



SONS IN RETIREMENT

TRI-CITY BRANCH 106

Branch Executive Committee Meeting

April 17, 2024

Paradise Valley Banquet Room

(0900-10:30 AM)

1. **Call to Order** – Mike Gardner
2. **Roll Call:** BEC –Mike Gardner, Steve Handel, Jim Evans, Mike Mastrocovo, Rich Barker, Tom Smith, Mark Goltz, Terry Hartman, Jon Quinley, Tom Meissner, Mark Foley, Ed Vacin, Jud Moore

Advisors –Dave Baker, Rick Newman
3. **Big Sir Report**—Mike Gardner reported that the Monday Golfers took up a collection in memory of Ray Easton and donated \$400 to the Food Bank.
4. **Secretary**— Steve Donnell is unavailable to continue as secretary, so Mark Goltz agreed to take the position. Mark Foley volunteered to be the backup secretary. Next month, during our May '24 BEC meeting, we need to recommend a motion, a second, and a BEC vote to accept the Feb, March, and April 2024 minutes for the record. Subsequent to the meeting, Mark G received training from Ed Hoeft and uploaded the past minutes onto our branch archive.
5. **Little Sir Report**
 - Tom Meissner has agreed to take over for Rich Barker as Little Sir, and will step up as Big Sir in 2025. Rich stated that our chapter has speakers slated for the remainder of the calendar year. For the next three months, the speakers will be: Jan Whitney on Parkinsons Disease (April), Mike Thompson on Medicare (May), and Alfred Sims on the VA and veterans' benefits (June).
 - In July, we're looking at having an outdoor barbeque. Question needs to be answered by Touchstone if that's doable and if there will be an extra charge.
 - Based on a suggestion, the month's menu will be included in the Little Sir column in the newsletter.
6. **Treasurer Report** – Steve Handel
 - Steve briefed the monthly numbers.
 - Since our lunch caterer is now Touchstone, they need to complete SIR Form 64 so we can submit it. They have the form and we are waiting for them to get it back to us.
 - There have been problems tracking the number of lunch attendees, primarily due to the difficulty of having to manually transfer MailChimp responses to an Excel spreadsheet. This can be solved by upgrading from our free MailChimp account to an account that costs \$11.08 per month. The new account may also be useful for the golf program.

- Our bank account has approximately \$6k that is not needed to cover branch commitments. It was unanimously agreed that the funds can be used to subsidize the September picnic. This will encourage members to attend the picnic and simultaneously reward those members who participate.
 - The site for the September picnic has been reserved. Cowabunga, the caterer, is available. It was noted that from last years' experience, less fruit and more salad should be ordered. A committee is needed to work on picnic preparations. A number of BEC members volunteered to serve.
7. **Membership** – After one resignation and three disenrollments for non-payment of dues (and inability to contact the members) our membership number is now at 139.
8. **Sunshine Report** – Jim Evans briefed the health status of selected chapter members. Due to privacy concerns, none of that update will appear in these spaces. However, we wish everyone well.
9. **Golf Report**
- Mike M briefed the monthly numbers.
 - Mike M briefed that he is working on getting a refund from NCGA for six members who paid their dues this year but are not playing.
 - There needs to be backup access to the golf bank account (password?)
10. **Activities Report**
- Jim Evans reported that cribbage is going well. John Bonham won the memorial tournament. A team tournament is scheduled for June. There are 34 official cribbage members with 16-24 regularly showing up each week.
 - A decision was made to press on with backgammon even if it may conflict with other activities. The BEC philosophy is to offer members a variety of activity options in order to keep people engaged with the organization. Tom Meissner agreed to head the initiative to establish backgammon as an official SIR Brance 106 activity.
 - In light of the above philosophy, other activities were mentioned. Bingo (or some other game like backgammon, pinochle, acey-deucey) after the monthly meeting? A trip to the Hard Rock Casino in Wheatland? Subsequent to the BEC meeting, a book exchange was also proposed for the monthly meeting.
 - Apparently, the SIR discount at the Rancho bar has been discontinued. This has been brought to Touchstone management's attention, and it is being discussed.