

Minutes of SIR Branch # 159
Branch Executive Committee (BEC) **October 11, 2018** at 10 am
At Pardini's

Present were: Big Sir Mike Rumley, Little Sir Rich Lewis, Secretary Vic Froehmer, Assistant Secretary Carl Merz, Treasurer Stan Day, Assistant Treasurer Bruce Corwin, and Directors: Dell Kerns (2018), Gary Becker (2018), Joseph "Duke" Marshall (2019) (excused), Stuart Poytress (2019), Gary Morgan (2020), Ron Wilson (2020), and Roger Deal (Hon Dir) (excused) total *of 11 of 13 for a quorum (at least 7 required)*. Others present included Pete Openshaw (2021), John Crawford, Mike Williamson, Rich Colby, Howard Zinn, Reg Rosander, Ron Travis, Gary Morgan, Mike Moyle, Fred Martinez, Allen Baxter, Lee Moy, and others.

Big Sir: At 9:45 AM Mike Rumley called the meeting to order. Carl Merz confirmed a quorum was present. Sir 2019 Officer training for Region 2 is scheduled to be held in Modesto. Mike will setup local training for Area 19 in Fresno next month at Woodward Park Library meeting room.

Secretary: Vic Froehmer and Carl Merz's minutes for September 13, 2018 were approved as presented. Motion made, Seconded, discussed and Passed (MSP)

Telephones: Ron Travis reported today's luncheon estimate is 112 including 4 guests.

Little Sir: Rich Lewis announced today's speakers are from Clovis Police.

Treasurer: Stan Day presented report and detail of income and expenses with October 2, 2018 balance \$5,652.62 which includes \$500 in cash. MSP Stan estimates \$4,000 to \$4,300 balance at year end. Bruce Corwin will give Pardini a luncheon count on December 10 for December 13 luncheon.

Motion 2018-14 Response to Future of Sir survey developed at an Area 19 Special Meeting. Mike Rumley and Rich Lewis will complete online survey for Branch 159. MSP

Membership: John Crawford reported that we have 200 active members plus 15 inactive. He requested BEC approval of 5 new members #45, #78, #80, #87, #88, 0 members for termination, 0 members from active to inactive status, and 0 members to return to active status, 0 members for Emeritus status. MSP

Attendance: Dell Kerns reported for September luncheon we had 200 members with 127 attending luncheon for 63% with 52% of absent excused.

Director's Report: Ron Wilson ask that everyone wear their SIR stuff at our activities. It is good advertising and when they ask about it, we can do our sales pitch.

Dine out Night: Wednesday, October 17 social 5:30 dinner 6:00 at Toledo's Mexican Restaurant hosted by Ben & Paulette Tyson.

Old Business: Prorating new member assessment to \$15 starting September 1, 2019.
MSP

New Business: Motion 2018-14 new activity THE CIGAR AFICIONADO. 6 Yes 5 Abstentions Passed

Adjourned at 10:29 AM ---- Secretary Vic Froehmer and Carl Merz

Presented before the Branch Executive Committee (BEC) on October 11, 2018, by Big SIR Mike Rumley.

TITLE: Branch 159 Response to the Future of SIR

IT IS MOVED THAT: The BEC of Branch 159 accept the consensus positions taken by the general membership as voiced at the Special Meeting of members of Area 19 on September 21, 2018 AND to empower Big SIR, Mike Rumley to complete the Online ballot using the records and comments taken by Little SIR Rich Lewis

Consensus and Comments on attached Future of Sir

Seconded by: Dell Kerns

A quorum of the BEC was present.

The motion is **PASSED**

MEMBERS VOTING YES: **Unanimous**

MEMBERS VOTING NO:

Signed: *Vic Froehmer* SECRETARY BRANCH 159

Future of SIR Consensus Vote

- 1) Emphasize the name SIR when addressing potential recruits, and in other recruiting opportunities. **Consensus is Yes.**
- 2) Focus SIR recruiting materials on two mottos that capture the nature of SIR – “Make Friends for Life” and, “We are SIR, the activity club for men”. **The consensus is No. The Branch agrees the Making Friends for Life should be part of our mission statement but reject the idea that we are only an activity club for men. As one member put it, “We are an organization that facilitates a variety of group activities where friendships can be formed.**
- 3) Strongly encourage Sirs when they are volunteering in the community as individuals to wear Sir apparel to bring recognition that SIR is helping. **Consensus is Yes**

- 4) (A) Encourage Branches to establish more coed activities (a target might be 50 percent of Branch activities). AND : (B) Build recruiting alliances with women's and other organizations at the State and Branch level. **Consensus is Yes**
- 5) Encourage Branches to offer additional activities that support physical health and fitness as well as educational activities/opportunities to stimulate the mind. **Consensus is Yes but with the stipulation of reaching out to the State College system as well as Community Colleges**
- 6) Branches are to retain the current “five meeting” rule unless the Branch BEC elects to set their own attendance rules. **Consensus is Yes**
- 7) Eliminate inactive and emeritus status, and allow those members missing meetings to remain SIR members. Allow Branches the flexibility to accommodate those members who are unable or dislike attending meetings to remain SIR members. **Consensus is Yes**
- 8) Encourage member surveys, be they formal or informal, as surveys are critical to ensuring long-term member satisfaction. **Consensus is Yes**
- 9) Better match our ethnic mix with that of the community recruited **Consensus is Yes**
- 10) Be frugal. **Consensus is Yes but the State needs to do more to reduce their expenses. Our Branch expenses are tied to the State expenses**
- 11) (A) Encourage all levels of SIR to tap into the capabilities of Sir's younger and newer members AND (B) Term out directors after three years unless participating in a succession program to gain branch leadership experience. Approval for non-compliant actions may be granted by the Region Director, or the President in the Region Director's absence. **Consensus is Yes for part A BUT No for part B. Terming out Directors should be a Branch decision.**
- 12) Significantly reduce the words retirement, senior, and other ageist language from our external communications. **The consensus is a strong No to this proposal. Many of our newer members have joined SIR because it is a retirement focused organization.**
- 13) Recruit “men just sitting around home” as SIR can significantly improve their lives – they are a ready-made market for us. **Consensus is Yes**
- 14) Allow more flexibility at the branch level -to simplify their operations and define the minimum requirements that need to be met. **Consensus is Yes**
- 15) (A) Refrain from expending resources on failing branches that do not want to improve. Instead, help branches that want to improve AND (B) Explore opening new Branches in high opportunity cities. **Consensus is No to part A. We should continue to work hard to save failing branches using as many resources as possible. Consensus is Yes to part B.**
- 16) Provide State Chairmen of key committees a stronger voice at the State Board. **Consensus is Yes as long as they remain non voting.**
- 17) Develop an SIR Business Plan. (3 Year) **Consensus is Yes**

MOTION #2018-14

Presented before the Branch Executive Committee (BEC) on 10-11-18 by Little Sir Rich Lewis.

TITLE: THE CIGAR AFICIONADO ACTIVITY

IT IS MOVED THAT:

BRANCH 159 BEC APPROVE “THE CIGAR AFICIONADO ACTIVITY” BE APPROVED

This activity is approved by RAMP Activity Chairman Terry Byrne to be brought to the BEC for approval for addition to our list of activities

Seconded by: Dell Kerns

A quorum of the BEC was present.

The motion is **PASSED**

MEMBERS VOTING YES: 6 voting members

MEMBERS VOTING NO: 5 voting members abstained

Signed: *Vic Froehmer* SECRETARY Branch 159