

LAS TRAMPAS BRANCH 116

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 15, 2024

Big Sir Alan Pope called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM.

Secretary Paul Ramacciotti confirmed a quorum was present.

The following members in attendance were:

**Executive Committee**:

Big SIR – Alan Pope

Little SIR – Paul Russell

Treasurer – Charlie Guthrie

Assistant Treasurer – Al Satake

Secretary - Paul Ramacciotti

Assistant Secretary – Dan Lawrence

Alan Fitzgerald - Membership

**Directors:**

Gary Bonfiglio

Dave Williams

Jeff Johnson

Roger Craig

Don Benioff

**Committee Chairmen**: Phil Goff, Neil Schmidt, Harry Sherinian, Mike Ward, Rob Lemmo, Fred Wachowicz and Ron Armijo.

**Secretary’s Report:**

* Secretary Ramacciotti asked if there were any changes or corrections to the November 20, 2023 Minutes as distributed. Aside from a minor spelling error, there were none. A motion to approve the Minutes was made Charlie Guthrie, seconded by Don Benioff. The motion was unanimously passed.

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Charlie Guthrie reported:**

* Branch 116 cash balance as of 1-01-2024 is $11,813.67.
* Holiday Party: Slight loss of $72.05.
* 2024 Dues: $15.00. 16 of the 187 members have paid 2024 dues as of 1-14-2024.
* 2024 Luncheon cost: $37.00.
* Reserve: The beginning balance in 2024 was $11,222.00, $226.00 more than the prior ending balance.
* October Unexcused Lunch Absences: Six paid by credit card but didn’t attend. Eight unexcused absences invoiced, three paid, one cancelled.
* Unpaid Dues/Luncheons: Some discussion ensued as to what action(s) might be taken. Recurring problem. Options will be explored.

**Luncheon Report:**

**Alan Pope for Dennis Snarr reported:**

* 114 attendees were submitted for the January luncheon.

**Membership:**

**Phil Goff for Alan Fitzgerald reported:**

* Current active membership stands at 186.
* Two new members will be introduced this month: Tom Walsh and Rich Gerchow. Rich Gerchow was made a member in December 2023 to get his name on the Roster and will be attending his first luncheon this month.
* One member passed away (Jim Nachtweih) and one member resigned. Dennis Snarr will do a tribute to Jim at todays luncheon.
* 2024 Rosters have been mailed out to all members.
* SIR State dues are constant based on the membership headcount as of October 2023.

**Sunshine Chairman:**

* A suggestion was made to pay tribute to Matt Arena for his many years of service being the “Sunshine” chairman. Jeff Johnson and Dave Williams will work on some type of official recognition for Matt which will be presented at the February meeting.
* Dennis Snarr will present some ideas on how to go forward with the Sunshine report.

**Standing Reports**

**Recruitment:**

**Alan Pope for Don Schroder reported:**

* Nothing to report.

**Activities:**

**Mike Ward reported:**

* Mike stated that of the 22 activities listed, eight are operating in January. Six additional activities can be piggy-backed with other branches (Apple User ID, astronomy, bowling, photography, pocket pool and tennis). Three activities are still in need of a chairperson: Parties, Travel and Sunshine. There are 22 total activity days in January.
* Selective activities will be highlighted at the luncheon.
* As previously stated, Mike has four travel coupons ($100 discount) 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. There is no time limit for use, but the coupons can only be used by first time travelers.

**Branch 116 2024 Annual Survey:**

**Fred Wachowicz reported:**

* Final draft copies were given to the BEC for review. The survey consists of 13

Questions. The link for members to respond will be sent out today.

**Member Relations:**

* Position still needs to be filled.
* A general discussion ensued as to the responsibilities of a sponsor. The sponsor should act as a mentor during a limited time frame.

**Publicity:**

**Robin Lemmo reported:**

* The cost to advertise in the Alamo Today and Danville Today is increasing to $50 a month. A decision on this venue will be deferred to a later date.
* Robin is getting very little response from social media. Rob will explore the Concord/Walnut Creek area for advertising venues.

**Little SIR Report**

**Paul Russell reported:**

* Guest Speaker**:** Today’s speakers will be Frank Falzon (retired SFDP) and Duffy Jennings (retired SF Chronicle reporter), discussing a number of San Francisco murder cases, including: the Night Stalker Case, Zodiac, Zebra and Juan Corona serial murder investigations.
* December and January Birthday Boys: 13 members from December and eight members from January will be honored today.

**Miscellaneous Updates and New Business**

* **Recruitment Ideas:** Alan Pope introduced an organization called PGA Pro, a program in which veterans are taught by a PGA professional how to play golf. Since the organization caters to both male and female veterans, the general consensus was not to entertain this idea. Dave Williams suggested revisiting friends that were approached in the past but did not join. The timing now may be different.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17 AM. The next meeting will be Monday, February 19, 2024.

**Respectively Submitted:**

**Paul Ramacciotti, Secretary**