

LAS TRAMPAS BRANCH 116

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 18, 2024

Big Sir Alan Pope called the meeting to order at 9:17 AM.

Assistant Secretary Dan Lawrence confirmed a quorum was present. Secretary Ramacciotti was present for his last meeting and allowed me to write the minutes for the November 18, 2024, meeting.

The following members in attendance were:

**Executive Committee**:

Big SIR – Alan Pope

Little SIR – Paul Russell

Treasurer – Charlie Guthrie

Asst. Treasurer - Al Satake

Secretary - Paul Ramacciotti

Asst. Secretary – Dan Lawrence

Phil Goff - Membership

**Directors:**

Gary Bonfiglio

Roger Craig

Don Benioff

Jeff Johnson

Dave Williams

Sam Beret

**Committee Chairmen**: Neil Schmidt, Harry Sherinian, Dennis Snarr, Mike Ward, Rob Lemmo, Jim Tamulski, Fred Wachowicz, Brad Stribling, Bob Colvin, Bill Foulds, Dave Havlik, Carlos Xavier, Micheal Barrington, Chick Walsh, Al Fardnea, and Ron Armijo.

**Secretary’s Report**

**Paul Ramacciotti reported:**

* Secretary Ramacciotti asked if there were any changes or corrections to the October 21, 2024, Minutes as distributed. There were none. A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Don Benioff, seconded by Charlie Guthrie. The motion was unanimously passed.

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Charlie Guthrie reported:**

* Branch 116 cash balance as of 10-01-2024 is $9,893.34. Reserve balance is $12,20122.
* October Unexcused Lunch Absences: There were 14 unexcused absences, 7 paid, 3 by credit card. Four were invoiced and paid. 103 meals were paid for even though only 99 were served due to members not cancelling in time to adjust the lunch count given to Boundary.
* 2025 Budget: Proposed budget for 2025 is $7,867.50 which includes a proposed dues of $25. This is unchanged from the Treasurer’s report presented during October’s meeting. Charlie Guthrie made a proposal to approve the 2025 as presented and seconded by Paul Russell. The motion was unanimously passed.

**Luncheon Report**

**Charlie Guthrie reported:**

* 105 attendees were submitted for the November luncheon.

**Big SIR Report**

**Alan Pope reported:**

* Branch meeting: Branches 8, 116 and 146 recently held a joint meeting to discuss strategy concerning luncheon negotiations with Boundary Oak. The idea of Branch leaders having quarterly meetings to talk about Branch activities, and the feasibility of combining activities, was also discussed. No decision has been made at this time.
* Cost of Lunches for 2025 is $37.
* Honoring our veterans: A short video honoring our veterans will be shown today.
* Branch Advisory Council: Carlos Xavier presented a brief report. 23 branches out of the States 82 branches will hold monthly meetings to discuss a variety of issues such as tax status, changing the Sir name, the amount of dues and other budget issues. Next meeting is scheduled in December 2024 with goal for final decisions during the July 2025 meeting.

**Membership**

**Phil Goff reported:**

* Current active membership stands at 188
* New member: Eric McNamara whose sponsor is Don Schroeder.
* Three members resigned: Doug Aalders, Mike Howard, and Terry Fleming.

**RAMP Department Head Reports**

**Recruitment:**

* **Don Schroeder reported** no guests this month. He also facilitated a brief discussion about how to treat new members during their second luncheon meeting. Jeff Johnson suggested that a plan be developed to welcome new members to our branch. One third of all new members are the result of the branch’s website. It was suggested that each new member should have a sponsor. It was also suggested that our best recruitment tool is for each member to invite neighbors, friends, former work colleagues. No new solution was reached.

**Activities:**

**Mike Ward reported:**

* Mike stated that of the 23 activities listed, 22 are operating in November. There were 26 total activity days in September in addition to the golf clinic. 3 activities are still in need of a chairperson: Travel, Poker and Sunshine. Computer Tech activity meets monthly on the Zoom format. Mike has been working with Branch 146 in efforts to increase interest in travel. Mike reported that there were many trip ideas to distance destinations that were thought to be interesting but out of reach for many. Shorter local trips were suggested, such as a train ride from Martinez to Sacramento.

**Member Relation**

**Sam Beret reported:**

* Survey forms were recently placed on each table during luncheon encouraging members for their honest input concerning the quality of the food, PA system, etc. Sam indicated that 6 members responded with complementary comments about the food.

**Publicity**

**Allan Farbman reported:**

* After a lengthy discussion on Recruitment and Member Retention was initiated by Publicity Chair Ron Lemmo, resulting in numerous suggestions, a five-person committee (Bob Covin, Don Schroeder, Al Satake, Brad Stribling and Jeff Johnson) was formed to come up with a plan to both facilitate recruitment and member retention.
* Alan Pope suggested that information cards be made up and handed out.

**Little SIR Report**

**Paul Russell reported:**

* Guest Speaker**:** The September speaker will be Ed Holloway who is a docent at the Blackhawk Museum. Ed has been a docent at Blackhawk since the museum opened in 1988.
* 12 birthdays are being celebrated in September.

**Miscellaneous Updates and New Business**

**Paul Russell reported:**

* Holiday Party: An organizational meeting will be held this afternoon. Holiday Party Committee members are Paul Russell, Ron Armijo, Alan Pope and Rob Lemmo. Donations for raffle prizes are welcome.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17 AM. The next meeting will be Monday, October 21, 2024.

**Respectively Submitted:**

**Paul Ramacciotti, Secretary**

**by Asst. Secretary Dan Lawrence**