

INCORPORATED

**LAS TRAMPAS BRANCH 116**

**Boundary Oak**

**WALNUT CREEK, CA**

**BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**February 20, 2017**

**Big SIR Paul Ramacciotti called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.**

**Secretary Fred Schafer confirmed a quorum was present. Executive Committee members in attendance were:**

**Big SIR Paul Ramacciotti**

**Little SIR Marty Katz**

**Secretary Fred Schafer**

**Assistant Secretary Dave Williams**

**Treasurer Jim Nickels**

**Assistant Treasurer Bob Shader, Al Satake**

**Membership Phil Goff**

**Directors**

**Peter Coggiola**

**John Story**

**Al Hutchko**

**Harry Sherinian**

**Jim Barstow**

**Also attending were Committee/Activity Chairmen: Sam Beret, Matt Arena, Dick Thomson, Bernie Wroblewski and Joel White.**

**Agenda:**

**Big SIR Paul Ramacciotti reviewed the meeting agenda and asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none.**

**Secretary’s Report: Secretary Fred Schafer asked if there were any changes or corrections to the January 16, 2017 BEC minutes as distributed. There were none. A motion to approve was made by Harry Sherinian and seconded by John Story. The motion was approved.**

**Treasurer’s Report:**

**Treasurer Jim Nickels reported the Form 28 Branch cash balance for**

**January, 2017 $8,469.70. We had a deficit of expenses to receipts for January of $-201.63. This was caused by our not collecting our annual dues in January. This occurred because of making our annual payment for state dues while waiting to learn if we would change meeting locations to Boundary Oak. Jim will start collecting the dues at today’s meeting. Because of the move to Boundary Oak, our annual dues per member changed to $5 instead of the $40 when meeting at The Elks Club. This results from our having to pay no rent at Boundary Oak as opposed to $765/month at The Elks.**

**Attendance:**

**Sam Beret reported:**

**Current membership: 218 (This figure is based the our**

**Luncheon name tag count.)**

**Luncheon guests/visitors: 5 James McCormick guest of Bernie Wroblewski, Tod Slingsby guest of Don Schroder, Don Benioff guest of Peter Coggiola, Paul Eckels guest of Peter Belden and Neil Desmond guest of Carl Langhorst.**

**Speakers: 1**

**Excused members: 42**

**Estimated Unexcused members: 18**

**Estimated Luncheon attendees: 165**

**10 Unexcused Letters sent out for the January Lunch. 7 Paid**

**Membership:**

**Phil Goff reported:**

1. **Our current Active Branch membership is 221.**
2. **3 new members are scheduled to be introduced at today’s Lunch. They are Bob Campbell sponsored by Rudy Gebert, Hank McDermott sponsored by Al Zavattero and Steve Sandoval sponsored by Warren Garrison.**
3. **There are 22 inactive members.**
4. **7 members resigned and one passed away**

**Big Sir Report:**

1. **The Story teller will be Marty Katz**
2. **The Chaplin will be Matt Arena**
3. **The Boundary Oak move – A test meeting was held at Boundary Oak on January 16, 2017. There was a discussion held at the conclusion of the meeting as to whether we should continue to meet at The Elks or move our location to Boundary Oak. After much discussion, ballots were distributed to all members present. There were two voting choices listed on the ballot – whether to continue to meet at The Elks or to move the meeting location to Boundary Oak. The ballots were collected and then counted by Neil Schmidt, Jim Barstow, Paul Ramacciotti and Marty Katz. The vote was 125 to meet at Boundary Oak and 58 to meet at The Elks (68% to 32%). With the result of this vote, Boundary Oak will be the meeting location for SIR Branch 116 in the future.**
4. **Luncheon Procedural Changes – The first 15 minutes of the lunch meeting will be dedicated to the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, Sunshine Report and Story Telling. At that time, the salads will be placed on the tables and the lunch will start. Paul has asked the staff at Boundary to do this to minimize the distraction of forks hitting plates during the proceeding portion of the meeting.**
5. **Book Exchange – Will continue to be held at each meeting. Because there is no storage space for the books at Boundary, they will be taken home after the meeting by members of the book committee and returned for the next meeting.**
6. **Going Forward – Big SIR Paul intends to have regular conversations with other Branches regarding their activities, etc. to help with new ideas for activities for Branch 116.**

**Little SIR Report:**

**Little SIR Marty Katz reported that today’s Luncheon speaker is Jeff Lynch. His topic is “Life’s Ultimate Gift, Organ Transplant”.**

**Next month’s speaker is Logan Happell who will speak about the Proper Protection when getting Travel Insurance.**

**Marty is only missing speakers for 2 months during 2017. Using the Area 2 Speakers Exchange Drop Box was suggested as a source.**

**Other Committee Reports:**

1. **Neil Schmidt, Audio/Visual, Newsletter – Requests that we get written information regarding activities from all Activity Chairmen. He would also like pictures of activities on a regular basis. These can be used in the newsletter, as the scroll on the wall before the meetings and on our Web site. He would also like usual dates for each activity meetings so that it can be a part of the scroll of pictures shown on the wall. All of this should certainly increase Branch membership and member attendance at Activities.**

**Neil, because we now meet at Boundary, also feels that we should be able to advertise Branch 116, as well as our golf activities, in the Boundary Pro Shop. Little SIR Marty Katz will contact the pro shop.**

**Pete Coggiola mentioned that he feels that the move to Boundary Oak will be another positive recruiting tool.**

**Sam Beret suggested that we advertise who our upcoming speakers will be in the local papers. We already do this but will look into mentioning more than just one month’s speaker.**

1. **Harry Sherinian, Fishing – Has been asked by State to furnish a schedule of the planned fishing outings for the year which is signed by the Big SIR. Paul signed this schedule. We believe this is to comply with SIR insurance requirements.**

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45.**

**Fred Schafer, Secretary**

**Executive Committee**

**Area 2 Governor**

**Region 6 Director**

**All Support and Activity Chairmen**