**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting**

**SIR Branch 35**

**March 21, 2018**

Little Sir, Peter Thurston announced that a quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

**Attendees:**

**Officers/Directors**

Director, Membership, Paul Shutz

Co-Little Sir, Andy Danver Director, Publicity, Don Cameron

Co-Little Sir, Peter Thurston

Treasurer, Larry Wray Director, Special Projects, Ben Gikis

Secretary, Darryl Walker Director, Activities, Joe Mullen

Assistant Secretary, Nev Griffin

**Staff Chairman**

Attendance, J. William Young

Travel Chairman, Ed Pausa

Webmaster, Jon Ray

Lunch Host, Terry Barnhart

Trail Tips Editor, Del Filmore

**Reports:**

**Assistant Secretary**: Neville Griffin presented the February minutes. The minutes were approved as amended. (**032018-001)**.

**Treasurer:** Larry Wray presented the February Treasurers report. Finances are per plan with a small underrun projected for the year. The treasures report was approved **(032018-002).**

212 members have paid dues to date. An E-mail will be sent out reminding unpaid members of $5 fine on April 1 and termination on May 1.

**Membership Chairman:**

Paul Shutz submitted the membership report.

1. Three new members were presented:

New Member Sponsor

* + French Harris Don Willoughby
  + John Lucero Fred Emmeneggar
  + Stephen Gruber Don Gladstone

The new members were approved (**032018-003)**

1. 350 members this month
2. 4 guests today
3. 2018 Branch goals: New membership – 40, Guests – 60
4. A new Membership Data Base volunteer is needed as of March/April
5. Form 27 was submitted

**Attendance**: Bill Young reported 91 not attending, 4 guests 0 visitors, and 36 cold plates.

**Little Sirs**

Andy Danver

* Picnic flyer to be sent out in Trail Tips
* Will investigate invigorating the red dot committee

**Directors**

Publicity – Don Cameron – advertisement for SIR Branch 35 was placed on Next Door Neighborhood with several responses to date. Don will investigate placing a paid add in Los Altos Town Crier.

Special Projects – Ben Gikis

* All 50 Giant game tickets are sold out
* Picnic flyer will be in Trail Tips
* Ben presented the survey results. See attachment 2

**Committee Reports:**

Luncheon Host **–** Terry estimates 195 for lunch today.

Trail Tips – Del is now using Constant Contacts for membership distributions.

A motion was passed to use the @ in E-Mail addresses in Trail Tips **(032018-004)**

Webmaster - John has made updates to the website

* Added are: Branch News, Volunteer opportunities, and Upcoming Events
* Website statistics report has been updated to a graphical presentation.

All ongoing Branch 35 activities were approved by the Executive Committee, and the Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM. Respectfully submitted by Darryl Walker, Secretary, SIR Branch 35.

**Attachment 1:**

**March summary of BEC votes:**

**032018-001 –** Minutes of the February meeting were approved as amended.

**032018-002 –** The Treasurers report for February was approved

**032018-003 –** Three new members were approved:

* + French Harris
  + John Lucero
  + Stephen Gruber

**032018-004 -** A motion was passed to use the @ in E-Mail addresses in Trail Tips

Attachment 2

**2017 SIR SURVEY**

**SUMMARY:**

1. **LUNCH—117 RESPONSES**

**EXCELLENT-19**

**ABOVE AVG-68**

**AVERAGE-38**

**BELOW AVERAGE-2**

Overall, mostly positive responses. (Editorial—those who rated it “Excellent”—where are they eating—the Homeless shelter, prison or is their wife that bad a cook?). Several comments about quality deteriorating. Many asked for better quality, more variety and improvements to the cold plate. For $25, a member should expect more than a “cocktail” sandwich, a bag of chips and a little salad. Suggest a REAL sandwich—not croissant and soup.

Complaints about coffee not being hot, seating issues, sound, crowded seating, etc.

We only gave 4 choices, so “Average” was 3 of 4. In the future we should have 3 or 5 so the “Average” rating is the middle one.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Almost everyone was “recruited by a friend”. One person sought us out after playing golf with us, another found us on an internet search and one said he found us from a newspaper article.

All but a few said they enjoyed the meetings. Only 2 said “NO’ and one said “average”.

Reason for joining:

1. Social/meet people 62
2. Golf 27
3. Speakers 23
4. Biking-3, Hiking-2, Tennis-1

**BASEBALL TICKETS**

28 expressed interest in GIANTS only, 3 in BOTH and 3 in A’s only. We have a group of 47 going to the Giants game this year (3 tickets still available).

**POKER NIGHT**

18 People expressed some level of interest in a Poker night, ranging from a strong “YES” to a “Maybe”.

**PICNIC-41 responses**

Nearly 100% favorable to location, cost and food. Several suggestions, including improved registration (being done), more activities and some comments on food (“more selections”, “why so many selections?”, and Tri-tip and sausage, and ice cream, Mac and Cheese for kids).

**OTHER**

All notes/comments are attached. Bottom line is:

PICNIC is very good

LUNCH is OK, but some improvements desired

MEMBERS were recruited by FRIENDS

BASEBALL Outing a good idea

Poker night a possible new activity

Seating at meetings still a concern

Music—some want more, some less, so we are probably just right!

A few complaints about food cost

Several suggestions on Speakers, but Medical and Sports were most mentioned as well as local topics like local historical and housing/real estate costs. We should avoid POLITICIANS or politically charged speeches UNLESS we organize a 2-sided debate.

**2017 SIR SURVEY COMMENTS**

**MEETINGS:**

Speaker—people who bring back manufacturing jobs

More music

Silicon Valley Housing Market

Add Pork dishes

Cris the Cartoonist—call Curtis Newman 650-862-8843

More Salmon-3

Sethshostak Seti

More chicken cordon blue

John Muir impersonator (ask Bob Simon)

NO tenor solo

Vegetarian

More/different entre selections-3

More Fish` Cold plates—don’t like baguette sandwiches

Special dietary needs Mexican Entrees

Kamala Harris Athletic topics-4

Valley history Better rolls—sourdough?

NO political speakers-3 Less chicken-2

Spaghetti or Lasagna Hi Tech—Innovations-Tesla?-2

Less time on business, more for speaker Room is too small

Coffee is COLD-3 More meatloaf

Healthier food-2 More open seating-3

Better speakers More University speakers—medical, tech, history

Reserve only 5 seats and only if people are actually here

Hold seats near front for late arrivals Bitcoin topic-2

Food not as good as when we first came to Elks-2 Eliminate Fried chicken

Reduce food price Cold plate needs variety/improvement-5

Meetings not as much fun as before-now more like a business meeting-2

Low salt meals-2 Difficult to hear in back of room

Improve food quality More “current generation” topics

Serve desert after meal Steak before Thanksgiving

NFL players More medical topics-2

IRS Topics Cybersecurity

Stanford football/basketball coach Ethnic foods

Julian Guthrie—how to build a space Ship Shrimp & Lobster

**ACTIVITIES:**

Environmental cleanup Canasta

Pickleball Mention Book Club more?

Automobiles Guitar jam

Short walks Sky diving

Bridge Chess

Volunteer work