

LAS TRAMPAS BRANCH 116

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 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

Secretary - Paul Ramacciotti

Membership - Phil Goff

**Directors:**

Gary Bonfiglio

Dave Williams

Fred Wachowicz

Darrell McClaughry

**Committee Chairmen**: Neil Schmidt, Harry Sherinian, Don Schroeder, Mike Schneider, Mike Ward, Paul Russell and Ron Armijo.

**Secretary’s Report:**

Secretary Ramacciotti asked if there were any changes or corrections to the August 21, 2023 Minutes as distributed. There were none. A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Phil Goff, seconded by Fred Wachowicz. The motion was unanimously passed.

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Jeff Johnson Reported:**

* Branch 116 cash balance as of 9-17-23 is $12,677.00.
* Lunch Subsidy: Year-to-date, $2,226.00 has been paid to cover the shortfall between lunch revenues and the cost of the monthly lunches from January through August. Three luncheons (September through November) remain for the year which will be covered by the remaining subsidy balance of $2,435.00.
* Reserve: The beginning balance in 2023 was $10,996.00. The balance at the end of August is $11,282.00.
* Unexcused Lunches: Four no-shows in August were invoiced, one paid.

**Charlie Guthrie reported:**

* Square changes: As of October 2, 2023, Square has increased the transaction fee from 2.9% (plus $.30) per transaction to 3.0% (plus $.30) per transaction. After analyzing other Square options, sticking with the new fee schedule is the most attractive.
* 2024 Budget: The 2024 Budget will be presented at the October BEC meeting with final approval at the November BEC meeting. Subsidizing 2024 lunches must be decided upon before the 2024 Budget can be finalized. Discussion among members ensued centering on negotiating a new contract with Boundary Oak for 2024 and various options that might be considered, e.g., dues adjustment. Boundary is not ready to discuss 2024 pricing, however, a price increase is anticipated.
* **Motion:** Charlie Guthrie made a motion to eliminate subsidizing luncheons during the 2024 calendar year. The motion was seconded by Paul Russell. The motion passed: seven (7) votes in favor of eliminating the subsidy, and three (3) votes against.

**Luncheon Report:**

**Mike Schneider reported:**

* 98 attendees submitted for the July luncheon.

**Membership:**

**Phil Goff reported:**

* Current membership stands at 190. Two new members (Jim Tamulski and Gary Halick) are being inducted this month. One member resigned.

**Standing Reports**

**Recruitment:**

**Don Schroeder reported:**

* No guests this month.
* Jim Tamulski was a guest in December, shopped around at other branches, then decided to join Branch 116.

**Activities:**

**Mike Ward reported:**

* Mike stated that of the 25 activities listed, 13 are operating in September. Six of the activities can be piggy-backed with other branches (Apple User ID, astronomy, bowling, photography, pocket pool and tennis). Four activities are still in need of a chairperson: Parties, Sunshine, Travel and Walking Tours. Jeff Johnson will take over Community Service in 2024 and also act as Custodian for Travel.
* Mike received eight $100 travel certificates from Overseas Adventure Travel to give to prospective activity or cruise participants. Four of these coupons have been given out.
* Mike has arranged for three activity chairpersons to present their activities to the luncheon attendees this month with three more slated for next month.
* Bob Huck will take over Bocce Ball in 2024.

**Member Relations:**

* No report given.

**Publicity:**

**Paul Russell reported:**

* Nothing new to report.

**Phil Goff reported:**

* Please inform anyone wishing to access the Branch website to use Branch116.org.

**Little SIR Report**

**Alan Pope reported:**

* Guest Speaker**:** Today’s speaker will be East Bay Parks Director, John Mercurio. His presentation will center on the East Bay Regional Park District, which comprises 73 parks and a system of interpark trails spanning over 125,000 acres in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.
* 15 members have birthdays this month.

**Miscellaneous Updates and New Business**

* **Farmers Market:** Roger is addressing Walnut Creek as a possible Farmers Market venue for Branch 116 recruitment instead of Danville.
* **Holiday Party:** Volunteers are still needed for the Holiday Party Committee in addition to a Committee Chair. Boundary Oak is the place of choice for the party which will be held on December 13th.
* **October Luncheon Honors Past Big Sirs:** Past Big Sirs who attend the October luncheon will get their lunch for free. Roger will send out an e-mail to all past Big Sirs in the next couple of weeks.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:22 AM. The next meeting will be Monday, October 16, 2023.

**Respectively Submitted:**

**Paul Ramacciotti, Secretary**