

**SIR Branch 146
Branch Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021
9:00 AM to 10:35 AM**

Note: Due to the COVID-19 virus, the BEC meeting was 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 2nd Year	Peter Plante	Y
Director 2nd Year	Brian McCarthy (Sunshine)	
Director 2nd Year	Paul Beretz	
Director 1st Year	Bob Lucido (Activities)	Y
Director 1st	George Mon (Treasurer)	Y
Director 1st Year	Henry Thatcher	Y

Other Attendees:

Peter Bishop, Ed Brands, Jim Burk*, Bruce Borgman*, Clint Collier, Paul Dubow, Doug Eisner*, Bob Ford, Tony Greco, Bill Holly*, Larry Kaye, Frank Lucas, Steve Oki, Ron Plachy, David Steinberg

Note: * indicates past Bir SIR

Agenda

Call to order: Big Sir Richard Hockenbrock asked the Secretary if a quorum was present. The Secretary replied that a quorum was present. Big Sir Richard Hockenbrock called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Secretary – Rich Lyon,

Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock requested a motion of approval for the minutes of Sep. 9, 2021, BEC Minutes. Bob Wilkenfeld, Henry Thatcher, seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. ([Sep. 9, 2021](#))

Treasurer – Ross Abbott reported ([Treasurer’s Report](#)) Branch’s checking account balance as \$21,854.47 and that State SIR waived the final assessment of 2-21. No big expenses are expected for the rest of the year. The dues for 2022 are expected to total almost \$6,000 so there should be about \$27,000 in the bank account at the end of the year. Ross Abbott reported the Branch’s financial health as very good.

Ross Abbott reported that next year’s proposed budget totals about \$9,000. Assuming the membership count and dues stay the same, at the end of next year (2022) the checking account balance may drop by \$3,000 to \$24,000. Ross Abbott requested any budget change request to be sent to him so that the final budget can be voted upon at the next BEC meeting in November.

Ross Abbott moved to accept [Form 28](#). John Alexander seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Standing Reports

1. Membership – George Mon

George Mon's Membership Chairman reported a new member named Curtis Young from Concord. He's a jeweler. His spouse is named Karen. A member named John Wilhelmy had passed away. Member Doug Timmel has moved out of California. ([Membership Report](#)).

George Mon reviewed [Form 27](#) which shows the Branch with 294 members and requested approval. Ross Abbott moved to approve Form 27, and Bob Wilkenfeld seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Peter Plante moved to approve new member Curtis Young and, John Alexander seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

George Mon presented the revised membership application form. The spouses email ID may be added to the application under "Best method to contact". Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock requested that all email ID's be capitalized.

The annual dues letter was reviewed. Ross Abbott requested that lines referring to budget and operating expenses be removed. "LAN" phoned number is to be changed to "Land" line. A discussion evolved about the dues amount currently set at \$20 a year. Richard Lyon moved to approve the dues letter as amended with dues set at \$20. John Alexander seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

2. RAMP

Recruitment – Paul Beretz, not in attendance.

Activities – Bob Lucido

Bob Lucido reported: The Chess group is changing into an Area 16 activity and has a new chairman is from Branch 8 and, similarly, the Fishing group is also an area-wide activity. There is no longer a Bowling group and several of the Poker groups need to consolidate.

Bob Lucido also reported the usefulness of Constant Contact email tracking who opens a survey email and tabulates the answers to survey questions. Constant Contact also reports on rejected emails which can be followed up on and corrected and spouses also would like to receive emails for coed activities.

Ross Abbott moved to fund Constant Contact at \$27 per month through the end of the year and next year. Peter Plante seconded. Motion carried.

Member Relations – Ed Brands, No changes to report.

Publicity – Peter Plante

Outdoor activities are continuing to be publicized in Patch and Nextdoor. Peter Plante is stepping down at the end of the year, after two years of service.

3. COVID Compliance – George Mon

George Mon reported that 86.6% of the Branch's Sir are compliant with their Waivers and CDC cards.

Big Sir Report – Richard Hockenbrock

1. **Schedule of Operations:** A series of SIR leadership seminars are being presented online from Nov. 15 – 19, 2 – 4 PM covering the various branch leadership positions. The Big SIR asked everyone to attend at least one seminar.

2. **Review of In-Person meetings:** The Big SIR called for a discussion resuming in-person meetings. Doug Eisner* stated that the Branch meets are SIR State requirements. Paul Dubow observed that the Lady's Luncheon requires a longer lead time for signups in the SIR Call. Bob Wilkenfeld read off the Contra Costa County Health Director's website that in-person meetings are allowed after November 1, 2021.

Rich Lyon moved that the Branch resume In-person meetings in November pending a final BEC decision on Oct. 21, 2021. Bob Wilkenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried with nine in favor and one opposed.

The motion for the November meeting was amended to include the December 2021 Lady's Day Luncheon. The motion carried with nine in favor and one opposed.

The Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock reported that as a backup, Steve Oki has agreed to fill in for Steve Bishop as the Zoom coordinator for November if needed.

Little Sir Report - Jerry Kaplan

1. Speakers: Wes Goldberg, the Bay Area News Group will be calling in from Miami and is still creating podcasts for the Warriors and will take questions. For November, instead of a speaker, we will have 4 SIR veterans talk about their military experiences.

Other Chair Reports

1. Sunshine – Brian McCarthy: The Sunshine Report is filed in Dropbox. ([Sunshine Report](#))
2. Biographies - Paul Dubow, reports 228 biographies, two new from the three new members.
3. SIR Call – Clint Collier, reported that with three editors the team is going very well!
4. Honorees – Doug Eisner* Two awards are being given today; (1 Branch Honoree and 2) A twenty-year member award.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjourn 10:35 AM

1. Next meeting - November 11, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Lyon, Secretary, Branch 146

**SIR Branch 146
Branch Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2021
2:15 PM to 2:57 PM**

Note: Due to the COVID-19 virus, the BEC meeting was 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 2nd Year	Peter Plante	Y
Director 2nd Year	Brian McCarthy (Sunshine)	
Director 2nd Year	Paul Beretz	Y
Director 1st Year	Bob Lucido (Activities)	
Director 1st	George Mon (Treasurer)	
Director 1st Year	Henry Thatcher	

Other Attendees:

Bruce Borgman*

Note: * indicates past Bir SIR

Agenda

- Call to order: Big Sir Richard Hockenbrock asked the Secretary if a quorum was present. The Secretary replied that a quorum was present. Big Sir Richard Hockenbrock called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM.
- The Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock stated that the purpose of this special BEC meeting was to decide whether or not Branch 146 would conduct in-person meetings in November and December. Richard Hockenbrock asked for an open discussion.

Discussion

- All or nearly all present expressed their opinion and after some discussion, Bob Wilkenfeld moved and Peter Plante seconded the motion that Branch 146 would in accordance with Contra Costa County Health Orders, have meetings exceeding 100 attendees and that if there were more than 100 attendees that all attendees are fully vaccinated and would be masked while not eating or drinking.
- (It was assumed that all attendees must also meet Branch 146 vaccination and waiver requirements. Per Contra Costa County Speakers can unmask and, attendees can temporarily unmask for the hearing impaired.)
- Motion carried with, five “yea” votes of the eight voting BEC members present.

- Paul Beretz moved and Peter Plante seconded the motion that Branch 146 will suspend outside (Nextdoor, Patch, etc.) advertising of monthly luncheons until January 2022. The motion carried unanimously.
- Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock, Little SIR Jerry Kaplan, and Bruce Borgman* reported that additional information is pending from Boundary Oak regarding seating capacity.
- After additional discussion, Bob Wilkenfeld moved and Peter Plante seconded the motion that; If an attendance limit is imposed on the Branch by Boundary Oak then, RSVPs for the November and December luncheons will be accepted in the order in which they were received on a first-come-first-served basis up to any attendance limits. Motion carried unanimously.
- Bruce Borgman confirmed that the cost of the November luncheon is \$28.
- After some discussion, a consensus that tables should be limited to seating eight persons per table was reached.
- John Alexander moved, and Peter Plante seconded a motion that the cost of the December luncheon will be \$30 per person. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the Big SIR Richard Hockenbrock closed the meeting at 2:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Lyon, Secretary
SIR Branch 146