

LAS TRAMPAS BRANCH 116

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2023

Big Sir Roger Craig called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM.

Secretary Paul Ramacciotti confirmed a quorum was present.

The following members in attendance were:

**Executive Committee**:

Big SIR – Roger Craig

Little SIR – Alan Pope

Treasurer – Jeff Johnson

Assistant Treasurer – Charlie Guthrie

Assistant Treasurer – Al Satake

Secretary - Paul Ramacciotti

Phil Goff - Membership

**Directors:**

Gary Bonfiglio

Dave Williams

Darrell McClaughry

Kevin Donahue

Fred Wachowicz

Don Benioff

**Committee Chairmen**: Neil Schmidt, Harry Sherinian, Don Schroeder, Mike Schneider, Mike Ward, Paul Russell, Rob Lemmo, Dennis Snarr and Alan Fitzgerald.

**Secretary’s Report:**

* Big Sir Roger Craig asked if there were any changes or corrections to the October 16, 2023 Minutes as distributed. There were none. A motion to approve the Minutes was made Fred Wachowicz, seconded by Gary Bonfiglio. The motion was unanimously passed.
* In an effort to be more transparent and communicate to members what the BEC is doing, starting in January 2024, Secretary Ramacciotti will prepare a monthly highlight summary of the approved minutes to be included in the monthly newsletter. Via Dave Williams, all new members will be encouraged to attend at least one BEC meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Charlie Guthrie reported:**

* Branch 116 cash balance as of 11-19-23 is $15,014.50. All holiday party advance payments have been made. Most of the golf dues have been transferred to the golf account.
* Reserve: The beginning balance in 2023 was $10,996.00. The balance at the end of October is $10,858.00.
* October Unexcused Lunch Absences: None.

**Luncheon Report:**

**Mike Schneider reported:**

* 110 attendees were submitted for the October luncheon. Dennis Snarr will be taking over for Mike Schneider in 2024.

**Membership:**

**Phil Goff reported:**

* Current active membership stands at 189.
* Two new members were introduced this month: Eldon Hawksworth and Dave Newman. Richard Rossland resigned, moving to Las Vegas.
* What should be done with the 2024 Member Rosters? The problem in 2023 was that a large number of members were not attending lunches to pick up their rosters. During COVID, they were mailed out. Phil asked if the budget could be adjusted to accommodate the cost to mail out the rosters. After some discussion, it was agreed to mail out all of the 2024 rosters.
* Alan Fitzgerald will be taking over the membership function in 2024.

**Standing Reports**

**Recruitment:**

**Don Schroder reported:**

* No potential member guests this month.

**Activities:**

**Mike Ward reported:**

* Mike stated that of the 25 activities listed, 12 are operating in November. Six of the activities can be piggy-backed with other branches (Apple User ID, astronomy, bowling, photography, pocket pool and tennis). Two activities are still in need of a chairperson: Parties and Sunshine. There were 25 total activity days in November.
* Mike has two travel coupons left to give away from the initial eight given to him by Overseas Adventure Travel. If all ten coupons are used by travelers through OAT then Branch 116 stands to earn $6,500.00.

**Member Relations:**

* Nothing to report, other than Michael Barrington is resigning from this position.

**Publicity:**

**Paul Russell reported:**

* Paul presented the BEC with three samples of AI output, two by Microsoft Edge AI and a third by ChatGPT AI.
* Rob Lemmo will be the Publicity chair in 2024.

**Little SIR Report**

**Alan Pope reported:**

* Guest Speaker**:** Today’s speaker will be Mark Trisha, discussing “Winemaking in the Tri-valley area” from its start in 1840 to what it has developed into today
* November Birthday Boys: 10 members will be honored today.

**Miscellaneous Updates and New Business**

* **Recruiting Ideas – Jeff Johnson:** The first idea Jeff presented is the idea of having a “fish bowl” type of draw (random draw table number) for seating at the February luncheon and that attendees discuss a particular topic at their table. A member of the Board would be at each table. The second idea was to place more emphasis on the younger members (70 and below, etc.) in recruiting new members. There was a fair amount of discussion. Response was mixed. It was decided to put the seating question on the next member survey.
* **Farmers Market:** Response at the Shadlands Farmers Market was disappointing at best. Future participation there is questionable.
* **Holiday Party:** Close to 100 people have signed up. Roger will ask for a count of those who plan to attend at today’s lunch.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:29 AM. The next meeting will be Monday, January 15, 2024.

**Respectively Submitted:**

**Paul Ramacciotti, Secretary**