

**SIR Branch 146  
Branch Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
June 9, 2022**

**Venue: Boundary Oaks Golf Course Clubhouse**

Branch 146 Executive Committee for 2022

		Present
Big SIR	Richard Lyon	Y
Little SIR	Bob Wilkenfeld	Y
Secretary	John Kluesener	Y
Assistant Secretary	Bob Ford	Y
Treasurer	John Alexander	Y
Assistant Treasurer	TBD	
Director 2nd Year	Bob Lucido (Activities)	Y
Director 2nd Year	George Mon (Membership)	Y
Director 2nd Year	Henry Thatcher	Y
Director 1st Year	Ed Brands (Member Relations)	Y
Director 1st	TBD	
Director 1st Year	Frank Lucas	Y

**Other Attendees:**

Bruce Borgman,\* Paul Dubow, Ben Gleason, Brian McCarthy, Brad Hatcher\*, Bill Holly\*, Larry Kaye, Richard Hockenbrock\*, Ron Plachy, Peter Gates, Bob Spellman, Steven Oki, Bruce Borgman, Ken Richter

Note: Past Big SIR \*

**1 Agenda:** Secretary John Kluesener reported that a quorum of the BEC was present and Big Sir Rich Lyon called the meeting to order at 0900. Rich asked if there were any changes to the meeting's agenda and hearing none proceeded with the meeting.

**2 Secretary:** Secretary John Kluesener asked if there were any changes to the meeting minutes that were distributed for the April 14 meeting and hearing none Little Sir Bob Wilkenfeld motioned that they be approved and Directory Thatcher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

John Kluesener reported that Form 20A was updated on April 1, 2022 showing the changes of Rich Lyon to Big Sir, Bob Wilkenfeld to Little Sir, John Kluesener to Secretary and Bob Ford to Assistant Secretary. The positions of Assistant Treasurer and 1<sup>st</sup> Year Director (Vacated when Bob Ford moved up to Assistant Secretary) remain vacant in that submittal. It will need to be updated after the meeting if our new director is approved. **Action John Kluesener**

**3 Treasurer:** Treasurer John Alexander reported that there was a net increase of \$319.26 to the Branch's cash balance during the month of May, due entirely to the difference in net receipts vs expenditures for the Ladies Day Luncheon.

The Consolidated Bank Balance Report is a quarterly report so no statement this month. It will be presented in July. The Bowling Account need will be addressed next month. **Action John Aldexander**

There were no new expenditures for the month.

**4 Membership Chair:** George Mon reported that there were three new members joining this month, one member has resigned and one deceased during the month resulting in a net increase of one to bring our total membership to 275 on our Form 27. Director Thatcher motioned to approve Form 27 and Treasurer Alexander seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The new member approval process was discussed and it was agreed that while we have never disagreed with the adding of an applicant, it is a formal process or recognizing the individuals. It was suggested that members greet the new sirs at the inaugural meeting, especially the Activities Chairs for the activities in which the newcomers indicated an interest.

There was no dues activity to report.

**5 Luncheon Chair:** Ben Gleason reported that there were 93 expected guests from the “opt in” approach. The actual number is a moving target as some who rsvp find they cannot make it while some still do not seem to get the message that they need to rsvp. In general the two problems tend to nullify one another.

Ben suggested that given that we are only getting around 100 luncheon participants we might consider reducing the table capacity from 10 to 8 which might make some more comfortable considering the covid issues. This could cause problems as some groups like to have 10 at the table. Ben to check with Boundary Oaks to see if they would be willing to set up some tables of 8 and some of 10. **Action Ben Gleason**

The State Sir group is reviewing the requirement that all Sirs and event guests have covid shots and sign a waiver holding Sir harmless. At present it looks like they will retain the requirement for shots but will likely drop the requirement for a signed waiver, perhaps as soon as this July. If that were to occur it was suggested that Branch 146 could use that as a basis to change from the “Opt in” for lunch attendance to the old “opt out” approach. However we have a problem in that many of the branch members do not monitor their email accounts and are thus not informed of many issues such as this. Bob Ford, Steve Oki, Ron Plachy and Bob Lucido to look into how we might resolve this communication challenge. **Action Bod Ford et.al.**

**6 Ramp Committee:** Bob Ford reported that there were no responses from potential memberships on the PATH system or the WEB page in the month of May. Richard Hockenbrock stated that there were some people who showed interest in the SIR picture at the Diablo Hills Golf course.

Bob Lucido explained that all 44 of our activities are now operational. Two new activities are being considered: 1) a birding activity to be led by Frank Lucas if there is interest and 2) a guitar circle for interested players, novice to experienced led by Curtis Young.

Bob is active on the State Sirs Activities and has noted a number of activities that other branches have that we do not have. He will prepare a listing of our activities and a list of any activities from other branches which are not on our list to see if there is interest in adding some activities to Branch 146.

**Action Bob Lucido**

Ed Brands, Member Relations, is preparing a listing of the activities newer members are active (or inactive) with and comparing that to what they listed on their membership form. His intention is to make this information available to their sponsors with the hope that it will get more people to sign up for activities. **Action Ed Brands**

**7 Travel Chair:** No report this month.

**8 Honorees:** Three individuals will be honored today at lunch, receiving merit and anniversary recognition.

**9 Sir Call Committee:** No report this month.

**10 Sunshine Chair:** Brian McCarthy thanked people for their input regarding members who are ill and would like to remind members to contact him if they are aware of any of our members who are indisposed in some way so he can get the information out to the proper persons and members in general. Perhaps this could be included in the Big Sir input to the SIR CALL? **Action Rich Lyon.** Mention was made that some branches have a "widowers group" where men who have lost spouses gather once a month or so over dinner as a form of support group.

**11 Branch Historian:** No report this month

**12 Old Business:**

**Speaker Selection Process:** Frank Lucas indicated that the group helping to identify speakers seemed to be working well and it was helpful that future speakers were identified at the BEC meeting in advance of their presentation date. He is satisfied with the current process

**The Branch SIR Banner:** Bob Wilkenfeld reminded the group that our Sirs Banner was no longer current with the new State Sir banner requirements and that it was also a bit tattered. A new banner in red and grey with three images of Sir Activities is recommended at a cost of about \$120. A motion to replace the banner at a cost of \$120 was made by Director Thatcher and seconded by Director Lucido. The motion was approved. **Action Bob Wilkenfeld**

We have the large standard with the Sir logo and three activity pictures that could be displayed on Tuesdays when the SIRs group gathers for golf. One of the other SIR branches has some storage space at Boundary Oaks and we could store the banner there if they agree. **Action Bob Wilkenfeld**

**Nominating Committee Report:** The nominating committee has identified an individual who is interested in filling the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Director position for publicity. He has a strong marketing

background that will greatly support our publicity efforts. John Alexander is also talking with an individual who may be willing to step in as the Assistant Treasurer.

**Monitoring the State SIR Adoption of Women Members:** The State SIRs have permitted two branches to admit women to their organization for distressed branches. About one-half of our Branch's activities have spouses. If our Branch sponsored a spouse (women) only activity group such as golf, cards or, movies etc., would the activity be covered under our existing insurance policy if there was no actual Sir member participating? The consensus was that such as activity would be covered but State SIR confirmation is needed. **Action Rich Lyon contact Area Gov.**

### **13 New Business:**

**New BEC Director:** Ed Brands proposed that the BEC elect Larry Kaye as 1<sup>st</sup> Year Director with responsibility for Branch publicity. The motion was seconded by Bob Wilkenfeld. Larry is recovering from surgery but he has confirmed his strong interest in taking on the role of a Director. The motion was approved

**Facebook Postings:** Rich Hockenbrock said that the State Sir is using Facebook for advertising and publicity. Within the State Facebook pages there is an area for a branch or branches to develop their own Facebook page. It was recommended that Bob Ford, Henry Thatcher, Bob Lucido and Larry Kaye use their combined talents to develop a page or pages using photographs from various Branch 146 activity groups. **Action Bob Ford et.al.**

### **14 Little SIR Report:**

Bob Wilkenfeld reminded the group that this month's speaker is the current acting mayor of Walnut Creek where nearly 50% of the Branch 146 members reside. Future speakers include: **July-A 1<sup>st</sup> Alert Canine** and Service Dog professional; **August-A cardiac Surgeon**; **September-A Master Gardener** discussing the use of Native Plants. Others that he is working on are **CCCWD for possibly October**, a meteorologist to discuss changing weather patterns **in November** or so.

Bob suggested that wives might be interested in hearing the Master Gardener and since we are still well below our 200 or so seat capacity for luncheons perhaps we should invite wives for that month's lunch. John Kluesener proposed that we invite the wives and Bob Lucido seconded the motion. One suggestion was that the master gardener present in December when the women would normally be present but that seemed like the wrong time of the year to think of gardening. Someone else mentioned that we normally have a military speaker in November in honor of Veterans Day. The motion was approved for inviting interested wives to attend the Master Gardener presentation. **Action Rich Lyon**

### **15 Big SIR Report:**

Rich Lyon to remind activity chairs at the luncheon that they should welcome our new members and potential guests and invite them to join in the activities.

Rich will also remind the general membership of the need for new officers for the coming year

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.