

**Minutes of Sons in Retirement, Luther Burbank Branch 17
BEC Meeting, via ZOOM video, Santa Rosa CA
Thursday, December 3, 2020**

Big SIR George Traverso opened the meeting at 10:14 a.m.; we lacked a quorum until that time.

Present (some joined in progress; voting members indicated by *): Immediate former Big SIR Dennis Mangan, Big SIR George Traverso*, Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister*, Treasurer Glenn Seime*, Asst. Treasurer Al Petrie*, Directors Gordon Boulton*, Paul Willihnganz*, Ken Johnson*, Chris Nolen*.

Absent/Excused: Little SIR Gary Bondi, Asst. Secretary Jim Gurke, Directors Elias Zegarra, Rich de Lambert.

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

(Prior to existence of a seven-voting-member quorum, Traverso asked for Mark Burchill's input on disposition of our still-remaining \$300 balance with the SIRS Store—our award for maximizing ZOOM participation over the last seven months. Burchill noted that \$200 would cover the purchase of a large SIRS-logo pop-up display for monthly meetings, plus two smaller signs appropriate for table displays when we have the opportunity to set up booths at public gatherings such as the Sonoma County Fair. Burchill proposed using the remaining \$100 for useful member premiums, primarily computer "thumb-drives.")

Once a quorum was in place, **Wehrmeister moved, and Willihnganz seconded, to proceed as per Burchill's recommendation. Approved unanimously by the BEC.**

Before proceeding further, **Boulton moved, Wehrmeister seconded, to approve meeting agenda as revised. Approved unanimously by the BEC.**

Secretary's Report: Wehrmeister noted that in his absence on November 5, notes had been taken and minutes prepared and posted thereafter by Paul Willihnganz; Wehrmeister thanked him for his efforts. **Boulton moved, Traverso seconded, approval of the November 5 minutes as presented. Approved unanimously by the BEC.**

Treasurer's Report: Seime reported no change since November 5; Branch bank balance as of 11/30/2020 stood at \$6,266.83. Seime noted that there will be expense during month of December, as BARK Editor Jim Fenstermaker will require annual expenses for the online newsletter. **Wehrmeister moved, Boulton seconded, approval of the Treasurer's Report. Approved unanimously by the BEC.**

Membership Report: In Zegarra's absence, Traverso reported that Branch remains at 79 members, all paid through Calendar 2020—indeed all paid through Calendar 2021 as well, as BEC had voted to suspend dues through Calendar 2021.

OLD BUSINESS

Summer Picnic 2021: Picnic Chairman Ted Scapeccia reported that discussions with management at Charlie's at Windsor Golf Course, we are scheduled for our Branch Picnic on Thursday, June 17, 2021—roughly on same basis of our event there in June 2019. There is no charge, no deposit required, for holding this date at this time. Scapeccia notes that the per-head price "may be significantly higher" than 2019, but that he will keep the BEC updated in months to come. **No BEC action needed.**

Discussion, Resolution and Completion of concept of Branch 17 "donations for worthy causes." Traverso notes that following conference with Area Governor Reuther and others, definitive conclusion is that Branch 17 CANNOT undertake such donations as a Branch; only individuals can do so as individuals. Reuther notes that the Branch CAN donate to the specified SIRS Foundation.

(Brief return to the subject of utilizing the Branch's \$300 credit with the SIRS Store; Traverso notes that the two sizes of pop-up display banners, and a supply of SIR-logo thumb drives may possibly put the total past the \$300 mark; he offers to pay the difference personally. Willihnganz asserts in opposition that no officer should undertake a Branch expense out of his own pocket. **Boulbee moves, Willihnganz seconds, that the Branch should supplement any shortfall in the \$300 credit amount, not to exceed \$50. Approved unanimously by the BEC.)**

Upcoming transition to new BEC, specifically in the position of Big SIR. Wehrmeister asks for update on situation with Little SIR Gary Bondi—slated to assume the position of Big SIR on January 1, 2021, but currently undergoing chemotherapy and other treatment for cancer. Traverso that with the exception of rough days during and after chemo, Bondi is basically feeling well, and his prognosis remains good. As to logistics of his taking the Big SIR position as of January 1, Reuther notes that the SIRS constitution allows for an officer, once elected, to postpone assuming that office, with the BEC's approval—which means that Bondi can make the decision on his own, anytime after 1/1/21, to take the position, or to wait. This means there is no reason for the BEC to take any action at this time.

Wehrmeister moves adjournment, seconded by Boulbee. Adjournment at 11:07 a.m.

Next regular membership meeting (via ZOOM): 11 a.m. Thursday, December 17, 2020

Next BEC meeting (via ZOOM): 10 a.m. Thursday, January 7, 2021

Minutes submitted by Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister