big SIR Traverso updates on cooperation underway with Sonoma State U. regarding "Lifelong Learners" program; more information will be forthcoming as plans are fleshed out. As it will involve no SIRS dollars expended, this is simply a point of information with no vote required.

Mangan updates on the "Social Call" program—community service involving regular phone calls between members and specified homebound seniors—for which more information will appear in the next issue of the Bark. Mangan notes that he learned at 1/24 meeting with SIRS Area Governor that this can proceed if it is not a formalized Branch program; involving individual members only as they choose to

December Holiday Event. Wehrmeister notes that he will coordinate as needed with Fred Rose to plan and announce a special holiday gala Couples Night Out in December—which will then enable the Branch to conduct simply a standard monthly meeting in December.

Reuther reports on 1/24/2020 meeting with Area Governor. Notes that there was discussion of ongoing litigation involving Vallejo Branch, with plaintiff member alleging the Branch's full liability in case of food poisoning, when the Branch leadership elected to use an unlicensed caterer for food service. For this reason, Branches are strongly urged to discontinue any events with member volunteers preparing food for picnics, etc., and to use licensed caterers/restaurants only.

Bondi notes the separation of membership functions – recruitment, and accounting for dues/attendance—and requests a separate BEC meeting on just this subject, to see if protocol might be made more efficient, less confusing.

Regarding membership promotion/recruitment, Mai proposes creation of a raffle pool (members chipping in; NOT amassed from Branch funds) with a target amount of \$500; any member who sponsors a new member will be automatically entered into this raffle, with prize to be announced and presented at the June 17 picnic. **Approval of establishing such a pool moved by Gurke, seconded by Boulton. Passed unanimously by the Board.**

Roster of Branch Activities. SIRS bylaws requires each Branch to conduct a formal vote to approve its roster of organized Branch Activities. As of February 2020, these comprise: Bocce, Bowling, Boys' Night Out, Bridge, Camera Club, Couples' Night Out, Global Forum, Golf (weekly as weather permits), Poker Fest, Travel Golf. **Approval of this roster moved by Gurke, seconded by Boulton. Passed unanimously by the Board.**

Traverso adjourns meeting at 11:01 a.m. Minutes submitted by Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister