

SIR Branch 13 BEC meeting minutes, September 21st, Catta Verdara

Meeting called to order, 10:03AM

Attendees:

Big Sir Chet Winton, Secretary Leonard Kaufer, Treasurer Jack Buffington, Database and Newsletter Jay Southard, Membership Chair Phil Sanderson, Webmaster Wayne Merkle, Little Sir Norb Pfeiffer, Director Bruce Herold

Secretary's Note: Starting with this month's minutes, I am instituting a notation that worked very well during my professional career. Any item that requires someone to take action **will be highlighted.**

Secretary's report: The prior meeting minutes were distributed only to a subset of the board. AS a result, there were three abstentions in the vote to approve the minutes. After approval, it was noted that there was a substantive error: The account balance was given as \$5569.75 but this was clearly a typo. The balance likely should have been \$3569.75. No action was taken to revise the vote or the minutes, so this note is here simply to point out the discrepancy.

The Big Sir Report: Sir Wayne M is leaving the branch, requiring a new member to fill his role as Webmaster. His main duties as Webmaster are to update the latest Link newsletter and BEC meeting minutes. **Wayne will show this function to Sir Jay S,** but Wayne will continue as Webmaster until a replacement is named.

Neal O'Boyle replaces Harry Collings as Sunshine Chair and Jay James is replacing Kurt Wolff as Attendance chair. On the topic of attendance, Sir Bruce asked if it would be possible for members to keep their name badges until the end of the meeting to facilitate social mixing and to ease member identification in photos. We currently collect the badges to be used in the free lunch drawing. Everyone was in support of the concept, but a method needs to be created that supports both the desire to keep the name badges on and support the free lunch drawing. **BEC members are encouraged to bring proposed solutions to the Big Sir.**

Program Chair Report: Chet reporting for Sir Bob H: Branch 13 member Bob Calmes will speak on Alzheimers pharmaceutical treatments. Chet noted that he would like to see more presentations that draw upon the rich experience within the branch.

Treasurer's report: Current balance: \$3478,64. Report approved.

Membership: The BEC approved the resignation of Jim Fitzgerald. Tom Mack's application for membership was approved.

Chet said he would like to see more guests transition to members. **Sir Phil is encouraged to personally hand out applications to guests**, rather than simply making the applications available to be picked up.

After some discussion on the topic, Sir Jay made a motion that for the remainder of 2021 any guest who turned in a completed application on the day they were a guest would have their 2021 membership dues waived. Moved, seconded, carried.

This discussion touched upon the impact to the branch's account balance. It has been trending downward. The branch has adopted a goal of \$4000 for the balance, while the state recommends \$15/member. It was pointed out that 2021 is an extraordinary year for the budget for two reasons: We held a ½ price lunch at the resumption of meetings, and we did not collect dues this year despite having 8 luncheons. This decline in balance is not indicative of any failure in the operation of the branch and is expected to reverse itself at the start of 2022 when dues are collected.

Spurred on by this discussion, Sir Leonard moved that a budget committee be formed to present a non-binding 2022 budget to the BEC. The motion was seconded and carried. **The budget committee will be made up of Sirs Jack B, David C, and Leonard**. Sir Chet agreed to ask Catta Verdera for the luncheon cost for 2022. (Secretary's note: After the meeting Chet said that the cost of the luncheon to the branch will rise from \$21 to \$22.)

Database report: Nothing to report. Sir Bruce mentioned that he had occasion to use the database and found it to be excellent in every regard.

Webmaster report: Sir Chet had requested usage numbers on the website. Sir Wayne instituted a hit counter and registered 74 hits last month, including 10 in the past two days. The information was not more granular than that, but this number seemed to exceed the BEC members' expectations.

RAMP: Dining Out: Sir Bruce noted that there was an extraordinary response to the proposed dining out on Oct 6. Once details are finalized with the restaurant, it may be over-subscribed. This may result in splitting in two or restricting attendance based on a first-to-respond basis.

It was noted that the SIR COVID policy will be applied to the guests at this event. This means that the members' guests/spouses will need to have a waiver and proof of vaccination to attend. **Bruce will send out an email along with a waiver form to all potential attendees. Wayne was encouraged to put a link to the waiver form on the website**, since this issue will continue to come up.

December Ladies Day: Chet said that the Lincoln High School choir is booked to perform, but has realized that the luncheon is during a school holiday. He has reached out to the director for confirmation. During this discussion, the issue of the COVID status of the choir was raised. They

are not guests, in that they will not be seated with us. Neither are they employees of Catta Verdera. Arguments can be made on both sides as to whether to apply the waiver/vaccination requirement or not. No decision was reached.

There was no old business.

New Business:

The work of the nominating committee is complete with the following slate to be proposed to the full membership at the luncheon: Big Sir - David Cesio. Little Sir: Norb Pfeiffer. Secretary: Leonard Kaufer. Treasurer: Jack Buffington. Norb is continuing as Little Sir with the understanding that he will not recruit speakers nor fill in for the Big Sir as BEC Chair or managing the Luncheon.

Chet said that he would like to have a recruitment chair. He would like there to be some way for the branch to reach out to new residents of Sun City without running afoul of the non-solicitation statute. This discussion was tabled due to time constraints. It should be taken up during the Old Business part of the next BEC meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:57AM