**SIR CHAPTER 169**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES Date 4/11/2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Little SIR, Ernie Sopp called the meeting to order at 10:05 am

**ATTENDING:** Frank Bavaro; Ed Dorn; Duane Evans; Jim Forden; Ted Fox; Bernie Hollenbeck; Dan Lindstrom; Nick Lopez; Luis Rodriquez

**INTRODUCTION OF Guests:** Ron Silva

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** MSC as submitted

**TREASURY REPORT:** Nick Lopez reported that after addressing $1,138.75 in expenses for the month, there is a balance of $4,326.14 (including Petty Cash) in the Chapter 169 Treasury.

**BIG SIR:** At the request of Big SIR Jim Hiney; as Little SIR, Ernie Sopp shared with the Board that two northern California SIR chapters have requested that SIR consider inviting women as members. (Copy of communication attached to these minutes). Two questions posed to our Board: 1) Should women be eligible for membership in SIR. To this question, the 169 Board voted unanimously to reject the idea of allowing women to join our chapter. 2)The second question posed to us by State SIR,was whether our chapter would want to disallow other chapters from admitting women as members. In response to this question, the consensus of the Board is that other chapters should be permitted to make their own decisions regarding this issue. It would not be of concern to our chapter if others chose to admit women as members.

**ACTIVITIES:** 1) Ed Dorn reported that the weather has allowed us to resume our schedule of golf outings. 2) Couples Dine Out will be convening this Thursday at the Piazza Del Penne Restaurant on Cedar Avenue, just north of Nees Avenue.

**MEMBERSHIP**: If he attends the luncheon, a new member, Mario Jaimes, will be inducted today.

**SUNSHINE REPORT:** 1)**.** Sunshine Chairman, Bernie Hollenbeck, reported that while he has not received any news that there are Members who are having personal medical related issues, there are at least two members who are providing support to their ailing wives. 2) Bernie projected that there will be 36 in attendance at the luncheon today. A check with Piccadilly staff determined that the minimum has been set at 45.

**OLD BUSINESS**: 1) Ed Dorn shared with the Board that he had recently visited with our caterer, Jim Pardini, and was informed that renovation of the space scheduled for our luncheon meeting in June, might not be completed in time for that event. 2) Discussion re collection of luncheon fees and payment to Piccadilly (or Pardinis) at initial merged meeting. Concluded that each of the three chapters should be responsible for collection from their respective members, the fees delivered to our Treasurer for a single payment to the caterer. 3). The May luncheon for the three chapters will take the form of a “meet and greet” session with an opportunity to informally work on the logistics and scheduling of the activities of the combined organization.

**NEW BUSINESS**: Jim Forden summarized an email received from the SIR President Dave Gonzales re approaches taken by some of the SIR chapters to reduce luncheon costs (copy attached).

**ADJOURNMENT**: 11:50 am

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:** Jim Forden, Secretary

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| Attachment #1:   |  | | --- | | **Circulation: State Board members, Area Representatives, Big Sirs, Little Sirs, and Branch Secretaries** |  |  | | --- | | March 31, 2023  Subject: **Branch Guidance To State SIR on Inducting Women in SIR**  Two branches have approached Sons In Retirement, Inc. (hereafter referred to as “State Sir”) about inducting women into their branches as full members. Each branch is autonomous and individually incorporated with the Secretary of the State of California. The State SIR Board of Directors is seeking guidance from ***ALL*** branches as to whether to permit women to be inducted into any branch at the branch’s discretion.  Please discuss this topic with your Branch Executive Committee, the governing body of your branch. The purpose of this survey is to seek **the opinion of how your branch feels** about women in your branch as well as how you feel about allowing other branches to have women in theirs.  **We are asking each Big Sir (or representative) to respond by May 1, 2023** to indicate “yes” or “no” to the following questions:  **1. By a majority vote, does your BEC approve of allowing women to join your branch as members?**  **2. By a majority vote, does your BEC approve of allowing other branches to have women join their branches as members?**  [**Click here**](about:blank)to record your opinion on these 2 questions  Thank you very much for your guidance on this important topic.  [**Click here**](about:blank) if you have a question or want to make a comment  **Please submit your response by May 1, 2023**.  The results will be published by June 1st.    Sincerely,    Dave  2023 State SIR President  Attachment #2: |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Circulation: State Board members, Area Representatives, Big Sirs, Little Sirs, and Branch Secretaries |  |  | | --- | | April 6, 2023  **Luncheon Meeting Food Alternatives**  The availability of sites that can cater SIR branch luncheons has always been limited, and now the number of options is decreasing while prices are rising dramatically. As a result, many branches are exploring alternative options, such as moving their lunches to community sites like town recreation centers or church facilities that do not have kitchens. To cope with daunting catering costs, many branches are encouraging members to bring their own lunches in "brown bags" or to order their meals from "Meal Delivery Services" like Uber Eats, Door Dash, or Saltalk.  In early 2023, Branch 35 was encouraged to relocate their monthly luncheon for over 100 members from their long-term site so they moved to a local recreational facility. The first meeting at the new venue was a resounding success, featuring a "brown bag" affair where some members even pre-planned the event by contributing different items like hors d’oeuvres, chips, and sandwiches at each table.  However, some members expressed a desire for additional options. In response, Branch 35 researched local catering alternatives but found them to be prohibitively expensive. Fortunately, some members of the Branch 35 BEC who attend other organizations facing similar costly food problems knew of a company that takes individual online orders and delivers food to a common site.  Branch 35 worked closely with State SIR to develop a straightforward approach that minimizes both the branch's and State SIR's liability when members order and pay for lunch from a meal delivery service delivered to the branch luncheon site. Their members simply need to click on a link in the invitation message to the luncheon meeting, which will then bring up the following State SIR approved waiver statement:    SIR INC. BRANCH 35 MEAL DELIVERY WAIVER    I RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND WAIVE MY RIGHT TO SUE SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC. AND/OR SIR BRANCH 35, FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, INCLUDING CLAIMS OF NEGLIGENCE, RESULTING IN ANY ILLNESS (INCLUDING DEATH) OR ECONOMIC LOSS I MAY SUFFER OR WHICH MAY RESULT FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN ANY THIRD PARTY MEAL DELIVERY PROGRAM, OR ANY EVENTS INCIDENTAL TO SUCH ACTIVITY.    The Sons in Retirement, Inc Board of Directors reviewed and approved this approach on March 28, 2023 and recommends it as an alternative to all branches with similar cost constraints. This waiver also could be made part of other documents sent to members for their review.    Sincerely,    Dave  2023 State SIR President | | |