

SIR Minutes of Branch 159 Executive Committee  
April 13, 2023

The meeting opened at 10:15 am at the Piccadilly Hotel. BEC officers present were Big Sir Richard Glover, Little Sir Steve Chase, Treasurer Bruce Corwin, Assistant Treasurer Garry Elliott, Assistant Secretary Brett Bayley, and Secretary Robert Scott. Directors present were Pete Openshaw (2023), John Briceno (2023), Mark Isonio (2024), Russ Conrad (2025), and Robert Ying (2025). Richard Glover proclaimed we had a quorum (11 of 12) and opened the meeting.

Next, a review of the March, 2023 meeting minutes was conducted. Steve Chase moved that the minutes be approved, and Brett Bayley seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Based upon inquiries during the calls to members, we expect 77 attendees at our luncheon today.

It was then announced that Mark Standriff from the Beautify Fresno Program would be our program today. He will be presenting information about the different services and activities provided by his organization.

Next, the Monthly Cash Report (Form 28) was reviewed. Treasurer Bruce Corwin reported the financial activities during March 2023 involved several items. In regard to General Accounts, we received \$100 for excess lunches. The general disbursements totaled \$443 for expenses and guest costs. The receipts for our March luncheon was \$2,000, and the total expense for our March and April luncheons was \$3,155. The cost for the April luncheon was paid during March because the Piccadilly Hotel requires payment 10 days in advance. Consequently, the cash balance at the end of March was \$7,235.72. Steve Chase moved that the report be approved and Robert Ying seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

In regard to membership information, Bruce Evans presented the March Membership Report. The report showed today will be the 336th meeting of our branch. The report also listed two new members will be inducted upon BEC approval of this Membership Report. Robert Scott moved that the Membership Report be approved with the modification of adding Ron Garcia to the list of candidates to be sworn in at the next luncheon. Steve Chase seconded the motion. There was unanimous approval.

The Membership Form 27 was also briefly discussed. The report stated Branch 159 had 171 members at the end of March 2023, and only 40% of our membership attended the March 2023 luncheon. Brett Bayley moved that the report be accepted, and Bruce Corwin seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

We are still in need of a Dine Out chairman. Bruce Corwin has volunteered to do this task until the end of this year. Bruce requested that this item be removed from future agendas. We will continue to search for a Dine Out chairman for 2024.

The next item on the agenda involved SIR Inc. COVID Directives. Big Sir Richard Glover asked that this topic be deleted from the agenda.

The first new business item concerned a request from state SIRs to seek a vote of the Branch 159 BEC regarding women being allowed full membership in the SIRs organization. Our BEC voted 6 to 4 in favor of admitting women to our branch. The BEC then unanimously approved other SIR branches being allowed to admit women if they desire to do so. It was then suggested that these questions be posed at today's luncheon.

The next new business item was a discussion regarding the criteria for disbursement of funds to speakers. The suggestions were (1) we shouldn't offer the payment, (2) we should only consider a payment after the presentation is complete, and (3) we should consider speaker expenses such as mileage.

The final action concerned microphone time at today's luncheon. It was determined that Bruce Corwin, Bruce Evans, Duke Marshall, Brian Nicholson, and Fred Martinez wanted to address the group.

Before adjournment, Brett Bayley suggested that we review an article in Golf Digest that addresses slow play on golf courses and use the suggestions to decrease the time to play a round of golf in our tournaments.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Secretaries Robert Scott and Brett Bayley