



Sonora Branch No. 136

## Branch Executive Committee Meeting January 8, 2019 Minutes

### **In Attendance:**

**BEC Officers:** Big SIR Jim Botto, Little SIR Gene Zanoni, Secretary Bill Burnes, and Treasurer Eddie Toews .

**Not Present:** Assistant Secretary Dick Aberle, Assistant Treasurer Steve Aldridge.

**Directors:** Bill Guenza, Steve Huff, Marty Martin, Larry Matteson, Serge Peluso, Bill Lobdell

**Not Present:** John Moyer.

**Committee Chairmen:** Bowling Bert Abreo, Golf Paul Padavana, Bulletin Steve Huff, RV Travel Eddie Toews, Membership Dale Decker, Internet Jerry Bellefeuille, Pinochle Bob Morrison, Chaplin Steve Gregory, SIR Item Sales Fred Kehr, Kayaking Sol Robin, Media/Book Exchange Sol Robin, Propane Marty Martin, Senior Member Awards Fred Kehr , Wine Tasting Phil Van Swoll.

**Not Present:** Car Club Rich Rinaldi, Fishing Chuck Simons, Photographer Steve Belochi, Luncheon Roger Swartz, Luncheon Drawing Tom Neiderer.

**Past Big SIRs:** Dale Decker, Phil VanSwoll, Danny Laureta and Paul Squeri.

**Area 5 Governor:** Dale Decker.

Big SIR Jim Botto called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Secretary Bill Burnes took attendance and informed the board that a quorum was present.

Past Membership Chair Dale Decker announced that new member George Cocores, who is considering becoming Membership Chair was also in attendance. Upon inquiry by Dale Decker, Jim Botto announced that there were 220 in attendance at the Christmas Party.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer, Eddie Toews presented the November and December treasurer's reports. He reported that we had an ending balance for November of \$15,471.62 and \$250 cash on hand. In December we had an ending balance of \$10591.11 and \$250 cash on hand.

A motion to approve the November Treasurer's report was made by Steve Huff and seconded by Bill Guenza. The motion was passed by the BEC. A motion to approve the December Treasurer's report was made by Gene Zanoni and seconded by Steve Huff. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Eddie Toews presented the new expense voucher form to the BEC, which he said was much simpler than the old one. There was no motion for a vote by the BEC.

**Big SIR- Jim** informed the board of the financial status of the Christmas Luncheon. There was a slight loss of \$86.74. We finally received the bill from the Elks Lodge. It was \$1,039.74. Jim expressed thanks to all those who donated prizes.

Jim stated that the 2018 nominating committee would be chaired by Paul Squeri, and assisted by Dick Aberle and Jim Johnson.

Jim stated that Fred Kehr and Mike Ross would be on the audit committee along with Treasurer Eddie Toews.

Jim stated that SIR Branch assessments are \$336 and we have 225 members. Due to a state rule change, every member is considered active. The inactive member category has been eliminated. There will be 227 members after the 2 we will install today at the lunch.

Jim stated that the annual member dues of \$25 are delinquent after the February meeting. The names of delinquent members will be printed in the bulletin.

**Little SIR** – Gene said that he has nothing to report yet on a special events committee.

Gene announced that the Committee for Guest Speakers will consist of Jim Rodrigues and Gerald (Blair) Abbott. There will be no guest speaker in January, which is normal.

Dale Decker announced that he has gotten some equipment to help guest speakers.

There will be 2 new members installed today.

Gene said there is nothing yet on the Ladies Luncheon.

**Attendance/Membership Report** – Dale Decker presented the January membership report. He reported that we ended last year with 225 members. Dale said that with the 2 new members to be installed today, we will have 227 members, and our membership goal by the end of 2019 is 228. There was no motion to approve the report.

**Secretary's Report** – Secretary Bill Burnes presented the minutes of the November BEC Meeting for approval. There were no corrections to the minutes. Jim Botto made a motion to approve the November minutes. The motion was seconded by Larry Matteson and was passed by the BEC.

Bill made a motion to approve the notice of their being no meeting in December. The motion was seconded by Gene Zanoni and passed by the BEC.

Bill presented the minutes of the Special Planning Meeting held on January 3. He discussed the minutes and said we mostly talked about the propane situation and that we have open positions in program director positions (Membership Growth, Member Relations, and Public Relations). Also, one 2<sup>nd</sup> year director position is open because Steve Heath resigned because he moved out of the area.

Dale Decker commented on the mention of the membership spreadsheet that was in those minutes. He believes the spreadsheet is not all that difficult, and has been used by several people. The spreadsheet is well documented.

There were no corrections to the minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Larry Matteson and seconded by Steve Huff.

**Form 27 Report-** Jim Botto reported that we expect attrition of 23 members, our 4 year average, for 2019. Our year end goal is 228 members.

## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORTS**

**Membership Growth** – Position is open.

**Member Relations** – Position is open.

**Activities** – No report.

**Public Relations** – Position is open. Dale Decker stressed the importance of getting meeting notices in the Union Democrat.

**Bulletin Report** – Steve Huff thanked those who got their reports in on time and thanked Dale Decker for the nice pictures submitted for the bulletin.

## **ACTIVITIES REPORTS**

**Bowling** – No report.

**Car Club-** Rich Rinaldi was not at the meeting.

**Chaplain-** Steve said that nobody died in the last month.

**Fishing-** Chuck was not at the meeting. There is no activity now.

**Golf** - Paul Padavana said that the Mountain Springs golf club is closed due to a possible change in ownership. Therefore, he is unable to negotiate tournaments right now. Those who want to play in a tournament must sign up and pay one week in advance. Tournaments have to be listed in the minutes to be covered by our insurance.

**Internet** - Jerry Bellefeuille was authorized to spend the \$50 we have to pay for the web site.

**Media Exchange-** Sol Robin said he will be getting rid of things that don't move.

**Kayaking** – Sol said that Kayaking is dark until April. He also said that hiking is dying out because the hikes have been long and difficult. Twain Harte is now organizing “easy hikes” that are shorter.

Sol announced that October is Men's Health Month. He suggested organizing health activities and having his doctor speak in October. He would also like to put together a cruise in 2020 to Alaska.

Jim Botto said he is meeting with other Big SIRS to see if we can consolidate activities.

**Luncheon Drawing** –Tom Turner was not at the meeting.

**Pinochle** - Bob Morrison reported that they had 8 - 13 players in November and 13 – 15 in December. We tried Brooks Ranch 2 times, but decided to go back to the Senior Center.

**RV Travel** - Eddie Toews was collecting dues so he did not present a RV report

**SIR Merchandise** – Fred Kehr said that we sold \$383 in merchandise in 2018.

**Wine Tasting-** Phil VanSwoll had no report.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business-** There was a lengthy discussion of the situation with the propane program. J.S. West has a limit of 125 SIR members who can be in the program for

propane discounts. We are currently at the 125 limit and have nobody on a waiting list. However, we continue to take in new members who might want to be in the program but would have to go on a waiting list. There are several members in the program who have very low attendance at our meetings or no attendance at all in the last year or longer. Big SIR Jim Botto wants a decision from the BEC to resolve this situation.

One such member, Donald Grover, has not attended a meeting in 4 years. Big SIR has composed a letter to him which he read to the BEC. This letter, if approved by the BEC would also go to all the others who are abusing the program. There were several comments on the proposed letter. There was consensus from the BEC that there be a requirement that 4 out of 9 meetings be attended by a member to stay in the program, but no motion was made at this time. Jim will continue to work on the letter before it is finalized for BEC approval.

The BEC tabled a decision on how many of the 9 meetings must be attended to remain a member.

Dale Decker announced that Jim Johnson has resigned as State SIR VP due to health reasons.

Next BEC Meeting – February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 10:00 am Sonora Elks Lodge.

Minutes prepared by Branch 136 Secretary  
Bill Burnes  
January 14<sup>th</sup> 2019.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:17 am.**