**LAS TRAMPAS BRANCH 116**

**BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING MINUTES**

**March 15, 2021**

Big Sir Sam Beret called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Secretary Paul Ramacciotti confirmed a quorum was present.

The following members in attendance were:

**Executive Committee**:

Big SIR Sam Beret

Little SIR Fred Wachowicz

Secretary Paul Ramacciotti

Assistant Secretary Alan Pope

Treasurer Alan Fitzgerald

Assistant Treasurer Al Satake

Membership Phil Goff

**Directors:**

Michael Barrington

Gary Boswell

Roger Craig

Kevin Donahue

Al Farbman

Darrell McClaughry

**Committee Chairmen**: Neil Schmidt, Jerry Hicks, Paul Russel, Harry Sherinian, Mike Ward, Mike Schneider, Don Schroeder, Dave Harris, Bernie Wroblewski and John Riordan.

**Secretary’s Report:**

Secretary Paul Ramacciotti asked if there were any changes or corrections to the February 15, 2021 Minutes as distributed. There were none. A motion was made to approve the Minutes by Gary Boswell and seconded by Phil Goff. The motion was approved.

Secretary Ramacciotti then asked of there were any changes or corrections to the February 22, 2021 Minutes. There were none. A motion was made to approve the Minutes by Fred Wachowicz and seconded by Roger Craig. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Alan Fitzgerald reported:

* He will purchase two Safeway gift certificates for the March birthdays.
* The current bank balance is $10,593.00. No change from the end of February.
* Alan Pope, Dave Harris and Dave Carlson have signature authority for the golf accounts.
* Since the inception of credit card use, $5,782.00 has been collected. The fees are $205.26. This system has greatly reduced the processing of checks.
* A credit card advanced payment model for lunches and other social events is being worked on. Kevin Donahue has set up a shopping card option for credit card payment of special golf events.

Standing Reports:

1. Membership:

Phil Goff reported:

No new members, or any indication that anyone wants to join. Additionally, no one has resigned.

1. Recruitment:

Don Schroeder reported:

An attempt to contact a potential new recruit resulted in a disconnected phone number. Nothing else to report.

1. Activities:

Mike Ward reported:

e Ten outdoor activities are currently functioning.

* + Golf lessons have also been approved.
  + Five activities are on today's agenda to be approved: Bocce Ball, Saturday Walking Tour, Pickle Ball, Amiable Amblers, Fishing and the Fishing Calendar. This will conclude all of the outdoor activities.
  + Mike is recommending a name change on golf lessons from "Golf Lessons" to "Golf

Clinic", in an effort to better describe the activity and attract greater participation. Increased participation could lead to a beginner golf class.

* + Changes in activity leaders: Clayton Bocce Ball leader Jim Seven has resigned. The current assistant Paul Russell will take over. Harry Sherinian volunteered to be the new assistant. Jerry Zambino is relinquishing golf clinic leadership but will remain as an assistant along with Fred Green. Jeff Johnson will be the new golf clinic leader.

1. Member Relations:

Roger Craig reported:

The call initiative went very well. No one was having difficulty getting vaccinated which was one of the primary concerns. The calls also revealed some health issues which have been passed on to Matt Arena. Response from members varied with each caller. In most calls where the member did not answer, messages were left.

1. Publicity:

Al Farbman reported:

* + Working on expanding exposure to people on the electronic media side. Al is looking for more members to help with Publicity and Phil Goff provided him with a list of members who have joined within the last 2-3 years.
  + The thought is also to do away with the t'Sons in Retirement" label and just go with the "SIR" label to help new members better understand what the organization is all about.

e Al has also been able to determine the ability to get into certain print media in the various communities, for example, cutoff dates to have articles submitted. Patch and Nextdoor are also being utilized. Communities where more help is needed to reach people are: Alamo, Clayton, Concord, Danville, Lafayette, Martinez, Moraga, Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek.

* + To distinguish Branch 116 from other branches, the idea is to focus on golf, and post golf information on golf bulletin boards.
  + The subject of travel was discussed but so far, response from members has been minimal at best. As current health conditions improve more emphasis will be placed on travel.

Big Sir Report:

Sam Beret reported:

* + The 11:30 meeting will start with the breakout groups, followed at 12:00 pm with a three-to-four-minute report by Sam to membership, and then the speaker. The speaker, Jenny Gowan, will be introduced by Paul Freitas.
  + The breakout groups will be handled differently in that people will be randomly put into groups. Other branches are also doing this. Members can still move around.  State COVID Survey: An e-mail survey was sent to every SIR member state wide, 204 members of Branch 116. 116 members reported either having both shots and/or the first shot with an appointment to receive the second. 84 members did not participate in the survey. The purpose of the survey was twofold: 1) identify the level of immunization in the branch, and 2) identify members who need help in getting immunized, especially in the group of 84 who did not respond. Dennis Snarr will coordinate this activity. A discussion ensued on the supposed purpose of the survey.  Recognition of new leaders in Bocce Ball and the Golf Clinic.
  + Meeting in May: With the possibility of no "Spring Fling" this year, it was decided to hold a meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021. A speaker is currently scheduled for that day. Also, no golf is scheduled for that day.

Little SIR Report:

Fred Wachowicz reported:

* + Fred stated that todaVs speaker is Jenny Gowan, African Operations Manager for Wilderness Travel and the topic is on COVID related changes to travel in today's world.
  + Phil Goff raised the question of recording guest speaker presentations for future use. Speaker approval is required along with addressing some technical issues.
  + Sam asked that Phil Goff do some research on this topic. Phil will be assisted by Neil Schmidt and Kevin Donahue.
  + Birthday names for the month of March were stated.
  + The Annual Branch Activities Survey form should be completed within the next few days and distributed to membership.

The Diversity Support Team has a new member, Michael Barrington. The team is moving forward with a list of action steps, meeting twice a month.

Other Business:

Sam Beret reported:

COVID Protocols for five activities to be reopened today: Bocce Ball, Walking Tours, Pickle Ball, Amiable Amblers, Fishing and Fishing Calendar.

Kevin Donahue reported:

On Bocce Ball protocol, the term using "rubber gloves" should be changed to '{hand coverings". Carpooling statement is not consistent in all of the Activities protocols. Kevin Donahue made the motion that the carpooling requirement as listed in the golf protocols be added to the five activities now being discussed. The motion was seconded by Gary Boswell, and approved.

Sam Beret reported:

With the stated changes, Sam moved that Branch 116 approve the protocols for the Bocce Ball, Walking Tours, Pickle Ball, Amiable Amblers, Fishing and Fishing Calendar.

Gary Boswell reported:

* Item #3 on the Walking Tours protocols states that everyone needs to have completed vaccinations. After discussion among Board members, Al Farbman made a motion to remove Item #3 from the Walking Tour protocols, seconded by Fred Wachowicz. The motion died.

Board discussion:

* It was decided to have Neil Schmidt put each activity "on screen" to make corrections. Various Board members attempted making corrections to protocols which became a cluster of confusion. Back and forth with no substantial documentation. Stop!!

Neil Schmidt reported:

* Finally, common sense prevailed and, a committee of three (Mike Ward, Alan Pope and Fred Wachowicz) was formed to put together a standardized protocol and then go through the individual Activities protocols and be more specific to each. Approval will be done via e-mail, and approval must be unanimous.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM.

Respectively Submitted:

Paul Ramacciotti, Secretary

Addendum to the Minutes of March 15, 2021:

1. In Accordance with the discussion at the March 15, 2021 BEC Committee Meeting regarding protocols for outdoor activities, the BEC Committee members have voted to approve the following two resolutions. Both resolutions were approved unanimously via e-mail, pursuant to Policy 51 of the State SIR Manual.

Resolution 1

Resolved, that the following Covid health protocols for the following SIR Branch 116 activities; Amiable Amblers, Bocce Ball, Fishing, Pickle Ball, and Saturday Walking Tours, titled below and as set forth in the attachments to the minutes of this meeting be approved:

* + 1. "Amiable Amblers Covid 19 Protocols"
    2. "Bocce Ball Covid 19 Protocols"
    3. "SIR Branch 116 Fishing Activities; Covid 19 Protocols"
    4. "SIR Pickle Ball covid 19 Protocols"
    5. "Saturday Walking Tours Covid 19 Protocols"
    6. Fishing Calendar

Resolution 2

Resolved, that all SIR Branch 116 sponsored Amiable Amblers, Bocce Ball, Fishing, Pickle Ball, and Saturday Walking Tours outdoor activities are henceforth approved by SIR Branch 116 provided:

* 1. Such activities are not prohibited by an applicable order of the California Department of Public Health or County or Municipal Health Department, and
  2. all activities are conducted under written protocols in a strict compliance with all applicable State and Locally mandated mask, hand sanitizing, distancing requirements, and any other pertinent Health Related Requirements.

1. In accordance with the discussion at the March 15, 2021 BEC Committee Meeting regarding protocols for outdoor activities, the BEC Committee members have voted to approve the following two resolutions. Both resolutions were approved unanimously via e-mail, pursuant to Policy 51 of the State SIR Manual.

Resolution 1

Resolved, that the following Covid health protocol for the following SIR Branch 116 activity, Book Group #1, titled below and as set forth in the attachments to the minutes of this meeting, be approved:

* 1. "Book Group #1 Covid Protocols"

Resolution 2

Resolved, that all SIR Branch 116 sponsored Book Group #1 outdoor activities are henceforth approved by SIR Branch 116 provided:

* 1. Such activities are not prohibited by an applicable order of the California Department of

Public Health or County or municipal health Department, and

* 1. All activities are conducted under written protocols in a strict compliance with all applicable State and Locally mandated mask, hand sanitizing, distancing requirements, and any other pertinent Health Related requirements.