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

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

**Thursday, July 1, 2021**

**Big SIR George Traverso opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.**

**Present (voting members indicated by \*):** Immediate former Big SIR Dennis Mangan, Big SIR George Traverso\*, Little SIR Gordon Boultbee\*, Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister\*, former Treasurer Glenn Seime, Asst. Treasurer John Gnam\*, Directors Ken Johnson\*, Tom Lubas\*, Elias Zegarra\*. Treasurer Al Petrie joined the meeting in progress.

**Absent:** Asst. Secretary Jim Gurke, Directors Rich de Lambert, Chris Nolen.

**Other members present:** Ted Scapeccia.

**Agenda** for the meeting as submitted by Traverso did not include an item Traverso said he wished to discuss—that being progress on and plans for details on proper forms to be verified (Covid liability waivers and proofs-of-vaccination) for all attendees at forthcoming first post-pandemic luncheon meeting on Thursday, July 15.

**Secretary’s Report.** Wehrmeister apologizes that, due to a week-long trip to Chicago immediately following the 6/3/2021 BEC meeting, minutes weren’t completed and posted until June 13. **Boultbee moved approval of the 6/3 minutes as submitted, Lubas seconded; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

**Treasurer’s Report.** Gnam reports in Petrie’s initial absencethat during June, there were $388.59 in total expenses ($70.34 printing, $40 for two speakers’ gift cards, and $278.25 in SIR headquarters assessments). With no income for the month, that took the Branch’s balance to $5,701.68. **Wehrmeister moved approval of the report, Boultbee seconded; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

**Membership Report.** Zegarra reports that the Branch membership roster remains at 82, pending consideration of candidate William Granfeld. It is noted that at some point around Labor Day if not before, the resignation of Director Paul Willihnganz—pending his family move to the East Coast—will reduce the census by one. **Boultbee moved approval of the report, Traverso seconded; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

Boultbee confirms that Forms 27 and 28 have been submitted to state leadership for June.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Discussion of gifts for luncheon speakers.** Boultbee reports that SIR coffee mugs are available for roughly $8 apiece; a bit less when larger volumes are ordered. (It had been suggested at the June 3 meeting that a SIR mug would be a more lasting reminder of SIR to the speaker, and better marketing for the branch, than a swiftly consumed bottle of wine.) It is noted that there are still eight bottles of wine in inventory; for as long as they last, both gifts will be presented to speakers; discussion may ensue at the end of an eight-month period as to whether wine gifts should be continued, or perhaps bottles of olive oil. **Lubas moves, Petrie seconds, that the branch purchase a package of 12 SIR mugs from the state store, Petrie seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.**

**Discussion of continuing BEC meetings on ZOOM indefinitely.** Boultbee asserts that decisions are often made (or have been made in the last year as they’ve been done on Zoom on a separate morning two weeks later) that affect the forthcoming luncheon meeting. Scapeccia suggests that “we ought not fix something that isn’t broken,” indicating his view that indefinite continuation of separate Zoom BEC meetings is preferable. Boultbee proposes the “compromise” solution of holding the August BEC meeting at 11 a.m. on August 5, in person but on the separate date, two weeks prior to the August 19 luncheon meeting.

**Zegarra moves, Petrie seconds, that BEC meetings be continued via Zoom at 11 a.m. the first Thursday of every month, separate from the third-Thursday-of-the-month luncheon, indefinitely; until further notice. Approved by a 6-2 vote of the BEC; Wehrmeister and Gnam voting no.**

**Petrie moves, Lubas seconds, to conduct just the August 5 meeting via Zoom. (Secretary’s note: given that the just-earlier motion passed, this motion and vote seems redundant.) Approved by 7-1 vote of the BEC; Wehrmeister voting no.**

**Discussion of the prospect of female members of SIR overall, and/or in Branch 17.** Apparently, this idea is being promoted by Oakmont, Windsor and/or other Branches where membership census is dropping precipitously. Scapeccia notes that his wife has no interest, and asserts that “if this happens, we will lose members.” After some discussion, it is clarified that the SIR constitution at this point DOES NOT ALLOW for female members; that individual Branches cannot make this change for themselves; headquarters is essentially seeking a “sense of the majority” of every branch.

**Consensus is a “no”; Lubas moves, Boultbee seconds, to declare consensus this formally from the Branch 17 BEC. Approved unanimously by the BEC.**

**Inventory of Branch supplies formerly stored at “Legends”** is now stored in a secured area at Epicenter, Traverso notes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Membership application of William Grafeld.** Traverso moves acceptance Lubas seconds; approved unanimously by the BEC.

**Progress re: documenting members’ proof-of-vaccination and submittal of Covid liability waiver forms.** Boultbee notes that as of July 1 he had received 50 proof-of-vaccinations, and more than 50 signed waiver forms. Seime notes that phone calls continue to be made by Ken Johnson and others; that totals for lunch attendance should be finalized and received by Elias Zegarra no later than Saturday, July 10.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

**Future meetings:**

Membership luncheon meeting at Epicenter, 11 a.m. Thursday, July 15.

BEC Meeting via ZOOM, 10 a.m. Thursday, August 5—per vote taken at this meeting.

Draft minutes submitted by Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister