

LAS TRAMPAS BRANCH 116

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2024

Big Sir Alan Pope 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 – Alan Pope

Little SIR – Paul Russell

Treasurer – Charlie Guthrie

Asst. Treasurer - Al Satake

Secretary - Paul Ramacciotti

Phil Goff - Membership

**Directors:**

Gary Bonfiglio

Roger Craig

Don Benioff

Jeff Johnson

Dave Williams

**Committee Chairmen**: Neil Schmidt, Harry Sherinian, Don Schroeder, Dennis Snarr, Mike Ward, Fred Wachowicz, Brad Stribling, Bob Colvin, and Bill Foulds.

**Secretary’s Report**

**Paul Ramacciotti reported:**

* Secretary Ramacciotti asked if there were any changes or corrections to the September 16, 2024 Minutes as distributed. There were none. A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Jeff Johnson, seconded by Paul Russell. The motion was unanimously passed.

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Charlie Guthrie reported:**

* Branch 116 cash balance as of 10-01-2024 is $9,893.34. Reserve balance is $12,201.22.
* October Unexcused Lunch Absences: Unable to determine which members were unexcused absences in October.
* 2025 Budget: Charlie presented the 2025 budget to the BEC for discussion. The budget will be voted on for approval at the November meeting.

**Luncheon Report**

**Dennis Snarr reported:**

* 103 attendees were submitted for the October luncheon.

**Big SIR Report**

**Alan Pope reported:**

* Branch Meeting Update: Branches 8, 116 and 146 held a joint meeting to discuss strategy concerning luncheon negotiations with Boundary Oak. Various options were discussed, including family style lunches and buffets. Boundary Oak presented a “sample” six month’s worth of luncheon ideas. Any changes to the luncheon format would revolve around price, trying to keep the cost as low as possible. There are currently three SIR branches who use the Boundary Oak facility and the cost of the lunches would be the same for all three.
* Past Big SIRs Free Lunch: This annual event will take place at today’s luncheon.
* Food Costs vs. Rental Costs: A request was made by Harry Sherinian to see if rental costs can be broken out separately as was done when the branch was at the Elks Club.
* Members Over 100 Years Old: Branch 116 has one. A motion was made by Dave Williams to have the Branch pay for each lunch attended by any member 100 years and older. The motion was seconded by Jeff Johnson and was unanimously passed.

**Membership**

**Phil Goff reported:**

* Current active membership stands at 190. The branch welcomes two new members: Jerry Coil and Zbig Mozrek.

**RAMP Department Head Reports**

**Recruitment:**

**Don Schroeder reported:**

* One new guest attending the luncheon today.

**Activities**

**Mike Ward reported:**

* Of the 22 activities listed, 13 are operating in October. There were 30 total activity days in October. Computer Tech started this month. Six additional activities can be piggy-backed with other branches (Apple User ID, Astronomy, Bowling, Cycling, Digital Photography and Mens Hearts card game). Three activities are in need of a chairperson: Travel, Poker and Sunshine. The hope is that travel will be a joint venture with multiple branches. Glenn Reslin of Branch 146 is spearheading this effort.
* Seven activity leaders will give activity presentations at today’s luncheon.

**Member Relations**

* Nothing to report.

**Publicity**

* Nothing to report. This position is open.

**Little SIR Report**

**Paul Russell reported:**

* Guest Speaker**:** The October speaker will be Nik Dehejia talking about “People & Wildlife Thriving Together: Oakland Zoo’s Journey”.
* 19 birthdays are being celebrated in October.
* Holiday Party: This year’s cost will be $85 per person, a slight increase over last year.

**Miscellaneous Updates and New Business**

**Recruiting Committee:**

**Brad Stribling reported:**

* A team of nine people has been assembled with hopes of adding one more. The goal of the committee is to place more emphasis on the recruiting function, make people more aware of the urgent need to recruit new members, and make recruiting more visible and intentional. This should be emphasized at the luncheons.

**Jeff Johnson reported:**

* The following motions were made by Jeff Johnson based on committee recommendations:
* Motion #1: In order to confirm the policy, it is moved that guests (membership candidates) get a free lunch for their initial visit, and if they join, their sponsor gets a free lunch. The motion was seconded by Charlie Guthrie and unanimously passed.
* Motion #2: To demonstrate to the Branch the importance of recruiting new members, it is moved each member of the BEC is charged with bringing in a minimum of one new member a year. After much discussion, this motion was tabled for future discussion.
* Motion #3: To support aggressive recruiting of new members, it is moved that we purchase personalized recruiting cards, with the branch QR code, for each member of the 2025 BEC, plus select members. Further, that we allocate $300 from the 2024 recruiting account to cover the cost of up to 20 sets of cards. The motion was seconded by Al Satake and unanimously passed.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM. The next meeting will be Monday, November 18, 2024.

**Respectively Submitted:**

**Paul Ramacciotti, Secretary**