

SIR Branch 146  
 BEC Monthly Meeting (Zoom)  
 October 8, 2020  
 Minutes

<b>Big SIR</b>	Brad Hatcher
<b>Little SIR</b>	Richard Hockenbrock
<b>Secretary</b>	Jerry Kaplan
<b>Treasurer</b>	George Mon
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Richard Lyon
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Ross Abbott
<b>Directors (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)</b>	Milt Smith (Travel), Brian McCarthy (Sunshine), Ron Lew (Membership)
<b>Directors (1<sup>st</sup> Year)</b>	Paul Beretz (Recruitment), Peter Plante (Publicity) Bob Lucido (Activities)

Prior to the Call to Order, Roy Hodgkinson State Treasurer asked to address the BEC. Brad Hatcher BIG SIR added Roy Hodgkinson to the agenda after the Treasurer.

Brad Hatcher called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. When asked, the Secretary reported that all are present and there is a quorum. Please refer to the Attendees link for a complete list of attendees. (Sep. Attendees: [Att-01 Attenedees 2020-10-08.pdf.](#))

**Review Approval of Reports:**

**Minutes**

Brad Hatcher asked for any changes or additions to the September Minutes. Milt Smith reported that the Minutes are correct but that Form 53 was incorrectly reported as Form 50 to the meeting and needed correction.

Ron Lew moved to approve the Minutes as corrected, second Richard Hockenbrock, motion carried. (September Minutes: [Att-02 \(F1\) BEC Minutes 2020-09.pdf](#) )

**Agenda Review**

Brad Hatcher noted that Roy Hodgkinson was added to the Agenda after the Treasurer’s report. There were no other agenda change requests. (Agenda: [Att-03 BEC Agenda 2020-10.pdf](#) )

**Officer Changes**

Asst. Secretary 2020: Richard Hockenbrock nominated Richard Lyon as Asst. Secretary 2020, second Brian McCarthy, motion carried. Secretary 2021: Brian McCarthy nominated Richard Lyon as Secretary for 2021, second Ron Lew, motion carried. Asst. Secretary 2021: Brian McCarthy nominated Bob Wilkenfeld, second Milt Smith, motion carried.

**Big SIR Report**

The next Zoom luncheon rehearsal will be on Wednesday Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. The last rehearsal took under 20 minutes and was off and running quickly!

The Branch has been asked by the Area Governor to complete “Buddy System Training” by year-end. Usually training your replacement is done face to face in the Oct-Nov timeframe. Brad will report to the Area Governor that we will complete our “Buddy Training” by no later than mid-November. All Officers are requested to train their replacements and to email the Big SIR upon completion so that he can follow up with Area Governor.

Roy Hodgkinson reported that the State will be preparing new Branch Officer Training Videos based on prior trainings. The State expects the new training videos to be completed by year-end.

Outreach to Branch 81: We’ve been in contact with Branch 81, which may be folding and do not anticipate any support or recruitment activities at this time. Roy Hodgkinson reported Branch 81 may be revived after all with help from Area branch officers assisting in the possible revival.

Ed Benson has sent out the results of the State Survey.

### **Little SIR Report**

It’s been decided to go ahead with a Christmas program as a Zoom event. About 15 minutes of singing from the Devil Mountain Chorus is the proposed entertainment. It’s proposed that Breakout Room be used to simulate “tables” and that each Breakout Room will have a Leader to invite whoever wants to be in a particular Breakout Room. We can utilize up to 100 Breakout Rooms. Widows and Guests will be invited. Table Leaders will organize the people at their Table ahead of time. It was suggested that the Ladies Day Luncheon team Steve Ybarra et al be used to organize Rooms. It needs to be in the next SIR Call and eBlasts. There will be an Invocation at the beginning and singing “God Bless America” at the end. Several members present offered to “Head” a “Table”. Some discussion ensued regarding the number of people per table with 10 possibly being an upper limit consensus.

RAMP positions for 2021 have been appointed. Tony Greco will serve until a replacement for the Member Relations position is found.

Today’s speaker Joseph Lumello MA, Hospice of the East Bay who is trained as a minister and as clinical psychologist. His mission is helping those who have lost a loved one and are grieving. He has asked for 35 minutes. The next speaker is Capt. Jerry Devine, from the military base in Alameda. Members are encouraged to wear their military bling in the November Zoom Meeting.

[\(Att-04 Speaker Presentation 2020-10-08.pdf \)](#)

Bill Holly would like to give a Power Point presentation of members of the military at the Nov. meeting lasting about 10 minutes. The Branch has 125 veterans but not all members have been surveyed. The biographies will be sent to George Carpenter (Veteran’s Committee Chair) and Bill Holly.

B. Borgman and R. Lew may re-tape “God Bless America” with the SongSirs for the Nov. meeting, if a COVID-safe venue is found. The military service songs may also be re-recorded.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **Membership – Ron Lew**

Adds –One- Ray Martz, Removal – Three - Charles Bates 203, Joe Suta 99 (one of two remaining founding members), and Ray Weisz 120. Form 27 shows 294 Members. Ray Martz membership was

moved for approval by P. Beretz, second Brad Hatcher, motion carried ([Att-05 Membership-Report 2020-10.pdf](#), [Att-06 Form-27-Final 2020-10.pdf](#), [Att-07 Ray-Martz-Intro 2020-10.pdf](#) )

**Secretary – Jerry Kaplan**

Nothing to report this month.

**Treasurer – George Mon**

Form 28 shows a balance of \$33,506.36 of which about \$13,000 is 2019 annual pre-pays (liability), leaving roughly a \$4,000 balance if 100% of 2021 budget is spent. P. Plante moved for George Mon to spend up to \$350 for the 2021 Due Letters, B. McCarthy second, motion carried. Brad Hatcher encouraged the Dues Letters be mailed before November.

([Att-08 Treasurer Report 2020-10.pdf](#), [Att-09 Form-28-Treasurer-Report 2020-09.pdf](#) )

**Roy Hodgkinson State Treasurer**

Thanked Brad Hatcher, Richard Hockenbrock and Richard Lyon for contributing to the State’s Luncheon Best Practices document. He noted that COVID19 has brought on a technical tsunami, resulting in greater location independence of (online digital) meetings. The pandemic and technology are changing how we meet and communicate. The State SIR website is now the State’s primary marketing tool. It is budgeted that the first three quarters of 2021, pandemic restrictions will be as they now are, and that even if Luncheons are budgeted to resume by Sep. 2021 as expected, we should anticipate substantial membership attrition. The State SIR budget will be more focused towards digital advertising at the State level which should benefit all Branches. The Best Practices videos were mentioned as an example of increased State spending on digital communication. Many (smaller) Branches are not as adept at digital recruitment and publicity of virtual and outdoor activities.

**Activities – Bob Lucido**

B. Borgman requested Dining Out group resumption Nov. 15, 2020 with a 20 -30 person max subject to Contra Costa County regulation and restaurant protocols. It is anticipated that tables would be of 2 – 4 people. Couples would sit next to each other. J. Kaplan so moved, B. McCarthy second, motion carried.

Since Bill Schultz recently passed away, Men’s Duplicate Bridge needs a new chairman (possibly Dick DeVoe can help). ([Att-10 Activity-List 2020-10.pdf](#) )

**Biographies – Paul Dubow**

Mike Brown, Count is 218 completed. Ray Martz will be contacted. Steve Longbotham has not responded to being contacted. Paul Beretz was asked to contact him.

**Communications – Richard Hockenbrock**

Nothing to report.

**Honorees – Doug Eisner,**

Three Awards are due to be given. Jim Burk will present two and Doug Eisner will present one award. Reminded BEC that an executive session will be held immediately after the Nov. meeting to approve the recommended 2021 honorees. New Officers for 2021 should be invited to the BEC meeting and the executive session so they can vote.

**Luncheon Attendance – Rich Lyon**

The Membership data add/edit program was briefly demonstrated and several underlying excel spreadsheets were displayed and described.

**Member Relations – Tony Greco**

Noted he hopes to begin contacting recently joined members (last 6 months) to learn if they are participating in activities, etc. Requested a 6-month member list to identify new members. Rich Lyon will provide that to Tony.

**Publicity – Peter Plante**

Several activities are actively advertised (Monthly Meetings, Golf (9 and 18), Cycling, Online Hearts and Cribbage, Hiking) in Patch and Nextdoor Walnut Creek. Fishing and RV will be added to advertising. Model Trains will be considered after it is organized.

**Recruitment – Paul Beretz,**

Henry Thatcher – covers Danville, Glen Renk - Walnut Creek, Paul Beretz - Clayton. We emphasize friendships and activities in Nextdoor and Patch.

**Sunshine – Brian McCarthy,**

Sig is no longer on the report. Rick Morgan is doing well and is golfing again and be off of the report next month. ([Att-11 Sunshine-Report 2020-10.pdf](#) )

**Travel – Milt Smith,**

Nothing to report

**Webmaster – Ron Plachy,**

Not in attendance

**Old Business**

What will lunch at Boundary Oaks be like when it opens? When will Boundary Oaks offer dining? No one knows.

**New Business**

Jim Burk reported the 2012 Buddy System project which was created to help members who do not use or have a computer, to get a printed copy of the SIR CALL, is now completed as Joe Suta was the last member without a computer.

Jerry Kaplan asked the BEC to consider that since the Monthly Membership meetings are now on Zoom, could the time be changed away from lunch time. Brad Hatcher put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Adjourn – 10:46 AM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Lyon, Asst. Secretary

Please Click: [Link to October-2020 Meeting Attachments](#) to access the reports published in these Minutes.