

SIRS Branch 145 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2023

1.0 Call to Order at 12:53 pm.

2.0 Roll Call: The following officers and directors were present for the meeting: Mark Wahlman, Paul Wright, Stephen Hellmer, John Coakley, Bill Rutherford, Juan Ochoa, Mike Lynn, Joe Stephens, and Felix Moran. Tony Moles on cell phone. Absent: None

3.0 Guests: None

4.0 Approval of the Minutes for March 14, 2023:

A motion was made by John C. and seconded by Juan O. to approve the minutes for the Mar 14, 2023, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

5.0 Treasurer's Report/Action

Juan reported that the beginning balance in March was \$3842.58, and the ending balance was \$3613.18. Expenses were \$1750.58 for the month. Income for the month was \$1521.00. Juan also reported a negative cash flow for the month of \$229.58. There were 46 lunches today with three "freebies". One for the speaker, and two for our life time members: Al Furr and Howard Ferguson. ***A motion to accept the financial report was moved by John C. and seconded by Paul W. The motion passed unanimously.***

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Membership: Stephen reported that our Form 27 shows 86 members. We inducted two members today: Steve Escobar and Thomas Barella. Steve was sponsored by Jim Escobar, and Thomas was sponsored by Frank Morone. Stephen H. noted the resignation of Frank F. In summation that raises our membership to 88. Stephen also reported that he gave a membership application to Phil T. ***A motion was made by Paul W. and seconded by Bill R. to accept the membership report, and the motion passed unanimously. Stephen noted he had sent the pdf file to John, and John C. reiterated that he needed the file as a pdf for the website.***

6.2 Golf: Bill R. reported that golf is going well. There is a golf tournament on Wednesday, April 12.

6.3 Activities: Paul reported that we have sold about 20 tickets thus far, which is about 5 to 7 below last year at this time. Juan will have tickets for sale. We need the final numbers for lunch a week before the picnic. Job wise we are set for servers and cleanup, but Paul noted he is still in need of a greeter/collector. Raffle prizes are covered, but Paul will need a ticket seller for the Raffle. He also needs a runner/money collector. Juan will bring serving spoons and trays.

Paul also noted that there may be enough interest to have a softball game in August or September.

6.4 Speakers: Mark noted that there will be no speaker necessary for May as we are having the picnic. Mark said that we are still working on speakers for June and July's luncheon meeting.

7.0 Old Business

7.1 Branch 145 Website-Active: Mark noted that thanks to John C. and Richard Provost our website is up and running. **The website address is www.sirinc2.org/branch145.**

7.2 2023 Annual Dues Collection: Paul reported that there are 76 members who have paid their dues along with 7 or 8 BEC members. Mark will follow up with those members who have not paid. Mark will also email or contact those members who have not paid. We want to have an accurate accounting of our members for the State SIR assessment which is due in July, but it is based on our April membership list. **A motion was made by Juan O. and seconded by Felix M. to authorize Mark to drop any member who has not paid his dues. The motion passed unanimously.**

7.3 SIR Apparel Website: The address is sir.ourproshop.com Mark noted that the embroidery on the shirt is included with the price, and they have many colors to choose from. It takes a while to receive confirmation of your purchase as they check with your local branch to see if you are a member in good standing.

7.4 Zoom Presentation-Admin, Recruitment, Publicity: Mark reported that you might take a look at the good presentation made on these subjects by the State SIR board last week. It's available on the Home page of the State SIR website.

7.5 COVID Protocols from State SIR-Update Mark stated that we had a COVID case at the luncheon in March, and he followed the protocols provided by State SIR. The member is now well. No other cases were reported.

7.6 2023 Branch Goals: Mark thinks our number one goal should be increasing membership. On the website homepage there is link which provides several ways to increase membership. Another Branch, #95, was in a similar situation to us. Before the pandemic they had a membership of 145 which went down to 70, and it has now returned to 89. That Branch reported that using the ideas on the website was very important in getting new members. They have also used a sandwich board sign at the luncheon meetings to publicize upcoming events in the Branch

8.0 New Business

8.1 State SIR Guidance- Admitting Women: Mark led a discussion of admitting women to the Branch. Mark said that two branches have admitted women thus far. A discussion ensued. The State SIR has requested that the BEC of each Branch be polled as to their opinions on the following two questions. (Note: Following the Meeting, Mark reported that he responded to the State SIR that the Branch 145 BEC voted NO on both questions as there was no option to respond that the second question vote was a 5 – 5 tie.)

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1. By a majority vote, does your BEC approve of allowing women to join your branch as members? POLL RESULTS: 10-No, Zero-Yes

2. By a majority vote, does your BEC approve of allowing other branches to have women join their branches as members? POLL RESULTS: 5-No, 5-Yes

8.2 State SIR Luncheon Meeting Food Alternatives: Mark began by stating that no action was required, but he wished to have some feedback on the matter. Mark noted that membership is improving. He also asked if there have been any complaints about the food at Elkhorn Country Club. They have tried to keep prices reasonable. A discussion followed regarding lunches. Mark will continue to send out notices by email as reminders of the meetings a day in advance.

9.0 Good of the Order: Nothing.

10.0 Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 pm.

Submitted By Tony Moles, Secretary.