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

Thursday, March 16, 2023

Attendees: Big SIR Gary Bondi\*, Little SIR Chris Nelle\*, Secretary Terry Freeman, Asst. Secretary Steve Saulsbury\*, 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\*, Webmaster Dennis Mangan, Activities Chair Fred Rose, Picnic Chair Ted Scapeccia, Lunch Food Coordinator Glenn Seime, Member Relations Chair George Traverso, CIP Co-Chair Bob Reuther, Recruiting Chair Rich de Lambert, Membership Chair and Nominating Committee Chair Gordon Boultbee.

* signifies voting members.

**Agenda Items: Notes - (Motioned By / Seconded By - Voting Results):**

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

#1A Recruiting Chair Rich de Lambert, who had previously volunteered in late 2022 to become a Director for 2023, was formerly installed in today’s meeting. Big Sir Gary performed the swearing-in ceremony to a hearty round of approval by all meeting attendees.

#2 Approve agenda: (Neil / Chris – approved unanimously).

#3 Approve February 2023 BEC meeting minutes: No additions or corrections (Barry / Chris - approved unanimously).

#4 Treasurer’s Report (Form #28): Per Treasurer Al, the Branch began February with a balance of $4510.51. The month of February ended with our Branch having a cash total of $4742.45, for a net gain of $231.94. A copy of the February Treasurer’s report can be found on the Branch website. (Barry / John – approved unanimously).

#5 Approve Membership Report (Form 27): As reported by Membership Chair Gordon, we started February with 97members. We added one new member (Duane Peterson) in February. With the passing of long time SIR Bob Ost in January, our member count as of the start of this meeting is 97 members.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

#7 Update on dues payments from Branch members: Per Treasurer Al, only four Branch members have not paid their 2023 dues. Due to the fact that two of the four (Hank Karow and Jerry Peterson) have not been active for many months, a motion was made to drop them from the Branch member roll. (Bill / Barry – approved unanimously).

#8 New State COVID Protocol: State has created an alert letter to be sent out when Branch members have discovered they have tested positive for covid after attending a Sir activity. Barry suggested the letter go to all Branch members regardless if they were at the suspected activity or not. Big Sir Gary suggested this may be the time to use an e-mail blast with the help of Neil Wheeler. It was mentioned that as for an abundance of caution, the letter would alert all SIR members regardless of where the victim may have thought where they got it. Secretary Terry will send a matching alert to those members who do not have an e-mail account listed with the Branch.

NEW BUSINESS:

#9 New Member Applications: A motion was made to approve two applicants (James Richards and Russ Dieter) for induction at today’s luncheon. The motion passed unanimously.

#10 Picnic: Per Picnic Chair Ted, the picnic committee held a meeting with Branch 76 committee members on March 2nd. Sign-up sheets and name tags will be used this year while eliminating the use of tickets. Bingo has been eliminated from this year’s picnic. The next picnic committee meeting will be Thursday April 6th. This year will be Ted’s last year as Picnic Chair. Ted has been the Chair for the past 4 years.

#11 Progress Report from Nominating Committee: The slate of Branch officers for 2024 has been completed and will be approved at the May BEC meeting. Chris Nelle will be the new Big Sir. John Gnam will be the new treasurer. Neil Wheeler will step down from Director in 2024 due to the fact that he has agreed to be nominated to serve as Little Sir. Marc Perl and Kurt Wehrmeister will become Directors. A motion was made to add another Director. (Rich / Bill, Approved unanimously).

#12 Activities: Activities Chair Fred mentioned that he will continue to send out a list of the Branch’s activities via e-mail to all members each week.

#13 RAMP (Recruiting, Activities, Member Relations, and Publicity) Committee and Recruiting: Per Chair Rich, the RAMP Committee is proposing to hold a no-charge Spring potluck at Spring Lake Park on April 11th. Guests and wives are invited. Branch members are asked to bring something they can share with other attendees. There are plenty of benches and shade. A carpool will be arranged to bring people from the nearby CVS parking lot. A motion was made to approve the potluck (Barry / Bill, approved unanimously).

#14 Bulk E-mails: Branch 17 has three e-mail addresses, and these are coordinated by Dennis Mangan, Neil Wheeler, and Jim Fenstermaker. Neil asked for guidance from the Board regarding when to send blast e-mails to all the Branch members. Neil is concerned about requests for blast e-mails becoming excessive to the extent that members ignore them.

NOTE: Barry mentioned there will be another volunteer activity at the Redwood Food Bank on Tue April 6th at 10AM. Asst Secretary Steve mentioned he will be in Europe from April 13th till July 9th. Perhaps a short presentation by Steve sometime after his return would be both interesting and informative to other Branch members planning a future trip overseas.

10:50 AM – Motion to adjourn (Barry / John, approved unanimously).

Draft minutes submitted by Secretary Terry Freeman.