



PONY EXPRESS BRANCH 69

Minutes of the BEC Meeting on Thursday, March 14, 2024

BEC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Robert Clanton, PBS Tom Costello, Rick Hom, George Langford, PBS Tom Page, PBS Jerry Schroeder, PBS and HLM Lennie Silva, and PBS Mark Steffens.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

None.

CALL TO ORDER

BS Connor Chin called the meeting to order at 10:05am. Assistant Secretary Bob Schrupf confirmed there was a quorum (7 of 12) – see above for names. Connor mentioned that during this month we have these upcoming events: St. Patrick's Day, Easter, March Madness, and today's luncheon is on "Pi Day (3.14)".

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

There were no corrections/additions to the February minutes. Hal Copperberg moved to accept the minutes as is and was seconded by Bob Schrupf. Minutes were unanimously accepted by those present.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Hal Copperberg reported that for February we ended up with \$4,740 in the bank. This is about \$1200 less than the year before. For the annual dues collection we were \$69 less than the year before. We still have 18 members left to collect annual dues from. Year-to-year expenses are about \$316 more than last year's figures; at \$1,169.

We have 134 members which is up by 2 from last year.

There were no questions for the Treasurer.

BS Connor Chin suggested that letters will be going out in the next month to those who have not paid their annual dues. PBS, Mark Steffens suggested that BS, Connor Chin, make phone calls to those who have not paid. Connor Chin will consider Mark Steffens' suggestion.

Those non-paid members who are active in bowling and/or golf will also be contacted by the managers of those activities.

It was pointed out that the deadline for dues payments is June. Treasurer, Hall Copperberg, advised that June is the time when we can decide whether a member will be dropped or kept as a member.

BRANCH OPERATIONS

- BS Connor Chin asked if there were any amendments that are needed to the branch's by-laws. Are there any changes that need to be presented to our area rep? It was decided that everything is "all good."
- LS reviewed the Schedule of Branch Operations for compliance – nothing new was presented.
- Secretary Bernie Moreno had reviewed the State Website and ensures the Branch Administrative Personnel (Form 20) is current.
- Treasurer Hal Copperberg confirmed Form 28 Branch Cash Report has been submitted.
- John Popadak submitted online the Branch Membership Status Report (Form 65, formerly Form 27).
- Secretary Bernie Moreno submitted February's minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Program Chairman: LS Lieutenant Coopwood. Today's speaker will be Dr. LaWanna Parker, who is a self-published author. She should be able to encourage our members to tell their own stories by publishing their own books on topics that they know about.
For April, LS Coopwood is going to have Greg Powell, one of our own members, be the speaker. The Wild Things speaker will be appearing in August. We have openings for speakers in June and July. Possibilities include golf pro, Mike Woods; Tom Jones from McClellan Aviation Museum; a person from the Sacramento County Assessor's Office; a speaker on the Tuskegee Airmen of WWII; a speaker on Medical Trama; and a speaker on Alzheimer's.
BS, Chin advised that he spoke to Mike Woods and Mr. Woods would like to be a speaker. LS Coopwood asked Connor Chin to announce the birthdays and anniversaries at the luncheon.
- Sunshine Chairman: James Aylett was not present but asked LS Coopwood to mention that member, Warren Senegal's wife, Jewell, was in the hospital. James Aylett is expected to arrive in time for the luncheon and he will address this matter with the entire luncheon group at that time. Member, Robert Clanton, has gone through 2 sessions of chemo, and has 4 more weeks of chemo therapy to go through. He will be further evaluated after these 6 weeks of therapy. He suggested that everyone should have their bladder checked.
- Newsletter Chairman: John Popadak advised that the newsletter is doing well, with no complaints.
- Membership Chairman: John Popadak reminded us that we started the year with 130 members. We've had 2 members transfer in from other chapters. We've had another 5 new members and lost 3 past members for a total of 134 members. The average age of our members is 75.5 years. He did get an email from a man interested in joining (Scott Mackey) so he sent the prospective member the needed information. Scott Mackey was invited by John Popadak to attend next month's meeting. There was no sponsor mentioned by Mr. Mackey. John Popadak was made aware of a few Associate Members who are playing golf with us, but it sounded as though they are members of other SIR branches. Another lead on a prospective member is David Boseman, who knows member, Don Agostinelli, but John Popadak was not given any contact information.
- Roster Chairman: PBS Alan Weinel had no comments other than he has to get started on next year's roster by next month. BS, Chin reminded Alan Weinel that Alan has to recruit a new LS for next year. Alan Weinel acknowledged that recruiting a new LS was part of his job. There are also some Directors whose terms are expiring in 2024.
- Recruitment and Public Relations Chairman: PBS Tom Page, brought up The Golden Ages magazine and that Branch 116 in Cordova has a paid advertisement in the magazine, but Branch 116 has not had any new members from that ad. It would cost at least \$75 to put an announcement into this magazine and Tom Page decided that it would not be worth the investment. Mr. Page did bring the Mission Oaks Rec and Parks magazine which has a Sir Branch 69 announcement in it, that does not cost us any money. The Mission Oaks magazine goes out twice a year with a publication of 30,000 copies. A quarter page ad for this magazine costs several hundred dollars, but we will probably just keep our small announcement. Tom Page brought copies of the Mission Oaks magazine and is hoping to get further feedback on advertising here.

ACTIVITIES REPORTS

- Bowling Chairman: PBS Tom Page announced that in yesterday's matches, the Highest Net Series was bowled by Treasurer, Hal Copperberg; while the second highest net series was bowled by Asst. Secretary, Robert Schrupf. Tom Page will speak about another topic during the general meeting, but it involves changing the time for the Wednesday bowling league for next year. All leagues next year will start at either 9:30am or 12:30pm. Other start times (such as the current Wednesday start time of 11:30) will be removed. Part of this is because Land Park Lanes has closed, and is closed for good. Their leagues have come over to Country Club Lanes. Tom Page will want to hear from the bowlers as to which time (9:30 or 12:30) will be better for them next year. Downtown traffic appears to be the main obstacle for the bowlers, in getting to, or leaving, the bowling alley.
- Golf Chairman: Rick Hom announced things are fine and he will present at the lunch.
- Dining Out: PBS Mark Steffens. An upcoming Dine-out will be on March 25 at Sammy's Restaurant in Stones Gambling Hall. We have had a Dine-Out there in the past and the people seemed to enjoy themselves. He doesn't have a restaurant in line for next month yet. Member, Robert Clanton, will get information about eating at Sky River Casino to Mark Steffens.
- Terry Block was not present to talk about Pickleball. LS, Coopwood suggested that we drop Pickleball as an activity because there has not been enough interest in it and nothing is expected to come of it.
- Cribbage Chairman: Dan Nelson. First and third Wednesday at 2pm at Country Club Lanes.
- Ping-Pong: Bob Schrupf announced that there were announcements in the latest bulletin, but no new members have participated in ping-pong yet.
- BS, Chin, announced that Dennis Kramer is currently working on programs with the Rivercats and Wine Tasting, but he was not present.
- BS, Chin, also announced that James Cain will have an Investment Group meeting later this month, but James Cain was not present.

OLD BUSINESS

- PBS, Jerry Schroeder, announced that he received money for the permit for our branch picnic at Carmichael Park, and the picnic will be on June 19. He mentioned that Joe Bowers was last year's main cook and Jerry will have an announcement in the upcoming newsletter about our annual picnic.

NEW BUSINESS

- LS, Coopwood asked if anyone else had any medical issues that he could pass on to Sunshine Chairman, James Aylett. None were brought up.
- Joint Branch Picnic was brought up by BS, Connor Chin. His notes indicate that Bernie Moreno has been talking with the Area 4 rep about a joint picnic. The idea presented by the Area 4 rep is that we could have one day, a joint picnic between all of the branches in the Area 4 region. This sounded like a huge undertaking and the consensus was that we would not participate in trying to get this organized. BS, Chin, will tell the Secretary that this was not a good idea for us.
- BS, Connor Chin, has talked with the Dante Club staff about the timing of the meals, salads, entries and desserts, and how members should not ask for double desserts when they are not entitled to them. In BS Chin's opinion, everything should work smoothly in the future.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 am. The next BEC meeting will be at 10:00 am on April 11, 2024.

Bob Schrupf

Branch 69 Assistant Secretary

