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

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

**Thursday, May 6, 2021**

**Big SIR George Traverso opened the meeting at 10:02 a.m.**

**Present (voting members indicated by \*):** Immediate former Big SIR Dennis Mangan, Big SIR George Traverso\*, Little SIR Gordon Boultbee\*, Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister\*, Asst. Secretary Jim Gurke\*, former Treasurer Glenn Seime, Treasurer Al Petrie\*, Asst. Treasurer John Gnam\*, Directors Paul Willihnganz\*, Ken Johnson\*, Tom Lubas\*, Elias Zegarra\*, Rich de Lambert\*, Chris Nolen\*. (Not all present at either meeting open or at meeting adjournment.)

**Absent:** None.

**Other members present:** Fred Rose, Ted Scapeccia.

**Agenda** for the meeting as submitted by Traverso; **Boultbee moves approval, Wehrmeister seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

**Secretary’s Report.** Wehrmeister notes that minutes of the April 1 meeting had been distributed and posted. De Lambert notes that as of that date, membership stood at 80, not 81. **Boultbee moves approval of 4/1/2021 minutes as amended, Lubas seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

**Treasurer’s Report**. Petrie reports Branch balance of $6,090.27 as of April 30 is unchanged from the March 31 balance; no transactions having taken place during April. **Wehrmeister moves approval of Treasurer’s Report, Boultbee seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

**Membership Report.** Zegarra reports the Branch’s membership stands at 80, pending consideration of the application submitted be Mangan later in this meeting.

**Boultbee confirms submittals of Forms 27 and 28 for the month.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**John Gnam formally installed by Traverso as Assistant Treasurer** for remainder of calendar 2021.

**Nominations Committee for BEC positions for calendar year 2022.** Committee chair Mangan notes that candidates for both Officers’ and Directors’ positions are being discussed and some contacted; that the Nominations Committee will announce its recommendations for the 2022 slate of Officers and Directors by the state-designated deadline of May 31. Mangan notes that Directors can only serve for 3 consecutive years before stepping off the BEC for at least one year—unless the BEC votes to override. De Lambert says that after the one year away, Directors can be re-elected. Mangan also suggests that there will be new and unique membership and marketing challenges to groups such as ours as we emerge from pandemic restrictions.

**Consideration of Neil Wheeler as member candidate.** Mangan reports that this gentleman contacted us; he was looking for a group of retired men to join. He’s a former military officer who worked several years at NORAD; Mangan reports further that he checked numerous boxes on the application forms, both for activities in which he’d like to participate, but also as to officer positions in which he’d be potentially willing to serve. **Wehrmeister moves Wheeler’s acceptance as a new member, seconded by Boultbee; approved unanimously by the BEC.** This approval brings Branch 17 membership census to 81.

**Discussion of future sites for in-person monthly Branch luncheon meetings.** Former Treasurer Seime, the Branch’s restaurant coordinator, reports that whoever ends up operating the former Legends facility at Bennett Valley GC, that his contacts at Santa Rosa City Hall inform him that it will be at least six months—essentially the end of calendar 2021—before a new tenant is into the facility and operating. So, Seime said, after review of several options (excessive cost and lack of parking had eliminated several from competition), our options were essentially four: the **Villa,** off Montgomery Drive in Santa Rosa; **Charlie’s,** at the golf course in Windsor; **Sally Tomatoes** down in Rohnert Park; and the **Epicenter** at the corner of Piner Road and Coffey Lane on Santa Rosa’s near-north side. The locations in Windsor and Rohnert Park would likely reduce attendance; as to the Villa, which had seemed potentially promising, there was no available AV equipment, and the establishment sought to establish a minimum of 45 in attendance at any luncheon—which would be irresponsible to guarantee, especially as we’re coming back from Covid. Additionally, he observed what he viewed as a lack of professionalism.

Much more promising, Seime said, was his initial discussions with the Epicenter. There, he said, there is available AV equipment, the manager Andrew Kilsheimer offered sufficient storage for our modest amount of equipment, a minimum attendance of just 25, no deposit required, plentiful parking, and a total per-plate cost (including taxes and gratuity) of just under $25. He noted that Kilsheimer was offering a tour and lunch for other officers (which Traverso, Boultbee and Wehrmeister would take on Wednesday, May 12).

Pending this visit, anticipating it would be favorable, and because of the necessity to nail down a banquet locations as competition with other groups for facilities heats up, **Boultbee moves, Lubas seconds, resumption of in-person Branch luncheon meetings at the Epicenter, beginning July 15; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

**NOTE: BEC Meeting Thursday, June 3, will occur IN-PERSON AT EPICENTER, BEGINNING 11 A.M., lunch 12:15 p.m., to enable entire BEC to see and experience the facility.**

**Official notice of change in Golf Co-Chairmanship.** Traverso announces resignation of Roy Thuestad as co-chair of Branch Golf activities, Thuestad said he had wearied of the onerous and constantly-changing Covid requirements. Jim Gurke has agreed to chair the activity on a solo basis for the time being.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Review of revised SIR Golf Protocol, and Return to Golf Resolution. Both** these documents, provided by the SIR state assistant secretary, were submitted to the BEC for its review. **Moved by Wehrmeister, seconded by Gurke, approved by unanimous ten-member quorum of the BEC**—with Lubas amending, that such approval is “subject to tournament participants signing the provided SIR Event Release of Liability for Exposure to Covid-19,” and that “participants’ signed releases must be in possession of Chairman Gurke on or before June 15” – the date of the first SIR golf event in which Branch 17 will participate, the SIR State Golf Tournament.

**Request from Fred Rose to move up date of first post-Covid in-person Branch luncheon meeting to June 17** instead of July 15. **Wehrmeister moved, Gnam seconded, motion failed by vote of 5-3.**

**Wehrmeister moves to adjourn, Boultbee seconds; meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.**

**Next Branch meeting (via ZOOM), 11 a.m. Thursday, May 20, 2021**

**Next BEC meeting (in person at Epicenter), 11 a.m. Thursday, June 3, 2021**

Draft Minutes submitted by Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister