



Minutes of the BEC Meeting **Final**

February 13, 2023

BEC Members Attending

X	Ray De Wit, Big Sir	x	Dan Kohlman, Asst. Member. Sec.
X	Rich Carlston, Little Sir	X	Dan Casella, Treasurer
X	Carl Ludwig, Sec.	X	Mike Loonin, Asst. Treasurer
X	Tony Mazy, Asst. Sec.	X	Leo Dominguez, Director
X	Manual Dominguez, Attend. Sec.	X	Chick Lowry, ACC, Director
X	Dan Smith, Asst. Attend. Sec.	X	Martin Simmons, Director
X	Rich Knowles, Member. Sec.	x	Tony de Losada, Director Emeritus

Guests Attending

Ron Maciak	Derek Southern	
Ron Cassano	Tom Mohrman	
Dan Weller		

Open and Welcome: The meeting was opened at 9:05 by Ray De Wit, who welcomed the BEC.

Recognition of Visitors and Guests: SIR Area Director Representative Jay Gordon was introduced and welcomed.

New Member Introduction: Five new members and three guests to be introduced at the February luncheon. New Members will be inducted following lunch.

Secretary Report – Carl Ludwig: On motion by Carl Ludwig, second by Martin Simmons, the BEC Minutes of January 9, 2023 were unanimously approved. Carl was asked to update the Branch 8 website with a copy of the latest minutes.

Big Sir Report – Ray De Wit:

- Ray noted that some SIR branches and members were posting activities on Facebook and wondered if Branch 8 should consider doing so as well. Ray asked Derek Southern to comment on the possibilities. Derek indicated that the State SIR had a Facebook account and that some branches were advertising through posting on the account. Discussion issues raised by BEC members included:

- which social media could be considered potential posting sites (Twitter, LinkedIn, local TV, etc.)

- the potential inability of focusing social media postings and respondents to Branch 8
- lack of a “single face” from Branch 8 to make social media postings

Ray asked that Derek draft a memo directed to branch members soliciting their response to using the State SIR Facebook account for postings. The memo, once finalized, could be sent to members by Manual Dominguez via Constant Contact.

2. Ray asked Tony de Losada to address the BEC with his work on the Ed Benson Distinguished Service Award. Tony provided a handout which proposed establishment of a scholarship award in Ed Benson’s name. Discussion ensued regarding the criteria for the scholarship, funding for the scholarship, and if family members are the proper target of a SIR service award. Dan Cassella motioned that the proposal be tabled until further specifics and input from the BEC could be obtained. Upon second from Tony Mazy, Ray asked that additional materials regarding the EBDS Award be obtained and sent to Tony de Losada and Rich Carlston. Subsequently, Ray De Wit asked that comments be sent to the original committee established to formulate the EBDS Award which includes himself, Leo Dominguez, and Rich Knowles, Tony de Losada and Rich Carlston.
3. Ray asked Leo Dominguez to update the BEC on the Octoberfest event. Leo spoke to the difficulties regarding City/Park permitting of vendors (food & alcohol). Consequently, the Octoberfest committee is leaning toward a simpler, member-driven procurement and serving of food and beverages. The event is tentatively scheduled for October 19 with a \$30 per attendee charge. A call for volunteers to man the event will go out to Branch 8 members.

Form 27: Form 27 was previously sent to BEC members by Manual Dominguez who moved its acceptance by the committee. The motion was seconded by Leo Dominguez and was unanimously approved.

Little Sir Report- Rich Carlston: We have speakers lined up through January and perhaps February of next year.

Treasurer’s Report – Dan Casella: Dan provided details of our current Branch 8 balances. Our cash balance had a net inflow of just over \$7,800 largely due to 212 member dues payments received. Those who have not paid their 2023 dues by the end of February will receive reminder letters. Should the letters fail to elicit a response, members will get phone calls reminding them of dues payment. Our financial records were audited on February 3rd with the results submitted to the State SIR. On motion by Dan Casella, seconded by Dan Kohlman, the financial reports were approved unanimously.

Membership – Rich Knowles: Rich provided the membership report. Member totals dropped from 260 to 257 with eight resignations and five new members this past month. At the luncheon, three 20-year members and two 10-year members will be recognized to receive their pins. On motion by Rich, seconded by Tony Mazy, the membership report was unanimously approved.

Attendance – Manuel Dominguez: A post-pandemic record luncheon attendance is expected with 131 individual sign-ups received. On motion by Manuel Dominguez, seconded by Dan Casella, the Attendance Report was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Recruiting – No report

Activities Coordinator – Ken Main: Chick Lowry spoke to the following:

- The ACC web list of Activities and Chairman/Coordinator information was sent out for confirmation and correction as needed.
- Mike Frey will ensure that our AMS is updated with edited data returned by the Chairs. Many Chairmen attended training in the use of AMS so that they can keep their activity information fresh.
- The job description of the ACC members has been updated to reflect current tasks and responsibilities.
- A fourth ACC member, Dennis Mierzwa, has been added to the ACC to spread the workload.
- The call for members to participate in the shared activity “Square Dancing” yielded little response
- The Food Bank function lead by Tom Di Grande is very successful, but will remain as part of the “Reaching Out” activity rather than as a separate activity
- The ACC will check with State SIR regarding liability insurance for members participating in the sometimes physically demanding work of produce loading and handling.
- In regard to keeping activity information up-to-date on the website, Derek Southern explained the difference between web content editing which is the purview of Chairmen and web functionality which is the responsibility of System Administrators. Each function has its own logon credentials.
- Activity information administration on the website will undoubtedly become more complex as shared activity among Branches gains momentum. Keep Derek Southern informed of any needed updates for the website.

Member Relations – Rich Knowles: Nothing new to report.

Publicity and Images – Tony de Losada: Tony noted that volunteers are needed for the March 9 Walk for Cancer.

Systems Support Team – Dan Weller: AMS training went well. The Nominating Committee is seeking more individuals needed for system support.

Hotline – Dan Smith: No report

Member Feedback – Ray De Wit indicated that Jim Sowell had received two cards from the past lunch, both were positive with some improvement in hearing speakers.

New Business: None

Final Remarks – Ray De Wit: Meeting closed and adjourned.

Next Meeting: March 13, 2023

Close and Adjourn: 10:17 a.m.