

SIR Minutes of Branch 159 Executive Committee
February 8, 2024
(Revision of February 21, 2024)

The meeting opened at 10:15 am at Pardini's Restaurant. BEC officers present were Big Sir Steve Chase, Little Sir Mike Parker, Treasurer Garry Elliott, Assistant Treasurer Keith Lovgren, Assistant Secretary Brett Bayley, and Secretary Robert Scott. Directors present were Jerry Brady (2024), Mark Isonio (2024), Robert Ying (2025), Pete Openshaw (2026), and Butch Evans (2026). Robert Scott proclaimed we had a quorum (11 of 12), and Big Sir Steve Chase opened the meeting.

Next, a review of the January 2024 meeting minutes was conducted. Garry Elliott 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, 102 members stated that they were planning to attend our luncheon today. Bruce Corwin told Pardini's to plan serving 92 lunches. Pete Openshaw also reminded the board that he still needed two callers. Garry Elliott and Jerry Brady volunteered to fill the two empty positions.

Mike Parker then announced that Diane Phakmekpan, of the Big Brothers and Sisters organization, would be presenting information about the various programs it offers. She is also expected to indicate the backlog number of youngsters awaiting to enter the program, and the necessity of finding adult mentors and participants.

Next, the Monthly Cash Report (Form 28) was reviewed. Garry Elliott reported that luncheon receipts actually exceeded luncheon costs by \$59 in January. The total balance shown on the January Cash Report was \$9,726.11. Brett Bayley moved that the report be approved, and Robert Ying seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

In regard to membership information, it was stated we had 176 active members at the end of January despite terminating 5 members. However, we expect to swear in 5 new members during our luncheon today. In addition, we also learned that today will be the 346th meeting of our branch. Brett Bayley moved that the Membership Reports be approved, and Garry Elliott seconded the motion. There was unanimous approval. At the end of his report, Fred Martinez, our membership chairman, announced that he was resigning from his position. Therefore, it will be necessary to quickly find another member who can do these important duties.

Gary Morgan, our Webmaster, reported that the committee organized to update our website has essentially completed its work. The meeting with our travel chairman has been held and any additional modifications will be minimal.

A short report was then given regarding the collection of 2024 membership assessments. It was announced that 125 of our members had paid their 2024 assessment (71%). We expected to receive more payments at today's luncheon. Members who have not paid their annual assessment at the end of our luncheon today will be contacted by telephone before our next BEC meeting.

Next, a quick discussion about gratuities for our guest speakers was conducted to clarify our policy. It was decided we would continue to grant an allocation of up to \$200 to be awarded at the discretion of our Little Sir.

Following this topic, the BEC considered the question of including an information portion on our Branch 159 webpage. This led to the idea of possibly publishing an application form on our webpage that can be utilized by potential members that find us on the Internet. Gary Morgan was requested to investigate the cost of software that would enable us to accomplish this task. He stated that Adobe Acrobat provides this function, but he will determine if other options are available.

The last new business item involved a request to extend our speaker's time limit for our May luncheon. This request resulted in a discussion about how much time we want our program presenters to speak. Many thoughts were expressed regarding a 20 to 30 minute limit and the general program expectations of our membership. It was suggested that the question be presented to the entire membership at our next luncheon.

Microphone time at today's luncheon will involve Brian Nicholson and Butch Evans.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Secretaries Robert Scott and Brett Bayley