



PONY EXPRESS BRANCH 69

Minutes of the BEC Meeting on Thursday, January 9th, 2025

BEC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

BS Lieutenant Coopwood, LS Bob Schrupf, Treasurer Hal Copperberg, Secretary Bernie Moreno, and Assistant Secretary PBS Alan Weinel. Directors: Doug Bailey, Bob Baker, PBS Connor Chin, Bob Clanton, and Blake Thomson.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

James Aylett, Jerry Buhlert, PBS Tom Costello, George Langford, PBS Tom Page, John Popadak, PRD/PBS Warren Senegal, PBS Lennie Silva, and PBS Mark Steffens.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Robert 'Scott' Edwards (sponsor PBS Connor Chin) and Bill Katsifolis (sponsor Jerry Buhlert) were present at this meeting. John O'Neal was unable to be here today but plans to attend the February BEC Meeting. Also, a special guest is present today. PBS Mark Steffens brought Hazelnut, his dog in training, to this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

BS Lieutenant Coopwood called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Secy Bernie Moreno confirmed there was a quorum (10 of 12). BS Lieutenant Coopwood mentioned the observances of Martin Luther King Jr., Chinese New Year of the Snake, Groundhog Day, and Lincoln's Birthday. BS Lieutenant Coopwood said he was honored to be the Big SIR and expressed his appreciation to the Branch Officers for assisting the BEC to keep on course and run smoothly. BS Lieutenant Coopwood said the Branch should return to giving pins to sponsors of new members as PBS Mark Steffens mentioned was done in the past. John Popadak said the Branch used to give out wine to the sponsors. There may be further discussion on this subject in the near future.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

There were no corrections/additions to the November minutes. There was no December BEC Meeting due to the special Christmas Luncheon. John Popadak moved to accept the minutes as is and was seconded by Bob Clanton. Minutes were unanimously accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treas Hal Copperberg reminded the attendees that this report includes both November and December (year-end) as there was no BEC Meeting during the last month of the year. Year-end cash in the bank is \$2,834. This is an increase from last year. Dues/other income is about \$8,178 of which \$3,300 is annual dues collection. This also includes monies from selling leftover meals and collection from members who committed to a lunch but failed to show at the luncheon. Expenses are at \$8,522. An increase of \$677 largely due the Christmas Holiday Lunch expenditures. Final membership for 2024 is up by eight to 138. Secy Bernie Moreno moved to approve and LS Bob Schrupf seconded. It was unanimously approved. The SIR State first quarter assessment (for

insurance) is now at \$11 per member per year and our portion in the amount of \$374 has already been sent. This is an increase of a dollar per member.

BRANCH OPERATIONS

- BS Lieutenant Coopwood confirmed all Branch nominations, appointments, etc. have been confirmed prior to year end of 2024.
- BS Lieutenant Coopwood requested an 'in total' approval of this year's Branch activities during this session. Secy Bernie Moreno moved to approve all activities in whole and Treas Hal Copperberg seconded. It was unanimously approved.
- Both LS Bob Schrupf and Secy Bernie Moreno had reminded the current officers to review the Schedule of Branch Operations
- LS Bob Schrupf will monitor compliance of the Schedule of Branch Operations and report issues as they arise. Secy Bernie Moreno has been incorporating the applicable Branch Operations tasks in each month's BEC agenda as a 'to do' reminder for the Officers.
- Secy Bernie Moreno confirmed Form 20 Branch Roster for 2025 Officers has been completed online. The SIR State Database Administrator, Kevin King, acknowledged receipt of changes.
- Secy Bernie Moreno had sent the notice of Branch records Transfer to the Area Rep.
- Former Branch Officers did transfer records to the incoming Officers prior to January's BEC Meeting.
- Treas Hal Copperberg confirmed Form 28 Branch Cash Report (includes Branch Membership Status Report) has been submitted.
- Membership Chairman will submit online the Branch Membership Status Report Form 65 shortly.
- Secy Bernie Moreno submitted the November minutes to State Rep and Web Site Chair. Notified Area Rep that there was no December BEC Meeting.
- LS Bob Schrupf and Treas Hal Copperberg verified payment of SIR State assessment has been sent.
- Secy Bernie Moreno will electronically submit the 2025 Branch 69 Membership Roster to the Area Rep prior to the end of February deadline.
- Year-End Audit will be sent out immediately after approval at the February BEC Meeting. George Langford will inform the Area Rep of the timing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Program Chairman: LS Bob Schrupf. Today's speaker will be Molly Wanless-Smith from the Better Business Bureau. She will be speaking about scams and frauds targeting senior citizens. February's speaker is supposed to be Todd from DA Office but his phone is now out of service. LS Bob Schrupf will follow up. August, September, and October still open but Mike Wood and Wild Things on the list.
- Sunshine Chairman: James Aylett. Dan Nelson reported that Bill Mullen went to the hospital on December 20th. Diagnosed with embolism of the heart and should have been home January 3rd. PBS Lennie Silva had suffered a stroke earlier but is present for today's meeting. PBS Paul Sickert is getting better and now using a walker. He plans to be here at the luncheon. Have not received any updates on Thomas 'Train' Walton's condition. Otis Benning doing better and may be driving at this time.
- Newsletter Chairman: John Popadak. At the close of this meeting but related to this topic, PBS Mark Steffens said newsletter should include the site to purchase SIR apparels/items. John Popadak said it has been part of the newsletter and is near the end of the publication but in a small section. PBS Mark Steffens suggested it be more visible.
- Membership Chairman: John Popadak. Have 138 members with three prospective additions. Robert 'Scott' Edwards and Bill Katsifolis were present. John O'Neal will be here next meeting. Secy Bernie Moreno moved to induct the two and LS Bob Schrupf seconded. They were unanimously accepted.
- Roster Chairman: Asst Secy PBS Alan Weinel. He was out front filling in for the absent Asst Treas James Sprifke and therefore unable to be at the BEC Meeting.

- Recruitment and Public Relations Chairman: PBS Tom Page. He and PBS Alan Weinel will be representing the Branch 69 once again at the Renaissance Fair Open House at Sac State in January. So far, no recruits. He believes the members of the Renaissance Society are already a pretty active group and have their plates full as is. State Area Rep Jack Reefer contacted PBS Tom Page to obtain more info regarding the Renaissance so he can present to other SIR Branches. The District Manager of Mission Oaks bi-annual magazine had emailed PBS Tom Page informing the rate to renew advertising in the magazine will now be \$30 per member. PBS Tom Page had a discussion with him this morning. New member Robert Edwards (he's a Rotarian, podcaster and was involved with Laughs Unlimited) suggested using social media which is generally free. Response was our Branch has no one with that expertise. PBS Tom Page and Robert to meet later to discuss starting it up.
- Audit Chairman: George Langford. Ready to go and will present at the next BEC Meeting to obtain approval. He will notify Area Rep Jack Reefer when to expect the approved audit report.
- Meal Cost Recovery Committee: Secy Bernie Moreno. Was on holiday mode after the November BEC Meeting. Will put in to overdrive now.

ACTIVITIES REPORTS

- Bowling Chairman: PBS Tom Page. He'll give a full report at the General/Lunch Meeting.
- Dining Out Chairman: PBS Mark Steffens. Next dinner is at the El Tapatio located near Sunrise Blvd. and Madison on January 23rd, at 6:00 pm. February 24th is at Bennett's American Cooking Restaurant on Fair Oaks Blvd.
- Bocce Ball, Poker Chairman: Asst Secy Bob Schrupf. No Bocce Ball. Poker/Texas Hold 'Em is scheduled for January 25th at 1:30 pm. Ping pong is at two locations. At Swanston Community Center on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11 am to 1 pm. At Gibbons Rec & Park on Wednesday and Friday from 3 to 6 pm.
- Christmas Luncheon: Treas Hal Copperberg. 44 members and 36 guests for a total of 80 attended the Christmas Luncheon. Total expenditures for this luncheon came in at \$3,240. Total income was \$2,695 leaving a net loss of \$731. The Christmas luncheon tips collection for the Dante Club has declined over the years. \$167 this time, \$258 for 2023, and \$350 for 2022. For more details, refer to the hand out prepared by the Treasurer. Received great feedback regarding the band Mischief Trio (includes our own Leslie Kurtz on bass guitar). They played for the price of their meals and tips. It was suggested that maybe we should consider paying the band a set price. There may have been confusion regarding the tip collection jars. Members may have mistaken the band's jar for the Dante Club's.

OLD BUSINESS

- No old business brought forth.

NEW BUSINESS

- No update/renewal brought forth for checking Account Authorizations.
- No other new business brought forth.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 am. The next BEC meeting will be at 10:00 am on February 13, 2025.

Bernie Moreno

Branch 69 Secretary