



## **PONY EXPRESS BRANCH 69**

Minutes of the BEC Meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2024

### **BEC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

BS Connor Chin, LS Lieutenant Coopwood, Treasurer Hal Copperberg, Assistant Treasurer James Sprifke, Secretary Bernie Moreno, and Assistant Secretary Bob Schrupf. Directors; PBS Ted Patterson, John Popadak, and Blake Thomson.

### **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

James Aylett, Robert Clanton, PBS Tom Costello, Tod Davis, Rick Hom, Bob Kiehne, George Langford, Jim Oblizalo, PBS Tom Page, PBS Jerry Schroeder, PRD & PBS Warren Senegal, PBS Lennie Silva, and PBS Mark Steffens.

### **GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

Ernest 'Ernie' Flores (Sponsor PBS Mark Steffens), Gregg Hess (Sponsor Blake Thomas), and Richard 'Rich' Statton (Sponsor John Valdes). Speaker and State SIR Webmaster, Alan Baker, was also present. Phillip Mattews should be coming and is a guest of Don Agostinelli. Eric Edwards Montez was to come but PBS Tom Page did not hear back from him and doubts if he will appear.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

BS Connor Chin called the meeting to order at 10:00am. Secretary Bernie Moreno confirmed there was a quorum (9 of 12). Blake Thomson informed us he will be leaving early for an appointment but will return for the lunch. He also said he will not be attending the next two BEC meeting due to the tax season. BS Connor Chin noted the upcoming holidays/observances of Chinese Lunar New Year of the Dragon, Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day, and it is a leap year. He then welcomed the three guests and said we will do their inductions during the Membership report later.

### **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES**

There were no corrections/additions to the January's minutes. John Popadak moved to accept the minutes as is and was seconded by Blake Thomson. Minutes were unanimously accepted by those present.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

BS Connor Chin asked if all had a chance to look at the Treasurer's report and okay with it. Cash was at \$4,558 at the end of January and \$5,500 the year before. That's about a thousand less. The annual dues were \$2,306 and we had a really good month. Only 22 out of 136 have yet to pay. PBS Tom Page noted the budget was at \$4,200. Treasurer Hal Copperberg explained the difference also includes the guesstimated future new members for the new year. Year-to-Date expenses are \$726. Membership is looking good at 133 members. There were no changes to the report and accepted as is.

## **BRANCH OPERATIONS**

- NOTE: Secretary Bernie Moreno added this section as a monthly reminder of the State SIR's requested routines to be performed by our Branch.
- BS Connor Chin reminded the officers and pertinent chairpersons to read the Annual Schedule of Branch Operations which is on the State SIR Webpage. Secy Bernie Moreno informed he had a hard copy if anyone is interested in viewing it.
- BS Connor Chin is in the process of filing Form 63 'Certification of No Caterer' and will discuss with Alan Baker on some details.
- Audit Chairman George Langford met with the Audit Committee including Asst. Secy Bob Schrupf and Bob Kiehne this morning to review the audit reports. Everything checks out but this time there are two reports. One for golf and the other for bowling. George will send the State the individual reports as well as the consolidated one today.
- Secretary Bernie Moreno confirmed Branch Membership Roster has been submitted to the Area Rep. He was fine with the electronic version and no hard copy was requested.
- BS Connor Chin brought up the Form 20 asking once the form has been submitted if it goes online. Alan Baker said it is going through a lot of changes. The next to last form was in pdf but the latest is completely online input. The pdf version has to be manually input (by Rich Sales) to the State Sir Site. He indicated the LS info was missing. Secy Bernie Moreno said he has the latest copy of Form 20 and the LS is listed. Secy Bernie Moreno said he was unable to create a new line to add Tod Davis as Bowling Tournament Chair. Should Rich Sales be contacted for this addition? Alan Page said no. It is not necessary for the State SIR to contact activity chairmen. Secy Bernie Moreno and Alan Page to discuss after this meeting.
- Membership Chair John Popadak informed Secy Bernie Moreno that he had submitted Form 65 Member List in January. Although Branch Operations assigned this responsibility to the Secretary, both concur that it makes more sense for the Membership Chair to do as he updates the list as changes are encountered. John Popadak said he sent both the BS and Secy a copy in January but neither recalls seeing the file. We will check.
- Treasurer Hal Copperberg confirmed Form 28 Branch Cash Report has been submitted.
- John Popadak submitted online the Branch Membership Status Report (formerly Form 27).
- Secretary Bernie Moreno submitted January's minutes.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Program Chairman: LS Lieutenant Coopwood. Today's speaker will be Alan Baker. He will be speaking on Electric Vehicles. Self-published author, Dr. LaWanna Parker will be our speaker in March. LS Lieutenant says he has heard a lot of interesting stories from his bowling and golf members and thought this might encourage some of them to publish their stories. LS Lieutenant is trying to get Wild Things (exotic wild life) for April. Some paperwork required to request them but hasn't heard from them. He is asking anyone with contacts at Wild Things to help him. PBS Tom Page said he may be able to help. For May, he has Mike Woods discussing golf. If he can't get Wild Things, he's hoping to get a speaker to give us a history of the famous Tuskegee Airmen of WWII.
- Sunshine Chairman: James Aylett. Bob Clanton had surgery and is present at this meeting. PBS Rich Taylor hasn't appeared at the bowling for the past 4 weeks. PBS Tom Page called him unsuccessfully as his voice mail isn't set up. Treasure Hal Copperberg said he had emailed Rich who returned message that he was still ill. BS Connor Chin said he had talked to Rich and was told the same. Rich didn't give any details on his condition and BS Connor Chin did not pursue. Bob Sanchez is recovering from his stroke and we are informed he will be attending the Luncheon/General Meeting today. Tim Salada had a bad accident a year and a half ago. He had surgery this past Tuesday in San Francisco but continues to have internal bleeding that can not be located. The Mayo Clinic also was unable to identify the problem.
- Newsletter Chairman: John Popadak. It's going well.

- Membership Chairman: John Popadak. We're at 130 and added two transferees, two new members, and lost one. We're at 133. We'll be inducting Gregg Hess, Rich Stratton, and Ernest Flores at this meeting. John Popadak motioned and Secy Bernie Moreno seconded. They were unanimously approved. On another note, Paul Ogden and Merritt Davis are resigning.
- Roster Chairman: PBS Alan Weinel. He was not present today but BS Connor Chin stated that there were two resignations in the current roster and were directed to PBS Alan Weinel.
- Recruitment and Public Relations Chairman: PBS Tom Page. Not much going on. Still have advertisement in the Mission Oaks Park and Recreation magazine with a circulation of 30,000 and hope it will catch the eyes of prospective members. Alan Page said he stumbled across an annual magazine in the library later identified as Golden Pages. Branch 117 was listed in it but had a wrong web address. It's about \$60 or \$75 to list. Might be something to consider. Next publication is in March.

## **ACTIVITIES REPORTS**

- Bowling Chairman: PBS Tom Page. Will give update at today's luncheon. We're half way through the second half. Five teams are within two points of the lead. PBS Mark Steffens had the high handicap game. Steve Eason had the high handicap series, PBS Jimmy Buckley had the second, and PBS Tom Page had the third. Secy Bernie Moreno, Ron Peters, and PBS Tom Page all tied for the second, third, and fourth handicap game.
- Golf Chairman: Rick Hom. He will present at the lunch.
- Dining Out: PBS Mark Steffens. He will present at the lunch
- Cribbage Chairman: Dan Nelson. First and third Wednesday at 2pm.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Picnic Chair/PBS Jerry Schroeder reminded us that the picnic is historically scheduled the third Wednesday in June till about 2pm at Carmichael Park. This date coincides with Juneteenth this year. He's asking the Board if we should consider moving it from June 19<sup>th</sup> to June 26<sup>th</sup> in consideration of Juneteenth. There was no interest to reschedule the event by any member present. PBS Jerry Schroeder then asked for the Board to authorize \$135 to reserve the park. PBS Ted Patterson moved to approve both the date of June 19<sup>th</sup> and the \$135. Treasurer Hal Copperberg seconded followed by a unanimous vote. Richard Slocum will be the cook again and new member Bill Cozine will assist. LS Lieutenant Coopwood will be responsible for the donations of items/prizes for the raffle. It was also noted that BS Connor Chin is responsible to run the raffle event. BS Connor Chin said he may not be able to do so but will find a volunteer.
- It was decided adding the monthly BEC minutes would make the newsletter too large. BS Connor Chin made a suggestion to add it to our Branch Website. LS Connor Chin had difficulties accessing the site and said it is in need of updates. Alan Page discussed the membership application that the applicant can now complete online and that it will go directly to the Membership Chairman and Web Site Chairman. Alan said to have both the Membership Chairman and Web Master contact him so he can set it up specifically for our Branch. Bob Clanton made the motion to add the minutes to the web site and Secy Bernie Moreno seconded. It was unanimously passed.
- There was discussion on the awkward situation regarding the length of time allowed the January's speaker. It was noted that the Dante Club contract has the event from 10am to 3pm for our Branch. BS Connor Chin said it takes into timing consideration for the announcements of Birthdays/Anniversaries, the wine raffle, and allotting 15 to 30 minutes for the speaker. He did apologize to Gregg. PBS Mark Steffens said the speaker shouldn't talk during the lunch, only afterwards. This is a time for members to socialize amongst themselves. PBS Jerry Schroeder said it was "very inappropriate and rude" to cut off Mr. Gregg Lukenbill's during his presentation. He said it is the sole responsibility of the LS to oversee the speaker, no one else. BS Connor Chin said it was Gregg who requested to start early and he wanted

a two-hour slot. PBS Tom Page stated our meeting usually goes till 2pm yet he was cut off at 1:30pm. PBS Ted Patterson said the speakers should be notified in advance of the time allotted them and the start time. PBS Lennie Silva feels that 15 minutes is too short and many feel no more than an hour. LS Lieutenant Coopwood told Gregg to shorten it but he requested to leave early so he wanted to start early during lunch. Gregg had left some items after he had departed so LS Lieutenant had an opportunity to meet him at his house and they had a good chat for an hour and a half. They developed a friendship. They will get together after Gregg comes back from his cruise. LS Lieutenant Coopwood believes God had a plan for this and what will happen, will happen for a reason. BS Connor Chin and LS Lieutenant Coopwood will discuss further later on. The reason the speaker is between the birthdays/anniversaries presentation and the wine raffle is to try to keep the members from leaving early.

- BS Connor Chin informed us that the Leadership Conference will no longer be done on Zoom. The in-person conference will be held March 15<sup>th</sup> in Walnut Creek. Lunch will be served from 10am to 2pm. BS Connor Chin will not be able to attend and has asked for a volunteer. LS Lieutenant Coopwood said he had already registered for the event. BS Connor Chin thanked LS Lieutenant Coopwood. There were some questions regarding reimbursements for expenses. It will be looked into.
- Another item, Asst. Secy Bob Schrupf said he had Ray Price on his caller list but his phone number is disconnected and was wondering if anybody has contact information for him. John Popadak says he has and emailed but Ray hasn't responded. PBS Ted Patterson said he has a number and will check with Asst. Secy Bob Schrupf after the meeting.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:06 am. The next BEC meeting will be at 10:00 am on March 14, 2024.**

***Bernie Moreno***

Branch 69 Secretary