Minutes of Sons in Retirement, Luther Burbank Branch 17 BEC (Board Executive Council)

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Attendees: Big SIR Gary Bondi\*, Little SIR Chris Nelle\*, Treasurer Al Petrie\*, Asst. Treasurer John Gnam\*, Director Barry Bialkoski\*, Director Bill Grafeld\*, Director Wynn Bailey\*, Director and Publicity Chair Neil Wheeler\*, Director Dave Harris\*, Director Rich de Lambert\*, Picnic Chair Ted Scapeccia, Lunch Food Coordinator Glenn Seime, Member Relations Chair George Traverso, CIP Co-Chair Bob Reuther, Membership Chair and Nominating Committee Chair Gordon Boultbee, Kurt Wehrmeister, Marc Perl, Rich Osborne.

* signifies voting members.

#1. (9:45am) Call to Order and roll call (see above attendees).

#2. Approve Agenda: References to February in the Agenda (Minutes, Treasurer’s Report, Membership Report) should have read “March”.

#3. Approve March 2023 BEC meeting minutes: No additions or corrections. The March minutes were approved.

#4. Treasurer’s Report: The Monthly Cash Report (Form 28), and the Income & Expense Report have been completed by Treasurer Al Petrie. Our Branch had a net gain of $1092.92 for the month of April. A detailed copy of the April Treasurer’s Report can be found on the Branch website. Approved unanimously.

#5. Approve March Membership Report (Form 27): As reported by Membership Chair Gordon, we added two new members, Jim Richards and Russel Dieter, in March. Unfortunately, due to our inability to make contact with two other members who have not been present at our luncheons for over a year and have not paid their2023 dues (Hank Karow and Jerry Peterson), they have been dropped as members of the Branch.

#6. Confirmed by Little SIR Chris Nelle that Forms 27 and 28 were sent to the State and Area representative.

OLD BUSINESS:

#7. Discuss status of non-dues paying Branch members: Per Treasurer Al, three members have not paid their 2023 dues. One member will be at the luncheon today and will pay his dues. Another member has been in Arizona for months and plans to pay his dues when he returns to Santa Rosa. The BEC voted to drop the third member, Bob Vidalin, due to our inability to contact him.

#8. Recruiting Update: Rich de Lambert and Neil Wheeler handed out and presented their 2023 Branch Publicity and Recruiting Plan. It included a summary of 2022’ RECRUITING SUCCESS; THE INVENTORY STATUS OF PR MARKETING MATERIALS; THE 2023 Publicity and Recruiting Campaign; and their 2023 P&R Budget of $475. A motion to approve the $475 budget request was approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

#9. New Member Application: Applicant Rich Peterson, sponsored by Neil Wheeler, was approved. Rich contacted us after seeing our yard sign at the Bennet Valley Starbucks. Rich will not be attending the luncheon today, so he will be inducted at the next luncheon he attends.

Past member Dino Boito was reinstated as an active member. He has attended a few BNOs as Don Malvestiti’s guest and expressed an interest in rejoining as a member. Treasurer Al Petrie will contact him concerning paying his prorated 2023 dues ($17).

#10. Picnic: Picnic Chair Ted Scapeccia presented a report on the June picnic planning process. We need more raffle prizes. Dessert is TBD. We need more volunteers. Ted hopes to have Sir Dennis Mangan emcee.

#11. Update Report from Nominating Committee: Gordon reported that the nominating committee has a full slate for 2024 except for an assistant treasurer. Per current Treasurer Al Petrie, the position does not require advanced accounting skills, just an ability to do basic math. A candidate will be presented to the BEC at the May BEC meeting, and the full slate will be voted on by the BEC at that time (presuming we do not have a June BEC meeting because of the picnic). The slate will appear in the July BARK and will be voted on by the members present at the August luncheon.

#12. CIP as joint activity with other branches: There was a discussion on whether the BEC needs to approve other branches who want to join us at our CIP events, particularly with respect to “COVID-19 vaccination and waiver requirements. Bob Reuther reported that another branch that had been considering joining our CIP at the Redwood Empire Food Bank had dropped the idea. Big Sir Gary Bondi had contacted SIR State President Dave Gonzales who confirmed that the SIR State had dropped all requirements for proof of vaccination and signed waivers of liability. Our insurance does not protect us for COVID-19 liability, but the State legal counsel did not think this was a risk. After discussion, the BEC decided to drop our branch’s requirement that members and guests provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination at indoor activities and a signed waiver of liability for indoor and outdoor events.

#13. SIR Apparel: The BEC decided we do want to encourage the purchase of SIR apparel via group orders such as hats one month, shirts another month, etc. Group orders will reduce or eliminate shipping costs. One item per month is intended to cut down on the large number of possible combinations of colors, sizes, styles, etc. Neil Wheeler agreed to organize it and write an article for The BARK. Neil and others have already placed a group order for “I’m a SIR Volunteer” tee-shirts to be worn at CIP events.

#14. State SIR Survey: Gary Bondi asked the BEC to respond to a State two-question survey.

Question #1: By a majority vote, does your BEC approve of allowing women to join your branch as members? Vote results: NO, unanimous of those attending.

Question #2: By a majority vote, does your BEC approve of allowing other branches to have women join their branches as members? Vote results: YES (7), NO (3).

#15: 10:50 Motion to adjourn.

Draft minutes submitted by Secretary Terry Freeman. Minutes prepared with the aid of a written notes from Gordon Boultbee.