



Minutes of the BEC Meeting **Final**

07/10/2023

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
	Rich Knowles, Member. Sec.	X	Tony de Losada, Director Emeritus

Guests Attending

Dan Weller	Stan Johnson	Lee Moy
Dan Casella	Steve Schramm	Tom DiGrande
Peter Shapiro	Jay Gordon	Jim Sowell

Open and Welcome: The meeting was opened at 9:00 by Ray DeWit , who welcomed the BEC.

Recognition of Visitors and Guests: Dave Gonzales, State SIR President, Lee Moy State SIR officer

New Member Introduction: Lee Hannam (not present), sponsored by Tony de Losada

Secretary Report – Carl Ludwig: On motion by Dan Casella, second by Rich Carlston, the BEC Minutes of 5/8/2022 were unanimously approved.

Big Sir Report – Ray de Wit

- Ray asked Ron Cassano to distribute the names of BEC officers for 2024. Ron mentioned that the Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary positions had finally been identified and that the names of all BEC officers for 2024 be presented to the membership for voice approval at the next monthly meeting.
- Ray asked for a show of hands of BEC officers present in support of the Ed Benson Award going to Derek Southern, the awards first nominee. Ten members voted “yes,” and none opposed. The award will be presented at the next monthly meeting on August 14.

- Ray asked Stan Johnson to appraise the BEC on the status of the new audio-visual equipment. Stan thanked Mike Frey and Rich Carlston for their support in the equipment's research, evaluation, and purchase. Highlights include:
 - Cable direct connection of the computer and projection equipment, eliminating the problems associated with the vagaries of internet connection.
 - New remote control with laser
 - New folding projection screen
- Ray recognized the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the State SIR organization which was founded on July 23, 1958. He noted that Branch 8's 60th anniversary will occur in 2025 and that the BEC should plan some celebration as was done in recognition of our 50th "birthday" (special cake).

Form 27: Dan Kohlman presented the figures for Form 27 noting our 246 active members. On a motion by Dan Casella, second by Carl Ludwig, Form 27 was unanimously approved.

Little Sir Report- Rich Carlston: Rich gave thanks to Leo Dominguez for assistance in seeking today's speaker, Mark Marymee.

Treasurer's Report – Dan Casella: Dan provided the Treasurers report for the 2 most recent month's finances. There we no unexpected expenditure. The most significant expense was the Lady's Day Lunch which resulted in an expected loss of \$917 and an ending cash balance of \$21,329. Our balance spend-down is trending in the right direction. Dan asked those seeking any cash expense reimbursement to use the newly approved expense form which he will post to the Br8 website. On motion by Dan Casella, seconded by Chick Lowry, the financial reports were approved unanimously.

Membership – Dan Kohlman for Rich Knowles: Dan provided the membership report. The 246 members included 2 pending new member orientations, two new applicants and one resignation this past month. On motion by Carl Ludwig, seconded by Tony Mazy, the membership report was unanimously approved.

Attendance – Manuel Dominguez: Previous attendance included 8 no-shows and 6 walk-ins, an average for lunch attendance. Two were excused, 4 had submitted checks, and one member did not respond. Dan Casella asked if Boundary Oaks would supply him (registration) with extra lunch tickets for the various meal selections, a practice that once upon a time reflected standard procedure for the 5% overage accommodation negotiated with the BO staff. Manual will follow up with Charlene. On motion by Manuel Dominguez, seconded by Dan Kohlman, the Attendance Report was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Recruiting – Steve Schramm will send the list of the 2024 BEC officers to the upcoming Hotline for notification to our members for voice-vote approval at the next luncheon. He noted the Nominating Committee's concern about officer succession and election staggering to provide continuity in BEC staffing. He noted that BEC position expectations of moving from Assistant to Acting status be discussed with each nominated Assistant position. Steve also asked that the Recruitment "Recipe List" assembled by Rich Carlston be distributed to appropriate members to improve targeting of new members.

Activities Coordinator – Chick Lowry: Items noted:

- Acc is still training activity chairmen on use of AMS.
- The State SIR Facebook page is posting pictures of all Branch activity events, of which we should all be aware.
- Activity website pages continue to be updated periodically but need more work with refreshed material. The number of activities is constantly changing as content is added, merged, deleted, or otherwise changed. David Bushnell's Opera activity was cited as an example of such changes.
- We had a shared activity initiated by Branch 171 (Lamorinda) when they extended an outing to interested Branch 8 members.

Member Relations – Dan Kohlman: Nothing to report.

Publicity, Public Relations, and Community Outreach – Tony de Losada:

- Great turnout for the Danville Kiwanis July 4 parade.
- Branch 8 will have 1st Wednesday Downtown Walnut Creek presence.
- Branch 8 will have WC Oktoberfest presence.

Systems Support Team – Dan Weller: Systems are working as expected with various minor tweaks and assists. Several members are assisting him with these tasks, but a co-chair has not been named yet.

Hotline – Dan Smith: Hotline printing issues were encountered when our printshop vender changed Adobe file transfer versions. There continue to be seven hardcopy Hotline users. Our YTD vendor expenses are \$123 for printing and \$63 for postage. It is not clear what will move our Branch to end hardcopy printing and move to 100% electronic Hotline communications.

Member Feedback – Jim Sowell had emailed the BEC the results of member feedback elicited during the Lady's Day lunch. All comments (5) were positive.

New Business:

- Dan Casella noted new member (Frank) impressions of our Branch activities.
- An ask was made for consideration of a printed member roster (book form). Discussion ensued of less expensive methods of keeping our member rosters up to date. Consensus was reached that an on-line method be adopted (e.g, PDF version) that could be updated and posted quarterly for both viewing and self- printing. Name and contact information could include not only Branch 8 members but also State and Regional officers.

Final Remarks – Ray DeWit: Meeting closed and adjourned.

Next Meeting: August 14, 2023, to be run by current Little Sir

Close and Adjourn: 10:10 am

Afterword:

- Lee Moy noted State Sir support and liaison activities in various areas including photography, membership enhancement, and diversity expansion among membership. He gave appreciation for Branch 8's efforts in organizational development.
- Dan Smith noted that State SIR officers should be featured in our Hotline biographies.
- Jay Gordon, in support of "doing things differently," suggested monthly breakfast meetings rather than lunches to broadening member participation. Other branches have used breakfasts successfully. It was noted that such a change would require re-negotiation of our contract with Boundary Oaks for services.