

INCORPORATED

**LAS TRAMPAS BRANCH 116**

**Boundary Oak**

**WALNUT CREEK, CA**

**BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**July 17, 2017**

**Big SIR Paul Ramacciotti called the meeting to order at 9:30 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**

**John Story**

**Al Hutchko**

**Harry Sherinian**

**Norm Alberts**

**Also attending were Committee Chairmen: Neil Schmidt, Joel White, Sam Beret, Jerry Christopherson, Bob Donohue and Matt Arena. Area 2 Governor Bill Holly as well as guests Dick Thomson and Michael Barrington were in attendance.**

**Agenda:**

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

**Secretary’s Report: Secretary Fred Schafer asked if there were any changes or corrections to the June 19, 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 June month end is $8,893.73. Our biggest branch expenditure is the State SIR dues. They are $6/branch member.**

**Attendance:**

**Sam Beret reported:**

**Current membership: 216 (This figure is based the our**

**Luncheon name tag count.)**

**Luncheon guests/visitors: 2**

**Speakers: 1**

**Excused members: 45**

**Estimated Unexcused members: 14**

**Estimated Luncheon attendees: 165**

**9 Unexcused Letters sent out for the June Lunch. 5 Paid**

**Membership:**

**Phil Goff reported:**

1. **Our current Branch membership is 218.**
2. **3 candidates are scheduled to be inducted at today’s Lunch: Dan Marini sponsored by Terry Grummitt, Mark Nollsch sponsored by Neil Schmidt and Al Farbman sponsored by Tom Eller.**
3. **There are 27 inactive members.**
4. **Carl Cline passed away, Dave Butner resigned and Loyd Plank and Ross Gordon have moved to inactive.**

**Big Sir Report:**

1. **Story teller today: Andy Benz**
2. **Chaplain: Michael Barrington**
3. **Big SIR Paul said that Don Schroeder had requested that the raffle drawing be held during lunch rather than after the speaker. There was discussion regarding whether having the drawing after created more or less revenue. We certainly want to encourage everyone to remain at the meeting until after the speaker has completed their presentation. It was felt that a move will have no effect. The feeling was that more revenue may be created with the drawing being earlier. It was decided we would make this move.**
4. **Neil Schmidt will present the new branch web site and it’s workings to the membership at today’s meeting.**
5. **Big SIR Paul sent out letters to members who have been habitually absent from our monthly meeting. He received a number of responses which will probably lead to better attendance.**
6. **We have two new committee positions open for 2018 – Attendance and Greeter. Paul will make this announcement at today’s meeting.**
7. **Area Governor Bill Holly said he is glad that we have three new members joining this month. He feels that new members are the best source for finding future new members. Bill announced that state SIR is giving each branch three license plate frames. Future frames will cost $2 and must be ordered by September 2 when the state order will be placed. Bill also said that this year there will be two persons competing for both the state President and Vice President Positions. The vote will take place at the August 8th State meeting.**

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Phil Goff spoke about the possible need for a guest speaker committee. Phil feels that many are discouraged from becoming the Little SIR because of the pressure associated with finding speakers. Little SIR Marty Katz said this was not a problem for him. He had his entire roster of speakers for the year completed by February. Phil is going to write up a charter for a committee and float it by the BEC.**
2. **Jerry Christopherson announced that this year’s Christmas Party will be held at Boundary Oak on December 13. He and his committee are meeting with the caterer this Thursday and hope to go forward from there. The price for this year will probably be $52-53.**
3. **Matt Arena told us of the passing of Carl Cline. He suffered a stroke 3½ years ago. He has fought hard but finally succumbed to its effects.**
4. **Bob Donohue said that we generally have a Hawaii shirt day during our summer schedule. The August meeting will be be the occasion.**

**Little SIR Report:**

**Little SIR Marty Katz reported that today’s Luncheon speakers are Ted Clements and Debra Tolwhite. They will speak about “Save Mt. Diablo”.**

**Next month’s speaker is David Ainsworth who will speak about the SS Jeremiah O’Brian.**

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15.**

**Fred Schafer, Secretary**

**Executive Committee**

**Area 2 Governor**

**Region 6 Director**

**All Support and Activity Chairmen**