



Mt. Diablo Branch 8 – Region 5 - Area 16

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

BEC Officers and Directors the 13 in attendance constituted a quorum (8 min.)

Name	Title	Term (Thru)	Present	Absent
Steve Schramm	Big Sir	2020	X	
Ron Cassano	Little Sir	2020	X	
John Meade	Secretary	2021	X	
Dan Kohlman	Assistant Secretary	2021	X	
Bill Peterson	Attendance Secretary	2020	X	
Dan Smith	Asst. Attendance Secretary	2020	X	
Dennis Mierzwa	Membership Secretary	2020	X	
Rich Knowles	Asst Membership Secretary	2020	X	
Dan Casella	Treasurer	2021	X	
Mike Loonin	Assistant Treasurer	2021	X	
Phil Scimonelli	Director	2021	X	
Leo Dominguez	Director	2021	X	
Mario Moratorio	Director	2021	X	
Ken Main	Director	2021	X	

MEMBER VISITORS AND GUESTS

Dan Weller Branch 8 Member

Stan Johnson Branch 8 Member

Tony de Losada Branch 8 Member

Tom Hodgson Branch 8 Member

Manuel Dominguez Branch 8 Member

Ed Benson - State President

Derek Southern Past State SIR President

Chick Lowry Branch 8 Member

New Members

Buck Cheshire MD-111

Pat Hoy MD-90

Sponsor

Eric Benson-MD-10

Ken Main-MD-33



Call to Order

Big Sir Steve Schramm called meeting to order at 9:05 AM after a **Quorum** was established.

The October 12, 2020 BEC meeting was held on Zoom due to the coronavirus Pandemic (Covid-19). Attending members were on video-audio, via home computers, lab-tops, cell-phones, tablets, with good connections for the meeting.

1. Officer Reports

1.1 Secretary –(John Meade)

1. The September 14, 2020 BEC minutes were approved.
2. The BEC members requiring new position badges submitted their requests to the secretary John Meade. The six new badges are now on order, and will be distributed at a future time.

1.2 Big Sir Report (Steve Schramm)

1. Steve welcomed the BEC members and guests to the meeting on Zoom, with thanks to Derek Southern for technical assistance.
2. The survey results from the Sept 14 Membership Zoom meeting are being used for making changes to future meetings. Today the Membership meeting will have just one 15 minute Breakout session; this will allow more time for the Speaker. Work is underway to group members in topic-oriented groups for the Break-out session for the November Membership Meeting.
3. The agenda for the November BEC meeting will include time for reviewing the recommendations from the Future of SIR planning group.
4. As previously discussed, the Rossmoor Branch 81 is being dissolved, and there are 117 members available to join other local branches. Dennis created a profile of Branch 8 to share with Branch 81members, and Brad



Hatcher, Branch 146 has also prepared and distributed a similar profile. Moraga Branch also reached out. The response was very limited. A proposal was presented to the BEC to develop a Luncheon Activity for Rossmoor members as a sub-set of Branch 8. This proposal in concept was approved by the BEC, with details to be developed, such as paying Branch 8 dues (\$25), liability for their caterer, handling of their bank account. Ed Benson and other Branch 8 representatives to meet with Branch 81 members to discuss their future as a Branch 8 luncheon activity. Details for this arrangement to be reviewed by the BEC in November.

5. Form 27: Membership statistics were discussed. There were 305 members at end of September, with (2) new members to be approved and one resignation Jerry Milano-MD244.
Form 27 - **motion to accept, seconded and approved.**
6. The December Meeting: Steve requests ideas to provide some entertainment or other Holiday options for the membership. Music or other options welcomed. Send ideas to Steve.

1.3 Little Sir Report (Ron Cassano)

1. Speakers for today's Zoom Membership Meeting are from the League of Women Voters who will discuss the pros/cons of 5 Ballot Propositions. Some of the video information was prepared and hosted by St. Marys College students.
2. Speaker for November 9 Zoom Membership Meeting is Colonel Brendan Kearney, Retired USMC.
3. The 1st Q speakers are lined-up. **Jan.:** Speaker on Economic effects of COVID -19; **FEB:** a world class hiker; **March:** Cal Athletic Director.

1.4 Treasurer Report (Dan Casella)

1. Dan presented Treasurer's Report through September with a balance of \$19,257.18. With no luncheons planned for rest of 2020, Dan has forecast



a year-end balance of \$17,753.52. Report **motion to accept, seconded and approved.**

2. Dan presented 2021 budget forecast based upon projected Annual Dues levels: \$40, \$35, \$30, and \$25. This was assuming Zoom Membership meetings in 2021. This does not include Rossmoor issue. The assumptions were discussed and it was recommended to change dues to \$25 annually, with options to revisit this in mid-year. This will result in a forecast EOY 2021 of \$15,804.82 balance. **Motion made to change 2021 annual dues to \$25, seconded and approved.**

1.5 Membership Secretary Report (Dennis Mierzwa)

1. There are currently 277 active members, 3 senior members, and 25 members on leave-of-absence for a membership total of 305. New members, Buck Cheshire MD-111, and Pat Hoy MD-90, approved by BEC. Attrition of one member, Jerry Milan, MD-244, resigned moved out of state. October membership stands at 306.
2. Membership Report: **motion to accept seconded and approved.**

1.6 Attendance Secretary Report (Bill Peterson)

1. The September Membership attendance for the ZOOM meeting was 35% for active members. With no luncheons, that luncheon report shows zero. The results of these "virtual" meetings will not be used to enforce the Branch 8 Attendance Policy.
2. Report **motion to accept, seconded and approved.**

2.0 Committee Reports

2.1 Recruiting Coordinator (Howard Meadow)

1. No report provided-Howard was unavailable.

2.2 Activities Coordinator (Ken Main)

1. Car Enthusiasts: Chick Lowry shared details of the Road Rally, which was held September 25. They had 11 cars, 17 people; 14 stopped for lunch.



Social distancing rules were in place for this event. Future poker run, Road Rally planned in Spring, 2021. Details to be submitted to BEC for approval.

2. The Branch 8 & 146 shared card game “Pinochle” (trickster) will be restarting. There is a “Hearts” activity proposed by Ken Main; a -chairman is needed for this to proceed. Hotline will have further details.
3. The Branch 8 currently has 53 activities, with several restarts (both outdoor and Zoom). See the Hotline for the latest updates. The Mini Book Exchange now has a regularly scheduled event this month

2.3 Member Relations Committee (Dennis Mierzwa- Rich Knowles)

1. Dennis has nothing new to report. The group will follow up with new members to get them involved in activities.

2.4 Publicity and Images (Tony de Losada)

1. Tony will be meeting with the planning group on SIRs future.
2. Tony is working on getting a musical Quartet for the Dec. Membership Meeting on December 14.
3. They have met with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to reach out to potential SIRs members in the Latin community.

2.5 Hotline

1. Articles for October are due on October 23.

2.6 Systems Support Team (Dan Weller)

1. Nothing to report this month.

2.7 Final Remarks (Steve Schramm)

1. The BEC and Membership meetings scheduled for second Monday of each month in 2021 via Zoom. In-person luncheons may be allowed to open up later in the year, but likely to be limited by public health



regulations. Due to attendance limits, multiple meetings may be needed.

2.8 Close and Adjourn

Big Sir Steve Schramm adjourned the meeting. The next regular BEC meeting will be on **November 9, 2020 @ 9:00 AM**

Respectfully submitted

John Meade, Secretary, Branch 8