



Sonora Branch No. 136

Branch Executive Committee Meeting September 8th, 2015 Minutes

In Attendance:

BEC Board Members: Big Sir Jim Johnson, Little Sir Dale Decker, Treasurer Frank Taylor, Assistant Treasurer Eddie Toews, Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille, Assistant Secretary Angelo Costanza

Directors: Ray Bailey, Jake Parsons, Mariano Garces, Rex Page

Not present: Dick Aberle, Danny Laureta

Committee Chairmen: Bowling Bert Abreo, Membership Angelo Costanza, Honorary Life Membership Al Limon, RV Travel and Bulletin Jim Botto, Pinochle Bob Morrison, House Jerry Erath, Internet Jerry Bellefeuille, Chaplin Paul Bullman

Not present: Chuck Simons Fishing, Luncheon Rick Bacon, SIR Item Sales Cecil Steen, Photographer Steve Belochi, Golf Danny Laureta

Past Big SIRs: Al Limon, Bill Dunlavy, Phil VanSwoll, John Bristow

Area 27 Governor: Not present

Visitors: None

Big Sir Jim Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Jerry Bellefeuille informed the Board that a quorum was present.

Jim Johnson asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. Jim Johnson presented the only change to the agenda under new business. We will discuss the new member application fee and the November meeting starting time.

Big SIR Report: Jim announced that we have two new committee chairmen. Noah Webster will take over the Presidential Senior Awards. Marty Martin will take the spot of Vice Chairman of the Propane Coop. Jim reported that he went to the State Board Meeting in Concord. The IRS pulled the SIR tax exempt status for filing the wrong form. They were fined \$850. They are filing the paperwork to straighten it all out. Jim asked Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille to review the list of our Seniors and HLMs and send any discrepancies found to Dwight Sale. Jim also reminded the board of the new officer training coming up in October at the Pine Tree Restaurant.

Nominating Chairman Phil VanSwoll reported on the latest nominating committee recommendations. They are Big SIR Dale Decker, Little SIR Danny Laureta, Treasurer Eddie Toews, Assistant Secretary Frank Taylor, Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille, Assistant Secretary Angelo Costanza, 2nd year directors Rex Page, Dick Aberle and Jim Botto, 1st year directors Paul Squeri, Monty Youngborg, John Vierra and Bill Lobdell. Marinano Garces made a motion to approve the recommendations and Jerry Bellefeuille seconded it. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Jim Johnson explained that we added a director position so we will have 7 in 2016. Jim said he asked the State if 7 directors were ok because the bylaws state that we should have 6 directors. He was informed that it was ok to have more if we needed them and if we had members that were willing to participate. Jim explained that Dale Decker has a need for more directors next year. Jim also announced that Bill Lobdell would take over as Membership Chairman from Angelo Costanza in 2016.

Little SIR – Dale announced that we had 170 people and nice weather at the annual branch BBQ. We took in \$2347 and spent \$2164 on the BBQ for a profit of \$183.

Dale put together an estimate for the Christmas Luncheon. We will have 3 entrees this year, prime rib with baked potato, salmon with rice pilaf, and chicken cordon bleu with rice pilaf. There will be red and white wine on the tables. Dino said the cost is \$17 per plate. Dale proposed using the profit from the BBQ and using it to offset some of the cost of the Christmas Luncheon tickets., which would bring the cost down from \$23 to \$22. Steve Johnson will provide the music for the Christmas luncheon at a cost of \$200.

Dale announced today's speaker will be Jane Kreidler, the Outreach Coordinator from the Contractors State License Board, and Public Affairs Office in Sacramento. She will talk about the senior scams program.

Dale announced that we have 54 directories that were not claimed yet. They are available for pickup today at the meeting and after that members can request their rosters from Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille who will mail them at a cost of \$2.

Dale announced that we will be finalizing the 2016 menu soon and asked if anyone had any suggestions before the meeting.

Dale said that the Christmas Flyer is ready to go. A motion was made to accept the proposal to set the Christmas Luncheon ticket price at \$22 and the menu as proposed by Dale. Angelo Costanza made the motion and Eddie Toews seconded it. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Secretary - Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille presented the minutes, which were previously distributed, to the BEC for the July Meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Jake Parsons. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Jerry also presented the August minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Eddie Toews. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Treasurer – Assistant Treasurer Eddie Toews presented the Treasurer's Report for July which showed a monthly ending checking account balance of \$6,947.14 and cash on hand of \$200. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Jake Parsons and seconded by Mariano Garces. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Eddie also presented the August Treasurer's Report which showed an ending checking account balance of \$6,656.87 and cash on hand of \$200. A motion was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Jake Parsons to approve the report. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Attendance/Membership - Attendance & Membership Chairman Angelo Costanza presented the August membership report, which was previously distributed, to the BEC. Angelo mentioned that we have a new member application from John Gleason that needs to be approved today. Angelo also mentioned that we lost one member, Chris Parreia, who has passed away. The current active membership will now be 221.

A motion was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Frank Taylor to approve the August Membership and Attendance Report and the new member application. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Bulletin – Jim announced that the September bulletin reports will be due ASAP this month due to him being out of town this month. Dale Decker will put the October bulletin together for Jim due to his absence.

Jim also asked the chairmen to include photos for the bulletin.

Jim Johnson reported that Roland Patton the Branch 77 Big Sir commented on how much he liked our bulletin.

Activity Reports:

RV: Jim Botto reported that the RV club did most of the cooking and serving at the BBQ. He said the RV group will leave tomorrow for Carmel by the River. The first night will be 4 rigs at the Elks Lodge in Salinas. This will be a 4 day outing with 15 rigs. They will also visit the Italian Festival in Monterey during the outing

On September 27th 10 rigs will leave for a trip to Arizona. The itinerary was presented to the board and given to Secretary Jerry Bellefeuille to be put into the branches permanent records. A motion was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Frank Taylor to approve the RV Clubs Arizona trip itinerary. The motion was passed by the BEC.

Jim Johnson reported that Bob Morrison has a request for the bulletin. He said that a note about leaving a message when bringing a guest to the meeting should be added to the Membership Message Line notice in the bulletin. It was acknowledged that the notice used to be in the bulletin but was somehow left out. It will be added next month.

Bob also asked for a notice about the free lunch for bringing in a new member to be in the bulletin. Jim Johnson said they would include it in the membership application portion of the bulletin.

Bowling - Bert Abreo reported that the league would start next Monday. There will be a bowling tournament in Fremont this Sunday the 13th, September 18th and 19th at South Lake Tahoe, Rancho Cordova at the Fireside Bowl on October 6th and 7th, Brentwood on October 13th and 15th at Harvard Bowl, Modesto at McHenry Bowl on November 5th and 6th and one in Concord on November 17th and 18th.

Chaplin: Paul Bullman reported that Jim Nuzum and Henry Cook are both recovering well from their heart issues. Someone also reported that Sam Castle has colon cancer.

Fishing – Chuck Simons- not present

Golf - Danny Laureta was not present.

House - Jerry Erath reported that the house is ready. Jerry said the speakers table will be on the back wall again next month.

Internet - Jerry Bellefeuille reported that the “**join**” page on our branch website has been redone to make it more readable. This was done with suggestions and help from Dale Decker.

Pinochle - Bob Morrison reported that they had good turnouts the last month. He said they are now playing at the Pine Tree Restaurant. They struck a deal with the restaurant that if ½ of the players bought lunch they could use the conference room.

Propane- Al Limon reported that we are saving about \$50 to \$60 per month on propane. He also said that Marty Martin would be our new Propane Vice Chairman.

SIR Merchandise - Cecil Steen was not present.

NEW BUSINESS: Jim Johnson reported that the November meeting has many things happening. He requested that the meeting start 10 minutes early to accommodate everything planned. It was agreed by the board that this was a good idea.

Jim also reported that he has a new idea to entice new members. We have 21 new members so far this year and have lost 19 members. He would like to see us get 5 more members this year. Jim proposed that we waive the initiation fee for the first 5 new members to turn in applications to Angelo between now and our October meeting. A motion was made by Mariano Garces and seconded by Eddie Toews to approve the initiation fee proposal. The motion was approved by the BEC.

Meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

General meeting: During the general meeting Phil VanSwoll presented the nominating committee recommendations to the members. Phil asked if anyone had any further nominations, none were made. A motion was made to close the nominations by Jerry Erath and Frank Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the membership.

Minutes prepared by Branch 136 Secretary
Jerry Bellefeuille September 9th 2015

cc: Russ Salazar, Jerry Morrow