

General Meeting Minutes October 5, 2019 at Calafia Titanic Room



The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Anita Olson, First Vice President.

The board was introduced by Wayne. There were 40 people in attendance including two speakers and two guests.

The September 7, 2019, general meeting minutes was unanimously approved after motion by Anita and a second by Sandy.

Treasurer's report by Wayne for Milo: Income for the month of September was \$164. Expenses for the month was \$394. Our projected balance at the end of the year 2019 is approximately \$1800. Motion by Karen and second by Mona to accept the financial report, which was approved by unanimous vote.

Judy baked and distributed her delicious German chocolate cupcakes (in honor of fall and Oktoberfest) for birthdays and anniversaries for October. The following celebrants were honored: October 4th John Hutzler; October 7th Karen McDaniels; October 15th Dick Cadger; October 20th Jill Phelps and Amy Valenzuela. Dewey Roach and Stephen Wayles celebrated their 11th anniversary on October 13th and Rhonda and Jim Wamboldt celebrated their 11th anniversary on October 20th. Barbara Rock celebrated a special ninety-second birthday on September 26th. Congratulations to everyone!

Baja (Mavourneen) spoke about the Mariachi Festival in its tenth year and the Multiple Sclerosis Walk, which involves a three day and fifty mile event, in which she participates each year for the past twelve years. Mexico is finally recognizing the need for help for MS. Baja is amazing in her efforts in this endeavor and she thanked USBC for their continual support.

Paul Flowers introduced Alexander Magnum, who in turn introduced Gabriela Sotelo and Arturo Hernandez (new director) from FRAO and the guests, Ray and Robin Bell.

Our speakers, Marisa Molina and Gabriel Cruz, directors from Serena Center, were also introduced by Paul. Marisa spoke about their assisted living facility in Rosarito, which will be twelve years old in March 2020. This is one of three facilities. The Rosarito facility is currently full with a capacity of twenty and sixty percent of the staff and the full administration is housed here in this facility. The three year old Tijuana facility is mostly dedicated to Mexican families and is located next to the soccer stadium. They are looking forward to opening their third facility next year. Also in the works is an independent living facility in three or four years.

Serena offers care for post-operative patients, whether it be hours or days. They also specialize in care for age-related dementia or Parkinson's. They provide three meals and two snacks per day, striving to keep a family-like atmosphere. They provide various activities for their patients, integrating the needs of their patients. However, they do not furnish personal hygiene items or medications. They can provide a van for cross-border transportation.

Gabriel spoke about Serena's full assistance card which can help in the event of emergencies and provides discounted services from various businesses. Rhonda won Serena's full assistance card for a year this meeting.

Committee reports:

Sunshine report from Arlene updated John Hutzler's condition. Surgery amputating his leg was performed yesterday in Long Beach. Judy updated Jack Westphal's condition following cancer surgery. Get well cards were sent from USBC by Amy, our Sunshine committee chairperson.

Membership report by Wayne for Milo indicates two new members for September, bringing membership to 186 members for September. Judy donated two wine festival tickets to our new October members, Ray and Robin Bell.

New October member, Rafael Solorzano, spoke about legal services. He will provide advanced care directives to members at no charge.

Sandy Eddhabi spoke about the resurgence of USBC restaurants tours the second week of each month. The first restaurant tour on October 10th is at Sokuna Restaurant with a three course dinner. A sign-up sheet was passed around. She also discussed possible future venues and is always open for suggestions.

Kay Anderson spoke about the Halloween potluck, which will include games, music and prizes.

Maggi Wagner spoke about the Thanksgiving members' potluck for which USBC will provide and cook turkeys. Help is needed for various dishes, serving line and clean-up. A sign-up sheet for attendance and help was distributed. People who did not sign up for specific dishes are invited to bring hors d'oeuvres for eight people.

Billy Ray Clark, nominating committee chair, spoke about USBC's thirty-six year history of service to the community. The bylaws and constitution state that USBC is a non-political, non-racial, non-sectarian, non-profit, cultural, charitable and social entity which strives to foster relationships for the benefit and for the service of its members and community. Any member in good standing who is willing to serve is eligible to run for the board of directors. This year's November ballot will include: Sandy Eddhabi, Paul Flowers, Diego Knight, Alexander Magnum, Laura Orange, Arlene Sieman and Danielle Williams. Nominations were opened to the floor and closed with no further nominations. Voting will be in December and installation will be in January.

DeeDee, potluck and events chair, asked for potluck hosts for 2020 and distributed a sign-up sheet. She also described the wine country tour event scheduled for October 26th.

Non-profit reports:

Gabriela from FRAO announced the October 12th and 13th Kumeyaay cultural event and the next FRAO meeting on October 17th. FRAO will provide a guide and orientation for Mexican residency. Gabriela conducts a free Spanish class on Mondays and Fridays at 11 a.m. at City Hall.

Alexander expressed appreciation for Conrado and Rafael whose contributions have benefitted our community. Alexander expressed hope of future plans for restaurant ratings and something similar to BBB wherein complaints can be recorded and resolved, things that will be helpful and healthful for our community. Alexander and others are working on corruption in real estate, HOA's and immigration. Rafael stressed that information is power and we need to help each other.

Craig announced the appointment of the new IMAC director and Katrina Fest later this month.

DeeDee spoke about Flying Samaritan's October 20th Octoberfest at Las Rocas and the live auction for an African Safari.

Amy Chankin reported for the Friends of the Library about their December 7th holiday home tour.

Barbara Acosta reported for Los Angelitos Orphanage, which provides a home for twenty children in the community. Dr. William Park raised \$5000 for books, tuition and uniforms for their children by bicycling from Canada to Rosarito.

Hearts of Baja is building a ranch out on Boulevard 2000 and will soon have room for a lot more kids.

New business:

Wayne asked everyone to save the dates of March 9-13 in 2020, for the whale watching tour.

Old business:

Wayne again requested an auditor for USBC by January. USBC is still in need of a speaker chairman.

New member, Robin Bell, provided the joke of the day about blondes in Disneyland.

The 50/50 raffle was conducted by Mona. Dewey Roach won \$47.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Gaetan, Secretary