



Sonora Branch No. 136

**Branch Executive Committee Meeting July 17, 2020 Minutes  
Virtual Meeting using Zoom**

**In Attendance:**

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

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

**Directors:** George Cocores.

**Not Present:** Phil Baylis, Chris Methot, Tom Neiderer, Bill Guenza, and Marty Martin

**Committee Chairmen:** Bulletin John White, Golf Paul Padavana, Internet Jerry Bellefeuille, Membership George Cocores, Photographer Steve Belochi, and RV Travel Eddie Toews.

**Not Present:** Activities Director Bill Lobdell, Car Club Rich Rinaldi, Chaplain Steve Gregory, Fishing Chuck Simons, Kayaking Sol Robin, Lunch Tickets Rodger Swartz, Luncheon Drawing Tom Neiderer, Pinochle Bob Morrison, Propane Marty Martin, RAMP Chairman Steve Aldridge, SIR Item Sales Fred Kehr, Bocce Ball Jerry Stefan and Wine Tasting Phil Van Swoll.

**Past Big SIRs:** Dale Decker, Paul Squeri, and Jim Botto.

**Area 5 Governor:** Dale Decker.

Big SIR Gene Zanoni called the meeting to order at 10:07 am. He asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none.

Secretary Bill Burnes took attendance and informed the board that a quorum was not present. Therefore, there were no actions taken at this meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Eddie Toews presented the June 2020 Treasurer's Report. He reported that we had an ending balance for June 2020 of \$15,365.34 and \$250 cash on hand. There were no transactions during June.

**Secretary's Report** – There were three changes to the June 17, 2020 minutes. First, Paul Squeri was in attendance. Second, the luncheon speaker (Sean Burke of Franklin Templeton by Zoom) was announced by Gene Zanoni, Big Sir, and not by Paul Padavana, Little Sir. Third, George Parsons was listed as not present, but should not have been, because it was reported last February that he terminated his membership in SIRS.

**Big SIR-** Gene Zanoni said four items continue to be presented in our bulletin. They are: "I'm Doing My Part," "Member Survey," "Join SIR" recruitment flyer and "Annual Home and Garden Show" booth recruitment reminder. Also, "Super Easy Guide to Zoom" is now appearing in our Bulletin. Gene stated that no additional "Request for Restarting Branch 136 Activity" have been received and that all SIR state golf tournaments for the remainder of 2020 have been cancelled. There will be a virtual meeting next Tuesday with John Scheuber, Chairman of the Board of Veterinary Services. His topic will be how we live life itself: "How we enter it, How we live it, How we prepare to leave it." We will attempt to restore scheduling of our virtual meetings back to the second Tuesday of the month.

**Little SIR** Paul Padavana stated that there is nothing to report for installation of new members and monthly birthdays.

**Attendance/Membership Report** – Gene Zanoni presented a combined Attendance/Membership Report and Form 27 Monthly Review Report. We started June with 200 members, we added 4 (2 transfers in and 2 new members) and we lost 1 member. So we ended June with 203 members. There was discussion about welcoming new members, since we are not having in person meetings. George Cocores indicated he calls new members on the phone to welcome them, and Jerry Bellefeuille sends them a welcome letter.

## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORTS**

**RAMP Chairman** – No report.

**Recruitment** – No report.

**Activities Director** – No report

**Membership Relations & Growth** – No report.

**Publicity and Image-** No report.

**ACTIVITIES REPORTS** – Paul Padavana said that the local golf tournaments are still going on.

**Old Business** – None.

**New Business :**

- 1. Nominations for 2021 Branch Officers:** Gene indicated that as of now, there is a vacancy for Little Sir. A lengthy discussion followed concerning having

members to be willing to step up and take responsibility for functions that are needed to make our branch run. Gene suggested having new members that join after 12/31/2020 have an orientation and sign an acknowledgement that they attended and were made aware of their responsibilities to volunteer. Others suggested a softer approach. There was a general consensus that it would be good for the club to change the culture from not ever helping out. One idea mentioned by Gene was to have Little Sir co-chaired, since it has a lot of responsibility. No action was taken.

2. **Nominations for 2021 Area 5 Governor:** There will be a vacancy for Area 5 Governor. Paul Squeri said he would be willing to do it. It was suggested that we find out if Danny Laureta would be interested. Danny Laureta later removed himself from such consideration, thus leaving Paul Squeri as the sole candidate. An executive decision was made by the Big Sir to recognize Paul Squeri as our branch's candidate for the running of the Area 5 governor position.
  
3. **Status of Virtual Luncheon Meetings:** The last Zoom luncheon meeting had only about 2% attendance. Paul Padavana said this is very unfair to the speaker. There was much discussion about how to improve attendance, what other branches are experiencing and whether to have a virtual lunch meeting. It was eventually determined that we will only have the virtual BEC meeting but not the virtual luncheon meeting.
  
4. **Distribution of Monthly BEC Meeting Minutes:** In an effort to let our members know what is happening, there was discussion about getting the BEC minutes to the members. It was pointed out that the minutes are posted on our website. Paul Padavana asked Gene to say in his next Bulletin newsletter that the minutes are on our website.

**Next BEC meeting – (Tentative) August 11, 2020.** It will be done virtually using Zoom.

Bill Burnes  
July 26, 2020

**Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.**