**Minutes of Sons in Retirement, Luther Burbank Branch 17**

**BEC Meeting, via ZOOM video, Santa Rosa CA**

**Thursday, October 8, 2020**

**Big SIR George Traverso opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. sharp.**

**Present (some joined in progress):** Immediate former Big SIR Dennis Mangan, Big SIR George Traverso, Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister, Treasurer Glenn Seime, Directors Gordon Boultbee, Elias Zegarra, Rich de Lambert, Paul Willihnganz.

**Absent/Excused:** Little SIR Gary Bondi, Asst. Secretary Jim Gurke, Asst. Treasurer Al Petrie.

**Other members present:** Fred Rose, Ted Scapeccia, Tom Lubas, Area Governor Bob Reuther.

Traverso asks if there are requested changes to the agenda; Boultbee notes that under Old Business, a reference still appears to the prospect of SIRS acquiring the services of a “grant writer.” Boultbee notes that with previous BEC discussion of this topic, it had been concluded that this applied, if at all, only to SIRS corporate and not to our individual Branch; he asked that it be removed from the agenda and Traverso agreed.

As we awaited a quorum, Treasurer/Luncheon Coordinator Seime—who had to leave the meeting at 10:20—sought to brief the Board informally as to an update regarding future luncheon meeting locations, what with the collapse of “Legends,” which is closing its doors completely and permanently at Bennett Valley GC as of November 1.

Seime said that he had confined, and will confine, his contacts to restaurants or clubs with present kitchen facilities – as opposed to banquet halls with a separately contracted caterer. He noted that he had contacted both Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club, and the Flamingo Hotel. He characterized SRG&CC as “eager”; they offered to assemble an offer/estimate to us, which is forthcoming. The Flamingo Hotel, at Farmer’s Lane and Fourth Street, told him that “they’ll work with us when and as the need arises.”

Seime added that he had also reached out to the Hyatt Hotel, but rejected the prospect; primary among their problems is that they charge for parking.

De Lambert suggested that SRG&CC location is unacceptable; it’s “too far away for our members.” Wehrmeister responded that none of our members, to our knowledge, had been walking or biking to our meetings; therefore what difference would it make if the facility at which we met was on the far west side of town?

Seime will report any further details at the November 5 BEC meeting.

NOW WITH A QUORUM, Seime presented his brief Treasurer’s Report: Unchanged between 8/31 and 9/30. No transactions for the period; bank balance $6,405.08. Seime noted that he had received permission from SIRS corporate to not file a Form 28 for the month, as all details were completely unchanged. **Wehrmeister moves approval of Treasurer’s Report, Boultbee seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

Secretary’s Report: Wehrmeister notes that he distributed revised/correct minutes for 9/3/2020 BEC meeting to entire BEC on September 11; they had since been posted to the Branch website. **Boultbee moves approval of Secretary’s Report, de Lambert seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

Membership Report: Zegarra reports membership steady at 79, all paid. **Wehrmeister moves approval of Membership Report, Seime seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

OLD BUSINESS

Big SIR Traverso offers that via his column in the Bark newsletter, he is available to make phone calls to any member either suffering recent loss, or under-the-weather or housebound for any reason, to stay in touch. De Lambert notes that member Dan Schell hasn’t been well of late, and “I think anyone and everyone who’s having any sort of problem would always like a call.” Boultbee says that Traverso should indeed pursue this with editor Jim Fenstermaker; consensus that no formal motion is required for this.

NEW BUSINESS

Big SIR Traverso reports that he had spoken with Dee Bondi, wife of Little SIR Gary Bondi, who continues to undergo chemotherapy and other treatment at St. Joseph/Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital for testicular cancer; he relays the report that Bondi is fully aware, and comfortable and not in pain—but that he recently had dealt with a bout of pneumonia. Complicating all else is that the Bondis were briefly evacuated to Marin County during the threatening period with the Glass Fire early during the week of September 28; they’re back in their home now.

**Need to redeem $300 in awards for winning “ZOOM competitions” among all SIRS Branches.** Traverso explains again that this is *not* a cash award; that we now have $300 in credit in the online state SIRS Store—and moreover, that our 90-day eligibility to make that purchase is about 30 days from expiration. Following some discussion, consensus is to use the credit to purchase a new table-popup SIRS display for community events, with the remainder to be used to purchase new-member and membership-application fliers, with Traverso to execute in consultation and coordination with Mark Burchill. **Wehrmeister so moves, Willihnganz seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

Following up on this topic, Rose notes that Treasurer Seime has reported that the Branch’s flag stand, banner and banner-holder, and supply of raffle tickets remain in storage inside the facility about to be vacated by Legends. Wehrmeister offers to contact Seime, and Rose offers to assist, regarding removal of these items. (Update: this was done on Tuesday, 10/13.)

**Boultbee moves adjournment, de Lambert seconds; Adjournment approved unanimously at 11:07 a.m.** (Minutes draft submitted by Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister)