



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF BIDWELL RANCHO – CHICO

Club Business Meeting Minutes March 10, 2026

Members present in bold (alpha list, by first name):

Angie Little	Kelsey Sachs	Maxine Guynn	Susan Bandstra	
Anne Marie Chik	Kim Goosmann	Melanie Kopping	Venita Tuter	
Babette Maiss	Kim Sayers	Michelle Chambers	Yvette Sanfilippo	
Beth Lougee	Layne Diestel	Patti Pardini Barrett		
Della Miller	Linda Lucena	Paula Wilson		
Gayle Luna	Lisa Fitzgerald	Sally Mendez		
Judi Merlo	Marie Hartman	Sheron Box		

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m., with President Babette presiding.

Thought for the Day from Linda: "When a woman has sisterhood with other women, without comparison or competition, she gains the super power to soar." ~ Christine Arylo

SOLT from Pattie: The first SI club was started in 1921 with the help of Stuart Morrow, a professional organizer who had previously worked with Rotary. While looking to form an "Optimist" club for men, he was encouraged by businesswoman Adelaide Goddard to form one for women instead. At the time, women were generally excluded from joining existing professional organizations.

The first project of the new club was to save the majestic redwoods. [The Soroptimist Redwood Memorial Grove is located at mile marker 129, north of Prairie Creek State Park in Orick, California. <https://soroptimistchico.org/home/about-us/founder-region-history/>]

Within just a few years, Soroptimist quickly grew to have an international presence, and the organization's work moved from general community projects to more women-centered ones.

Happy Bucks: "*The best thing going on in my life at the moment....*"

A. The February **Minutes** were approved without comment or change.

B. The **Treasurer's Report** was approved without comment or change.

C. Committee Reports

- 1. Live Your Dream** Chair Kim G. reported that everything is on track for the March 24 LYD Awards Event; table decorations, a charm for each awardee, etc.
- 2. Fashion Show** Linda reported that everything is coming together well for the event on March 21, and Yvette listed the vendors who will be there. The committee still needs wine donations for the big wine raffle prize, \$20-25 value bottles and up. A sign-up was circulated for help with set up and clean up; 8:00 a.m., and 3 p.m. Direct Fashion Show questions to Layne or Linda.
- 3. Fundraising, 5K** Babette encourages all members to promote the event – support of each fundraiser is imperative for the club. Flyer and handbill pdfs attached to email with 3.10 Minutes. Post at health clubs, retail shops, etc. To promote on social media: SIBR homepage > *More* dropdown arrow > *Events* > select the specific event > *Discussion* button > like, comment and share various posts.

4. Women's Resource

- i. Michelle presented the HET power point at Redeemer Lutheran Church in February to a small audience, but useful experience and input was garnered. Michelle is working with a teacher at Chico Junior High School to present the HET program at the school in April, and is creating a booklet module for students to use and engage during the presentation.
 - ii. The items to replenish Enloe's Forensic Exam closet were delivered to the hospital in February.
 - iii. Michelle thanked members who donated diapers when Leah Slem from the CSUC Basic Needs Project spoke at the February program meeting, and also thanked Lisa and Babette for getting a photo published locally. The WR committee will be discussing which projects to pursue for Basic Needs, and presenting to the Board.
 - iv. **Anti-HET** Michelle reported that Marie is researching TrafficCam, an app that allows photos of hotels to be added to a data base that law enforcement uses to identify trafficking sites. The committee would like to regularly remind about and promote this opportunity within and outside SIBR.
- 5. Fairview High School** Chair Anne Marie reported that she's working with new staff at the school.
- A career day will be held on April 16th and they're looking for professionals to have tables (contact Anne Marie to recommend or provide a table). SIBR will host a table to showcase the career closet and dressing for success.
- A grad event is being planned with prizes and scholarships as in years past.

D. New Business

1. **Admin Committee** a motion was made by Michelle and seconded by Judi to adopt an amendment with updated language recommended by the Board regarding Article II, Section 4.5.6 of the Standing Rules. The motion passed and the rule now states: The cost of each meeting will be \$25. All members are encouraged to email the Financial coordinator by Friday before the meeting to let them know if they are attending. If the Financial coordinator doesn't hear from the member by Friday, they will be counted as a "no"- not attending. If a member RSVP's "yes" but doesn't come to the meeting, she will be responsible to pay. If a member hasn't reserved but comes to the meeting they are responsible to pay \$25.
2. **AAUW Invitation** The local chapter of the American Association of University Women is hosting a Coalition Brunch on April 18th at St. John's Episcopal Church, 10:00 a.m. The purpose is to help link local women and organizations supporting women. Babette plans to go and invites all SIBR members who are interested. The event is free but attendees are asked to bring a brunch item to share. Beverages will be provided. A \$10 vegetarian quiche will be available for purchase. **RSVP by April 10 to Babette.**
(AAUW organizer, Michelle Rasmussen aisforants@yahoo.com)
3. **SNR Awards** Babette is working on putting together the applications for various Region awards, which get presented at the SNR Conference in June.

E. Correspondence A thank you for the Women's Holiday Project was received from the Jesus Center.

F. Calendar

March	18	SIA Virtual Tea Party, 5:30 p.m.
	21	Spring into Fashion Show and Luncheon, Canyon Oaks Country Club
	24	Live Your Dream Awards Event, St. John's Episcopal Church
April	7	Board Meeting, Sheron's office
	14	Business Meeting
	16	Dream It, Be It, St. John's Episcopal Church
		Fairview High School Career Day
	18	5K packet and t-shirt pickup, Fleet Feet
		AAUW Coalition Brunch, St. John's Episcopal Church
	19	4 th Annual 5K, Lower Bidwell Park
	28	Program meeting

Adjourned approximately 7:05 p.m.

Michelle Chambers, SIBR Secretary