



SIR BIDWELL BRANCH 110
SIR Region 1 – Area 1
Branch Executive Committee Meeting
Manzanita Place, Chico, CA 95926

MINUTES OF JULY 22, 2024 BEC MEETING

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Big Sir Dave Jones at 9:35 AM.

Officers and Directors Present: Officers: Dave Jones, Don Sturt, Bob Dinger, Dave Rush, Charles Staser, Jose Lopez, Rocky Rockwell. Directors: Ken Edson, Mike Nicholas, Ron Braziel, Bill Colvin, Randy Benson, Joe Navarro.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the June 24, 2024 meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Staser reported that the June 24, 2024 balance was \$5243.35, and the July 22, 2024 balance is \$5,109.35.

Big Sir Report: Big Sir Dave Jones delayed his report until the end of the meeting when several new business items will be discussed.

RAMP Committees:

- *Attendance:* Bruce Heidemeyer reported that at the June 24, 2024 luncheon, 63 members attended and 67 lunches (including guests) were served. Current membership level is 133, so 48 % of members attended the luncheon.

- *Membership:* Don Levensaler reported one new applicant is applying for membership: Vincent Herrera. A motion to approve this applicant was made, seconded, and passed.

- *Program Committee:* Jim Braziel reported that today's program will feature Mike Ramsey, District Attorney of Butte County, who will talk about scams. The proposed programs for August through November 2024, which have been approved in earlier BEC meetings, were briefly mentioned and details are in the earlier minutes. Specific plans for the November meeting, which will focus on military veterans, are still up in the air and Jim Braziel solicited suggestions. He also announced that he will not be available for to lead the Program Committee in 2025.

BEC Committees:

- *Recruitment:* Bill Colvin reported that he submitted a picture taken at the June meeting, when Tom van Overbeek spoke, to the Chico ER, but the picture has not yet appeared.

- *Data Base/Roster:* Rocky Rockwell had nothing new to report.

- *Rooster's Tale*: Don Alger reported that the deadline for submissions for the August 2024 issue is August 8. Although Don Alger emphasized that he has no immediate plans to end his editorship of *The Rooster's Tale*, a backup for editing should be identified.

- *Nominations*: Don Alger reported that the Nomination Committee has not yet been able to entice any member into becoming a new Little Sir in 2025. The listing of the director nominations appeared in the July *Rooster's Tale*, and a vote will be held at the August 2024 luncheon.

- *Webmaster*: Ron Braziel reported on the updates to the Branch website.

Activity Committee Reports: The following committees were reported on. If a committee is not listed, either the chairman (or other representative) was not present, or there was no information to report.

ABV 110: Don Alger reported that there is nothing planned for August and September, but a tentative event is being considered for October. No details were given and hence no motion put forward for a vote.

Bowling: Randy Benson reported that the bowling will continue for one more week and then go on hiatus until August 20.

Bridge: Bob Dinger reported that there were two bridge sessions held since the last meeting, and Bob Dinger was the winner at both sessions.

History Club: Don Alger reported that the two history reports mentioned at the June BEC meeting (one on the history of the Post Office in Chico, and one on the history of the Chico Brewery) are nearing publication on the website. Publication in hard copy form will follow shortly.

Pinochle: Joe Navarro reported that the next game will be played as scheduled on July 26 (11 AM at Butte Creek Country Club).

Piscatology: Bill Colvin reported that the fishing trip in August will be to Lewiston and Medicine Lakes from August 5 to 7. At the June BEC meeting, a trip to Lewiston and Trinity Lakes was approved. Bill asked that the change of destination from Trinity Lake to Medicine Lake be approved. A motion to approve this change was made, seconded, and passed.

Travel: Jose Lopez reported that no new travel has been scheduled. Don Alger raised the issue that no travel has been planned by the Sir 110 branch for many years and asked if it was necessary to mention the occasional Sir state travel events in the *Rooster's Tale*. After discussion, it was decided that a travel activity should no longer be proposed or considered by the Sir 110 branch.

Old Business:

Venmo and Checks: As discussed at the May 2024 BEC meeting, starting in July any member who responds with a “will attend the upcoming luncheon” on the monthly survey but does not attend and fails to notify Big Sir Dave Jones or Rocky Rockwell to change his response will be required to pay the \$20.00 luncheon fee. The use of bank payment systems such as Venmo was proposed as a paperless and rapid way to pay the fee. Charles Staser reported that he spoke with Tri-Counties Bank about such payment systems and was told that the bank has none. Charles again affirmed that there is no problem in accepting the payment by check.

New Business:

Proposed Changes in Bylaws: A Zoom meeting run by the State Sir organization occurred on June 26 in which proposed major changes to the State Sir bylaws and practices were discussed. A long discussion took place in the BEC meeting about the proposed changes, and it is beyond the scope of these minutes to fully describe the proposed changes. Briefly, the proposed changes include: (1) conversion from 501c4 to 501c3 for tax purposes; (2) acceptance of woman members; (3) organization name change; (4) a new logo; and (5) elimination of any reference to retirement. From the discussion, it emerged that the BEC is generally not in favor of any of these changes, although no formal motion was proposed stating this opposition. The State Sir annual meeting is scheduled for August 16. In advance of this meeting, Dave Rush proposed a motion that a letter signed by the BEC be drafted and sent to all Sir branches highlighting SIR 110 opposition and seeking support from the other branches. The motion was seconded and passed. Big Sir Dave Jones will form a committee and oversee writing of the letter.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Bob Dinger

Copies sent to: Branch 110 Officers, Directors and interested members via email

Posted on SIR 110 Website at www.branch110.sirinc2.org