

**SIR Branch 146**  
**Branch Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**9:00 AM to 10:24 AM**  
**April 8, 2021**

**Note: Due to COVID-19 virus, SIR luncheon cancelled; BEC meeting held via Zoom**

Branch 146 Executive Committee for 2021

		Present
Big SIR	Richard Hockenbrock	Y
Little SIR	Jerry Kaplan	Y
Secretary	Rich Lyon	Y
Treasurer	Ross Abbot	Y
Assistant Secretary	Bob Wilkenfeld	Y
Assistant Treasurer	John Alexander	Y
Director seconded Year	Paul Beretz (Recruitment)	Y
Director seconded Year	Brian McCarthy (Sunshine)	Y
Director seconded Year	George Mon (Treasurer)	Y
Director 1st Year	Bob Lucido (Activities)	Y
Director 1st Year	Peter Plants (Publicity)	Y
Director 1st Year	Henry Thatcher	Y

**Other Attendees:**

Peter Bishop, Brad Hatcher\*, Bill Holly\*, Bruce Borgman\*, Jim Burk\*, Walt Busenius\*, Doug Eisner\*, Ben Gleason, Clint Collier, Paul Dubow, Milt Smith, Stuart Homer, Dean Mayer and Randy Graham

Note: \* indicates past Bir SIR

**Agenda**

**1. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock**

- 1.a. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. A quorum was present.
- 1.b. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock reviewed today's Agenda ( [Agenda](#) ) and asked if anyone needed any changes. No changes were requested.
- 1.c. Richard Hockenbrock requested a motion to approve the March minutes, ( [Mar. Minutes](#) ) Bob Wilkenfeld so moved, Brian McCarthy seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **2. Big SIR's Report - Richard Hockenbrock**

- 2.a. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock in his review of scheduled operations, noted that in May the Nominating Committee recommendations will be reviewed. ( [Scheduled Operations](#) )
  - 2.a.i. There will be a BEC Meeting May 13, 2021 prior to the Lady's Luncheon. Paul Beretz noted that perhaps several new members may need approval. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock asked if there are any objections to meeting on May 13, 2021 or if anyone was unable to attend. There was no objection or inability to attend mentioned.
  - 2.a.ii. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock welcomed new guest, Mr. Dean Mayer.
- 2.b. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock reported that since the Executive Session after the last BEC meeting many of the "non-payers" have now paid and that the Branch has retained most of the 23 SIR who hadn't renewed their memberships. Richard Hockenbrock thanked Tony Greco and Ed Brands and others for their efforts. George Mon will provide the membership gains details.
- 2.c. Ross Abbott will return annual payor funds to three SIR who have deceased or resigned.
- 2.d. Branch 8 has invited us to attend their Monday meeting which will feature Dr. Chris Farnitano who is the County Health Officer for Contra Costa County. An announcement will be emailed which includes the date and time of the meeting. ( [Chris Farnitano](#) )
- 2.e. Richard Hockenbrock reported that neither Steve Ybarra nor Max Hinkle have suggested any changes to the format used for the last Ladies Luncheon. Since no anyone else has made any suggestions, the same format will be used.

## **3. Little SIR's Report – Jerry Kaplan**

- 3.a. Little SIR Jerry Kaplan announced that today's speaker is Bob Doyle, a resident of Walnut Creek, is the recently retired East Bay Regional Park Director. My Dole worked at the Easy Bay Regional Park for forty-seven years starting out as a ranger and ending up as the general manager.
- 3.b. Little SIR Jerry Kaplan reported that May's speaker is Tracy Dietlein, the Senior Marketing Manager for Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek. She should be a very interesting speaker and will discuss the last year, current and future plans for the Broadway Plaza shopping area.

## **4. Secretary's Report – Rich Lyon**

- 4.a. Nothing new to report.

## **5. Treasurer's Report – Ross Abbott**

- 5.a. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock entertained a motion to approve Form 28 has been submitted ( [Form 28](#) )
- 5.b. The value of the seventy-five annual payers' pre-paid meals is \$13,440.00. Of those, two have resigned and one has deceased. Annual payers have eight meal credits from 2020.
  - 5.b.i. Jerry Kaplan reported that he spoke with Melissa Vogel who, is the only staff at Boundary Oak. There is nothing scheduled at Boundary Oak until July. At fifty-percent capacity Boundary Oak now estimates it may be able to accommodate up to 130 people. It may be August or September before Boundary Oak reopens. There may or may not be capacity limits. One of the biggest issues facing Boundary Oak is re-staffing. There may more information next month. Melissa Vogel is also communicating with Branch 116 who also meets at Boundary Oak.
  - 5.b.ii. John Alexander suggested that all annual payer money be returned.

5.b.iii. Bill Holly mentioned that if Boundary Oak opens in August, there will only be four meals in 2021 and that it would be cleaner to “liquidate everything” and have everybody pay by check in 2021 and start the annual payer business in 2022.

5.b.iv. Bob Wilkenfeld agreed with Bill Holly and observed that COVID-19 is an unforeseen force majeure and that the “cleanest” way forward is to return all prepaid money and start fresh in 2022.

5.b.v. Rich Lyon moved as articulated by Bob Wilkenfeld that all pre-paid meal monies be refunded immediately and that pre-paid meals will not be accepted until 2022 after which time, more clarity as to capacity and cost are expected. John Alexander seconded. Motion carried with one no vote by George Mon.

*5.b.v.(1) Jerry Kaplan mentioned that next year’s costs of meals is uncertain*

*5.b.v.(2) Jerry Kaplan, Brian McCarthy and Rich Lyon volunteered to assist in generating addressed envelopes.*

*5.b.v.(3) Brad Hatcher observed that the Branch has a signed contract for the cost of the 2021 meals.*

5.c. The Treasure’s report was presented by Ross Abbott Treasurer, who mentioned that there were very few activities. ( [Treasurer’s Report](#) )

## **6. Activities Coordinator - Bob Lucido**

6.a. Bob Lucido reported that some chairmanships have changed, and the Honoree committee has been informed.

6.a.i. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock asked the State SIR when indoor activities can be resumed in SIR homes. The State SIR noted that restrictions are being removed and that SIR will be behind the public in order to protect members. ( [Indoor Activities](#) )

## **7. Biographies and Fishing – Paul Dubow**

7.a. There are now 221 biographies which is at an all-time high. The three new inductees can expect an email requesting their biographies.

7.b. Fishing is now conducting fishing trips and hopes to resume breakfast meetings at the Legends.

## **8.**

## **9. Communications – SIR Call – Clint Collier**

9.a. Almost everyone gets their information in on time. One or two SIR require an additional nudge.

9.b. If anyone is interested in learning “Publisher” (software) and enjoys this type of activity, please let Clint Collier know. One more person on the SIR Call team would be useful.

## **10. Greeters –**

10.a. On hold during COVID

## **11. Historian – Gary Brown**

11.a. Not present.

## **12. Honorees – Doug Eisner\*, Jim Burk\*, Walt Busenius\***

12.a. Walt Busenius\* reported that Dick Woodman will be receiving a Certificate of Appreciation and John Wall and Sid Whalen are receiving the Branch 20 Year Membership awards. Doug Eisner will be presenting today’s awards. ( [Awards](#) )

### **13. Luncheon – On hold during COVID**

- 13.a. Rich Lyon reported that he is still looking for someone to help with Luncheons and the removing the necessity of managing annual payers in 2021 will simplify matters.
- 13.b. Jerry Kaplan noted that when Luncheons restarts, we'll need to reinstitute the Greeters.

### **14. Membership – George Mon**

- 14.a. George Mon reported that this month's Form 27 ( [Form 27](#) ) shows a membership of 286, an increase of five. There are three new members needing approval . John Alexander moved the approve Form 27 as submitted. Paul Beretz seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 14.b. There were two email address changes, one for Verner Larsen and the other for Chuck Schreiber.
  - 14.b.i. The Big SIR praised the quality of the Membership report.
- 14.c. George Mon mentioned all the information that was emailed is also available in Dropbox ([Membership Report](#) ) and will be in the next SIR Call Director.
- 14.d. Henry Thatcher moved to approve the three new members. Brian McCarthy seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **15. Member Relations – Ed Brands**

- 15.a. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock reported that Ed Brands had a doctor appointment that precluded his attendance and that he had no new report.

### **16. Nominating Committee – Brad Hatcher\***

- 16.a. Recruiting is working and will have a report at the May BEC meeting .

### **17. Publicity – Peter Plante**

- 17.a. Peter Plante reported that activities are continuing to be advertised as they are started. Activities are not being advertised until they are approved to be started.

### **18. Recruitment – Paul Beretz**

- 18.a. Paul Beretz thanked Peter Plante, Henry Thatcher and Henry Bocce for their advertising in their separate areas.
- 18.b. "Social activities for men" is being emphasized over "men in retirement".

### **19. Sunshine – Brian McCarthy**

- 19.a. Frank Lucas is back home and doing well! ( [Sunshine](#) )
- 19.b. Joe Hunt, Stan Stricherz and Mike Navarone now have a status of "Wait". As "Wait" status they are listed in the Directory and Sunshine report but do not pay dues or attend SIR activities.

### **20. Travel – Milt Smith**

- 20.a. Milt Smith reports that international travel is opening up and that most U.S. travel sites are already booked up by travel companies. There are two cruises: A Crystal Cruise from Rio De Janeiro to Buenos Aires with Narsai David on January 5 15, 2022 and the other is a Ruby Princess Cruise through the Panama Canal trip from Ft. Lauderdale to San Francisco on March 12-27, 2022.
- 20.b. Tour operators are generally requiring their guests to have a COVID passport.

20.c. Form 50 requires a full refund if the tour operator. Medical and cancellation insurance coverages are not and, have not been required but are almost always universally adopted. Proof of medical insurance IS being required in some areas of the world.

20.d. Peter Plante moved to approve the Jan. 5-15, 2022 Ri De Janeiro and Mar. 12-27, 2022 Panama Canal trips pending State SIR approval. Brian McCarthy seconded. Motion carried unanimously. ( [Travel Cruises 4-21](#) )

## **21. Webmaster & e-Communications – Ron Plachy**

21.a. No report.

## **22. Reports from other Chairs**

## **23. Old Business**

## **24. New Business**

24.a. Brad Hatcher\* asked the Branch to consider if either a COVID-19 vaccination or a recent COVID test be required prior to attending a SIR Luncheon. Some discussion followed.

24.a.i. Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock ruled the topic will be tracked and brought up at the May BEC meeting.

## **25. Next Meeting**

25.a. May 13th, 2021 at 9:00 AM

## **26. Adjourn**

26.a. Adjourned at 10:24 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rich Lyon, Secretary  
Branch 146

All the meeting's slides and reports may be viewed by clicking → [here](#).