



# Minutes of the BEC Meeting FINAL

08142023

## BEC Members Attending

X	Ray de Wit, Big Sir		Dan Kohlman, Asst. Membership Sec.
X	Rich Carlston, Little Sir	X	Dan Casella, Treasurer
X	Carl Ludwig, Secretary	X	Mike Loonin, Asst. Treasurer
	Tony Mazy, Asst. Secretary	X	Leo Dominguez, Director
X	Manuel Dominguez, Attendance. Sec.		Chick Lowry, ACC, Director
X	Dan Smith, Asst. Attendance Sec.	X	Martin Simmons, Director
	Rich Knowles, Membership Sec.	X	Tony de Losada, Director Emeritus

## Guests Attending

Ron Cassano		
Dan Weller		

**Open and Welcome:** The meeting was opened at 9:05 by Rich Carlston , who welcomed the BEC.

**Recognition of Visitors and Guests:** None

**New Member Introduction:** One new member, not present.

## Announcements

Decisions from the State SIR BEC:

- The State SIR survey asking if women should be allowed as members failed with over 50% of Branches voting “no”. The Oakmont Branch pilot program situation, which currently includes women members, is yet unresolved.
- State Form 27 is in final revisions. Individual Branches may keep their own format if mandated information is present. The conforming Form 27 incorporates all information needed for tax filing purposes.

- Form 28 will be revised and adopted next year.
- State SIR guidelines for the number of member HLM and DSA awards has been expanded and is determined by the number of branch members. For Branch 8, awards are increased by 1.
- The new State SIR website is operational. The public webpage is for marketing only. SIR members may log into the full expanded website using ID and password protection.

**Secretary Report – Carl Ludwig:** On motion by Manuel Dominguez with a second by Dan Casella, the BEC Minutes of 7/10/2022 were unanimously approved.

**Big Sir Report – Rich Carlston for Ray de Wit:**

- 2024 Branch 8 offices will be elected by voice vote at the luncheon.
- Our new AV equipment received positive feedback from the membership. A second larger screen was deemed not necessary for the current luncheon venue.
- The Ed Benson award will be presented to Derek Southern at the luncheon. Derek's wife will be in attendance.

**Form 27:** The previously released Membership report was moved for approval by Carl Ludwig, seconded by Dan Weller, and passed unanimously.

**Little Sir Report- Rich Carlston:** Today's speaker is Thomas Parish, Director of the Berkeley Repertory Theater

**Treasurer's Report – Dan Casella:** Dan provided the Treasurers report. Our balance is \$18,854.88. Largest expenditures included the new AV equipment, State SIR assessment for Q3, web hosting expenses for the past three years (oops!). and promotional t-shirts. On motion by Dan Casella, seconded by Rich Carlston, the financial reports were approved unanimously.

**Membership:** The previously released membership report (revised) included our one new member. On motion by Carl Ludwig, seconded by Leo Dominguez, the membership report was unanimously approved.

**Attendance – Manuel Dominguez:** Manuel indicated that payment for the 8 July no-shows had been resolved (3 paid, 5 excused). For the August luncheon, he had received one cancellation, two late additions, one guest addition, plus Derek Southern's wife. Dan Casella expressed his continuing frustration with his inability to collect the 5% extra meal tickets for his use at check-in. The protocol for adding extra food tickets will be addressed as part of the 2024 contract renewal negotiation. Additionally, any future late additions to the luncheon (after the Thursday cut-off notification to Boundary Oaks) will not be guaranteed their meal preference. Upon executive approval by Rich Carlston, the Attendance report was approved.

### **Committee Reports**

**Activities Coordinator – Chick Lowry:** Absent; no report. Leo Dominguez gave an update on the Octoberfest event:

- With assistance from Thom Watkin's wife, they have created a banner promoting the event. The banner is displayed in the luncheon main room. It was deemed "Wunderbar!!"

- For member promotion, Leo will make an announcement at the luncheon, accept registrations at his activity table, and send out Constant Contact announcements every other week.
- Equipment needed for the event has been inventoried at our storage shed.
- About 50 individuals have registered to date.

**Member Relations** – No report. Two member awards will be made, one at today's luncheon and another next month.

**Publicity, Public Relations, and Community Outreach – Tony de Losada:** Tony gave an update on Branch 8's participation at the Walnut Creek Oktoberfest. Six volunteers will be needed. Ray de Wit asked that if Activity Chairmen had photos of member events and to please forward them to him as he will be refreshing some of the older images used during the luncheon social hour.

**Systems Support Team – Dan Weller:** "Nothing is broken" which is a good thing. Dan, with the help of others, is planning a move of all home-grown applications from MDB to commercially supported software over the next 5 years.

**Hotline – Dan Smith:** No report.

**Member Feedback – Jim Sowell:** Jim's previously released report was addressed by the BEC. The members' complaint regarding the less-than-stellar food presentation can be attributed to the fact that the usual chef had called in sick that day and the meals had been prepared by the remaining, less experienced staff.

**New Business:** Tony de Losada is seeking to have local Branches hold a drive for donations to the survivors of the recent Lahaina Hawaii fires. He will ask the State BEC to have the State SIR Foundation sponsor the effort among the Branches.

**Final Remarks – Rich Carlston:** Thanked the attendees and relinquished the helm back to Ray de Wit.

**Next Meeting:** September 11, 2022

**Close and Adjourn:** Meeting closed and adjourned 9:36 (the shortest BEC meeting in recent memory!)