General Meeting Minutes February 1, 2020 at Calafia Titanic Room

The meeting was called to order at 10:11 a.m., by Anita Olson, First Vice President.

Wayne Denniston introduced the USBC board who were present at this meeting. There were 40 people in attendance. Installation of the newly elected board of directors was conducted by Billy Ray Clark. This three year commitment by your board goes beyond just attendance of the meetings. The participation of the board in the administration of our activities, dedication of time, thought and effort necessary to achieve the objectives and goals of USBC, was sworn to by your new board of directors. Congratulations to this new board.

Wayne recognized USBC’s birthday on February 24th. USBC was founded in 1983.

The January 4, 2020, general meeting minutes were unanimously approved with Amy making the motion to approve and Dean providing the second.

The January financial report was provided by Milo. We had an income of $577 (of which $480 was from membership dues). Our expenses for the month were $690 (which includes Daniel’s medical student tuition). We sustained a loss of $113 for the month. The entire treasurer’s report is available with Milo. Motion by Linda and second by Mona to accept the financial report, which was approved by unanimous vote.

As Judy (our cupcake queen) was unable to attend this meeting, Wayne provided cupcakes (which looked more like muffins!) for February birthday and anniversary celebrants. Murray Friedman (new member), Jim Stuart, Elma Sotomayor, and Billy Ray Clark celebrated their birthdays this month. Wayne was assisted by Mona and Robin in distributing these special cupcakes.

New Business: Milo reported on the results of the survey. Twenty-three questionnaires were returned. The survey results are available with Milo. The popular choices included restaurant tours, bus trips, greyhound races, extended trips to San Felipe, Laughlin and Copper Canyon, mystery trip, roaring twenties, Mardi Gras, and black and white event. Also popular were cruises, member BBQ, holiday potluck, summer sunset happy hours and sports events.

Old Business: Miss Morgan spoke about the upcoming whale encounter tour in March. She will send updates to those who signed up for this event. She provided lots of good suggestions for attendees. She suggested that everyone dress for comfort and warmth. An optional second whale tour is possible on March 11th. A salt works excursion is also offered as an optional tour. This should be an exciting and close knit group.

Wayne introduced our speaker, John Larsen, an expert on Community Emergency Response Team. He educated many emergency responders all over the country. He stressed that we must be personally prepared as the professional emergency responders may not get there in time. We need to know what resources are available and the location of evacuation centers. Emergency personnel may be overwhelmed and we need to rely on each other for our personal safety. There are many types of disasters that may disrupt communication, transportation, utilities, food and water supplies. We need to develop checklists for our community to prepare for these disasters. Preparedness is the key.

Wayne introduced our second speaker, Laura Cota and her assistants from MUST, who distributed brochures and a checklist handout for emergency supplies. They brought three different emergency supply backpacks, which are available from MUST, to help ensure survival in disasters. These
waterproof backpack kits should be kept in your vehicles and homes. The backpack components included food, water, first aid and survival tools.

Committee Reports:

Amy reported for the Sunshine committee. Kathy Hutzler is dealing with numerous traumatic life events and would appreciate your encouragement. You can get her contact information from Amy Valenzuela.

Milo reported that in January, we had ten new members, with a total of 211. Membership renewals are sent out via email the week before the end of the month in which the renewal is due. A second reminder is also sent the next month. Membership is terminated after no response to these notices. Please make sure we have your current contact information.

Danielle, our new speaker chairperson, has already scheduled speakers for most of the year. Send your suggestions for future speakers.

DeeDee, our potluck chair, reports that September is still available for a host. Laura will host this month’s Valentine’s Day potluck on February 15th.

Sandy, our restaurant tour chairperson, was absent. February’s restaurant tour is announced in the Communicator. March’s restaurant tour will be at Los Amigos. Please check your Communicator for information.

DeeDee spoke about our upcoming events. On February 4th we have a casino trip. Mona and Robin will be co-hosting a Roaring Twenties ball this summer (please save July 18th). We have moved our tentative date of September in order to avoid conflict with RTG’s main event. Please check your Communicator for the future details.

DeeDee spoke about an Alaskan cruise on May 10th through the 17th, leaving from Seattle and a Mexican Riviera cruise on a new Holland America ship out of San Diego on October 3rd through the 10th. Flyers were provided. Let Larry Norman know if you are interested so he can reserve your cabin.

February is free for seniors (65+) for entrance into San Diego Wild Animal Park.

We are still seeking an advertising chairperson for the Communicator.

Non-profit reports:

Arturo Hernandez reported that he is the new president for Sister Cities.

DeeDee announced the annual chocolate fondue luncheon for Flying Samaritans on February 5th at Las Rocas.

Amy Chankin spoke for Friends of the Library. It is almost the one year anniversary for the bookmobile. They are receiving more requests from different colonias. They continue to need volunteers for the bookmobile; Spanish speaking not necessary. Save the dates of May 13th (general meeting), May 30th (Hidden Garden Tour), and December 5th (Holiday Home Tour).

Rhoda Wambaugh reported for Los Angelitos Orphanage, which is doing great.

Arturo, representing FRAO, reported that the US Consul for Tijuana will be speaking at their FRAO meeting on February 25th. Please note that this is a different date than their regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Spanish classes are held on Mondays and Fridays at 11:00 a.m. at the municipal building in room 212. FRAO will have a meeting about disaster preparedness.
Diego Knight spoke for K’sitas. They have completed four houses with one more to be completed. Donations are still needed. Arturo suggested that we check their website at Ksitas.org for updates.

Alexander Magnum brought up information regarding the opening of three kitchens for seniors and others. The organization is named Saints for the Day. The first one is in Colonia Libertad. The next one is in Primo Tapia.

Edie Vines represented Cruz Roja. Look for your Roaring Twenties outfit there.

Amy Chankin spoke for the Rosarito Theater Guild, which will be presenting a Katherine Hepburn play in June.

Robin Bell provided two great Valentine and marriage jokes for the day.

The 50/50 raffle was conducted by Laura. The Flowers won $46. Jo, Bill, Grace, Anita, Alex and Linda won Wayne’s wonderful cupcakes.

Anita will conduct the March meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at twelve noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Gaetan, Secretary