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

**BEC Meeting, via ZOOM video from home quarantine, Santa Rosa CA**

**Thursday, June 4, 2020**

**Big SIR George Traverso opened the meeting at 10:03 a.m.**

No audio recording

Traverso called roll:

**Present:** Former Big SIR Dennis Mangan, Big SIR George Traverso, Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister, Treasurer Glenn Seime, Little SIR Gary Bondi, Asst. Secretary Jim Gurke, Directors Paul Willihnganz, Gordon Boultbee, Al Petrie, Ken Johnson, Elias Zegarra, Chris Nolen.

**Absent/Excused:** Directors Lance Thompson, Rich de Lambert.

**Other members present:** Mark Burchill, Tom Lubas

**Secretary’s Report/Minutes** from May 7, 2020 from Secretary Wehrmeister had been electronically circulated prior to (and during) the meeting. **Approval moved by Willihnganz, seconded by Gurke; approved 11-1 by the Board** (Nolen voting “no,” without explanation).

**Treasurer’s Report** from Glenn Seime: Balance on hand 5/31/2020 is $6,477.58; net gain of $390, completely via newly collected dues. Of the current membership of 79, 75 are paid, 4 unpaid. Seime went on to note that almost certainly, the Branch will end the calendar year with a significant surplus. He suggested that perhaps the BEC should consider the prospect of lowering the lunch price from $25 to $20. Wehrmeister responded that such a move might be unwise—especially, as seems quite plausible, if they must limit attendance, move functions outside, or otherwise have to change logistics, Legends decides to increase the Branch’s per-plate cost UP from $25 (our agreement with them only covered through June 30). Bondi noted that “there’s much uncertainty as to what attendance at lunch will be,” even when we’re allowed to resume lunch meetings. Wehrmeister suggested that an individual member’s decision as to whether to resume lunch attendance will likely not be based on whether we’re at $25 or $20.

Seime noted that both Ron Clarke and Bud Morgan have paid their dues through the end of 2020, but both now have serious health issues. Traverso agrees to phone both of them to check as to their status; whether they feel they can continue.

Bondi moves, Johnson seconds approval of Treasurer’s Report. **Approved unanimously by the Board.**

**Membership Report** from Zegarra; reiterates 79 on the rolls, 75 paid. Wehrmeister moves, Boultbee seconds approval of Membership Report; **Approved unanimously by the Board.**

**Forms 27 and 28** have been submitted by Bondi, he confirms.

**Old Business**

**Traverso asks discussion** of various facets of how Branch should proceed regarding ongoing, shifting, lessening health mandates from Covid-19. It’s noted that the **Branch’s official Monday golf tournaments at Bennett Valley GC must be postponed to a resumption date of at least June 22** (as opposed to June 8, which had been authorized by vote of the Board on May 7), because of the fact that Branch 76 (which also participates at BVGC) had not taken its vote the required one month prior; plus, as Bob Borowicz reminded us, he still does not have clearance from Sonoma County Health Department to conduct “tournaments”—with closest to the pin and longest-drive boards and pencils posted on the course that would create several “multiple-touch points.”

**Bondi expresses concern about continuing an annual informal SIRS barbecue/golf event** previously conducted by Roy Thuestad at Sebastopol Golf Course—because of the food-consumption liability (as was catastrophic in litigation regarding the Vallejo branch); it does not involve food prepared by a licensed caterer/restaurateur. Consensus is that if the event proceeds, it cannot be at all branded a SIRS function.

**Seime indicates he’ll be following up with Legends banquet manager Heather Hamm** regarding its plans and protocol for reopening for our monthly luncheon buffet (maximum attendance indoors, whether we might want to or be able to conduct our lunches outside on the terrace, etc.)

**Mangan reports that for all of the other Branch activities,** that SIRS corporate has advised that County restrictions (re: Covid) must be followed if they are stricter than those of the state of California, and that in each instance, there must be one person (the activity organizer) who must be held accountable for following them. For example, the chairman of Boys Night Out (Don Malvestini) and Couples Night Out (Fred Rose) are asked to submit a form indicating an acceptable plan for going forward. (The afternoon following this meeting, such a form was received for the BNO activity).

**Mangan agreed to forward this message, and the appropriate forms, to all 12 Activities Chairmen.**

**New Business**

Traverso and Mangan reported that they had attended an Area Governor’s meeting May 29, at which primary discussion revolved around developing plans for a SIRS corporate grant to Branches for SIRS -specific ZOOM software. (Right now, Branch 17 is simply using Dennis Mangan’s monthly ZOOM account.

General consensus that while ZOOM works satisfactorily for BEC meetings, it really is impractical to conduct a full Branch meeting. Wehrmeister asserts that Branch leadership should work toward soonest possible physical lunch meeting – whether that is on the terrace at Legends as practicable, or a catered “box lunch” in a public park.

Wehrmeister agrees to contact, before next BEC meeting July 2, either Sonoma County Health Department or Santa Rosa Police as to what will or won’t be allowed regarding an outdoor public-park meeting with catered box lunches – what limits on total attendance, spacing of seating, whether picnic tables can be used or every member brings his own camp chair, etc.

**Next regular membership meeting, via ZOOM, set for 11 a.m. Thursday, June 18.**

**Next BEC meeting, via ZOOM, set for 10 a.m. Thursday, July 2.**

**Boultbee moves to adjourn, Bondi seconds, approved unanimously by the Board; adjournment at 11:24 a.m.**

Minutes submitted by Secretary Kurt Wehrmeister