



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF  
BIDWELL RANCHO

*Provide women and girls with access to the  
education and training they need to achieve  
economic empowerment.*

## Business Meeting Minutes Approved

### MEETING PLACE AND TIME:

The business meeting of Soroptimist International of Bidwell Rancho was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at Garden Villa Cafe, 196 Cohasset Rd., Chico, CA. The meeting was called to order by President Babette Maiss, at 6:04 p.m. Other members present were Pam Shelton, Melanie Austen, Gayle Luna, Marie Hartman, Maxine Guynn, Sherry Holbrook, Della Miller, Sarah Fry, Linda Lucena, Sally Mendez, Lisa Fitzgerald, Judi Merlo, Dawn McDonald, Susan Bandstra, Sue Johnston, Angie Little, Celeste Garcia, Kim Sayers, Yvette Sanfilippo, and Valerie Miller.

### PLEDGE:

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

“Let us make our future now and let us make our dreams tomorrow’s reality.” - Malala Yousafzai

### HAPPY BUCKS

### MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous business meeting held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, were distributed via email. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

### TREASURER’S REPORT:

Treasurer Melanie Austen presented the treasurer’s report. From the beginning balance of \$45,248.66 (corrected), the report reflected an ending balance of \$42,710.32 which included restricted funds of \$471.00, belonging to the S Club, and \$107.30 remaining from Camp Fire funds. Hearing no objections, the report will be filed for review.

### PROGRAM/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### SANTA PROJECT COMMITTEE

- Chair Susan reported that there ‘were lots of kids this year’ at a total of 157 in attendance. She had a comparative list of attendees for past years: 2016 - 62; 2017 - 162; 2018 - 107. Her event wrap-up report included the committee recommendation that for future Santa events, the committee should purchase a smaller variety of items, but a larger number of the items purchased. Susan reported that the event cost less than what was budgeted this year.

#### PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

- Chair Babette showed off the new SIBR banner purchased from Vista Print which was used at the National Human Trafficking Day event on Saturday, January 11. Nice!

#### ANTI-TRAFFICKING COMMITTEE

- Committee Chair, President-Elect Linda Lucena, with committee members Sally Mendez, Quinn Mendez, and Sarah Fry, as well as other SIBR members, observed **National Human Trafficking Day**, Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, with an informational table at the Farmers Market in downtown Chico. There was a large poster and informational cards distributed as well as a blue ribbon for Human Trafficking awareness. Members were able to answer questions of market attendees and felt the response was positive and appreciative. Chair Linda is planning to submit an application to the “**Power of 100+ Women**” organization during this first quarter of 2020 in hopes of being awarded this quarters funding from the charitable group.

#### CAMP FIRE COMMITTEE

- Chair Sally Mendez gave kudos to SIBR member and Financial Coordinator, Judi Merlo, who was able to enlist the assistance of **Youth For Change** in their vetting and selection efforts to meaningfully distribute the last few dollars remaining in the fund. She also shared a thank you note from one of the recipients.

#### BREW FEST COMMITTEE

- President Babette reported for Chair, Sheron Box, that tickets for this year’s event are available on the SIBR website and 2 tickets were sold at Christmas time with an additional 5 tickets being sold as of today. There has been a 2<sup>nd</sup> band secured for the event to be located inside the Manzanita Place facility named “Little Black Cloud”. She asked that members continue selling tickets.

#### HOLIDAY COMMITTEE

- Co-Chair Yvette reported that the needs for the special Houses are growing every year and this year’s list included toys, robes, gift cards, and other gifts for the children residing in the houses with their mothers. They were able to get a publicity spot in the Chico ER for this year’s program.

#### DREAM IT BE IT COMMITTEE

- January 17, 2020 will be the second planning meeting with SI Chico and SI Orland. Chair Babette announced the need for more SIBR member participation and asked that members sign up on the SIBR Committee website. She stated that the program will have the same format as last year, which was very successful, and speakers are needed for SIBR’s part for 2 class sessions. The ‘vocational speaker’ format was well liked by the students attending last year and she said that they were more engaged. The first class session will be in March.

#### FOCUS COMMITTEE

- The 2019-2020 Focus Committee had a budget of \$6,000.00 and Chair Sarah Frye thanked the committee members Dela Miller, Sherry Holbrook, and Cathy Gurney for their efforts with this year’s awards. Sarah presented the committees four awardees for member review and approval:
- **The Jesus Center:** Funding request \$1,500.00-\$2,000.00 for women in their Transitional Housing Program houses: Myrtle, Hope, Holly, Lily. Financial assistance is requested to help relieve insecurity and anxiety when unexpected expenses occur which can cause the individual to have to choose between food or getting to work. There are 30-40 women and their children who would benefit with gas and grocery money, and/or bus passes. There was a motion to allocate \$1,500.00 of this fund to the Jesus Center to benefit these women. This was seconded and approved by the Board.
- **Chapman Elementary School:** Funds requested - \$1,500.00 to assist women and their children with emergency food, gas, warm clothing, and energy bill payments. Approximately

18 single mothers and their children have been identified as in need of these items. There was a motion to allocate \$1,500.00 to the school to benefit these women and children which was seconded and approved by the Board.

- **Little Chico Creek Elementary School:** Funding request \$1,500.00 to assist women and children with gas and grocery gift cards, energy costs assistance, warm clothing and shoes. Approximately 15 mothers and their children have been identified as in need of this type of assistance. There was a motion to donate \$1,500.00 to the school to benefit these women and children which was seconded and approved by the Board.
- **Crises Care Advocacy and Triage (CCAT) 501(3)c # 82-1489113; [www.ccat.life](http://www.ccat.life).** Funding request \$2,000.00 to help toward the purchase of a transport van, provide some funds to pay a clinical social worker, and buy a copier for the business office. CCAT helps individuals and families obtain emergency and permanent housing, provides transport to shelters and mental health appointments, and advocates and mentors individuals and families. There was motion to donate \$1,500.00 to CCAT which was seconded and approved by the Board.
- After discussion there was a motion to approve the four awardee requests which was seconded and voted approved by the members.
- Chair Sarah stated that there will be a follow-up report in Sept/Oct of this year.

#### LIVE YOUR DREAM COMMITTEE - Budget \$2,500.00

- Chair Marie Hartman gave an overview of the program and presented the finalist for this year's award, Jaquelinde Cheary. She is enrolled at Butte College in a certification program to learn Heavy Equipment Operation. She will complete the program in August 2020. This career choice will provide much higher than minimum wage jobs for herself and to help her raise her child. After discussion the members approved Jaquelinde as the LYD award recipient in the amount of \$1,500.00.
- SIBR has budgeted \$2,500.00 for the LYD awards this year and three applications were received. One of the applications was sent to another Sierra Nevada Region SI club, Burney Fall-River, at the request of the Region as that club did not have a qualified applicant this year. Only one of remaining applicants qualified for the LYD award however, her accomplishments and goals fit very well with the Soroptimist Mission and the SIBR Board recommend that a scholarship could be a good choice for the remaining \$1,000.00 in the line item. Applicant Analise Pugh, who is pursuing a post baccalaureate Law degree, was presented as a candidate for a scholarship to the club. As a result of personal experiences, Analise's dream is to work with Foster Agencies, Group Homes, and Catalyst to provide family law services. After discussion, there was a motion to approve this scholarship which was seconded and voted approved by the SIBR membership.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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- The SIBR Board recommended that Orphan Care International once again receive the \$1,000.00 budgeted for International Good Will and Understanding.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

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- Girls on the Run - a donation request was received by the SIBR Board from GOTR once again and the Board recommend donating \$1,000.00. After discussion there was a motion to approve this donation which was seconded and voted approved by the members.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

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- President Babette had previously requested that the large amount of correspondence received in December be presented at this meeting along with the January correspondence. All of the correspondence was reviewed at this meeting. Please see attached both lists of correspondence.

CALENDAR:

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- January 17, 2020 - Dream It, Be It planning session
- January 21, 2020 - New member orientation at Broadway Heights
- January 28, 2020 - Speaker Meeting - Trudy Mills, SIA/SNR membership liaison
- February 4, 2020 - Board meeting
- February 8, 2020 - District & District 2 Winter Meeting - only on-line. Open invite to view at Babette's house.
- February 11, 2020 - Business Meeting

SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.  
Kim Sayers, Secretary