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Nick Feimer;John McGlothlin;+27 others

Gentlemen

A quick reminder that the August BAC Meeting will be held on August 8, 2025, commencing at 1 p.m. The call-in information is our standard Zoom call-in:

<https://zoom.us/j/94269180206?pwd=f3ZE4b4nroeW1xoBRoOwpnOgfVURJw.1>

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Meeting ID: 942 6918 0206. Passcode: 488269

Dial in on: 1 669 900 6833

The agenda for the meeting includes the following topics:

A presentation by Kevin King concerning Membee and how reporting obligations can be simplified. He will also discuss capabilities of Membee capabilities that are available to our branches. Membee is one of the database systems that is being used by State SIR. Kevin King has been working with the Membee database and the company to determine its capabilities and how it can better serve SIR.

A discussion about potential changes to the procedure for selecting and approving Area Representatives (ARs). Under our present system, in July the BEC of each Branch in the Area is to solicit and select their AR candidate for the next year. In August, the Big Sirs and Little Sirs of the branches within the Area are to meet and elect the Area Representative from the branch nominees. This system has not been working.

For the past several years filling AR positions has been challenging. Last year, 10 members of the State Board "temporarily" assumed an AR position, with two members assuming two positions. This improved slightly this year as a few new ARs were added.

But because the AR is central to the smooth operation of SIR, it is important that we have a system that allows the identification and appointment of good ARs for each Area. The approach being looked at now by the Board would allow the Vice President to select the AR candidate for each Area and, after reviewing that candidate with the branches in the Area, appoint the AR. It is believed that this will enable a full staffing of the ARs.

A discussion on a proposal submitted by Branch 84 to change the procedure currently being used to elect State officers. A copy of the proposal is attached. Greg will be able to present the proposal and answer any questions.

If you are unable to attend, please let me know. In that case, please send me your thoughts on any or all of the topics.

I'll distribute the summary of the meeting.

I look forward to talking with you next Friday.

Best

Rich

Proposal for Seating State Board Members and Officers of SIR

Problem: There is a rift between the club branches, their members, and the State Board and Officers. To our knowledge, the state management determined at the state level and “ratified” by the Big SIRs at the annual meeting. This has caused poor communications and a lack of State accountability to the club members.

Proposal: It is hereby proposed that the members of the State Board of Directors and State Officers be regularly elected by the entire membership. The purpose is to make the State Board and Officers more representative of the members’ wishes and plans for the organization and to reduce the lack of communication on its direction. Branch 84 also proposes that any changes to the bylaws of the State SIRS must be ratified by a majority of all clubs.

The following is a strawman that we recommend being used as a starting point for the development of a policy and eventually Bylaws regarding the seating of the State Board and Officers rather than the Big SIRS just ratifying the officers and directors at the annual meeting. Recognizing that this is not straight forward, we suggest a committee of the membership be appointed to develop text for a workable set of Bylaws.

The following are some proposed conditions and policies for such elections:-:

1. Elections would be held every year for half of the members of the Board.
2. The candidates would be required to provide candidate statements to include their views and visions for the organization on each ballot. Also, a statement of why they feel they would be best qualified to serve on the board.
3. Board members would be nominated and elected, directly by the membership, for a single two-year term.
4. The election would be overseen by the Big SIRS of each branch.-They would be responsible for tallying individual member votes, having them certified by their Branch Executive Committees, and reporting the results to a state administrator who would consolidate all the branch results.
 - a. One half of the board would be elected each year and consist of the highest four vote getters in the election. e.g. If the board consists of eight members, it probably needs to be four members one year and four the next. As an odd number would be necessary to avoid a tie vote on the board, the tiebreaker being the Past President.
 - b. Ballots for all candidates, Board members, and Officers would be distributed to each Big SIR for further distribution to the active members. Inactive members would be ineligible to vote.

5. The State Officers would be elected in a similar manner except the Vice President (see item 8).
6. To be qualified to run for any State officer seat, a candidate must have served at least one year on the State Board and be a member in good standing of the club for at least four years.
7. Officer candidate statements would be required to provide candidate statements including their views, plans and visions for the club on each ballot.
8. The Vice President electee would serve a single term of three years: The first year as Vice President, the second as the President, and the third as a Past President and voting member of the State Board.
9. Other officers serve a single two-year term.
10. Officers would include a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past President. This would constitute the Board Executive Committee.
 - a. This committee can meet separately from the Board, but no action can be implemented without the approval of the full Board.
11. No Director or Officer may serve more than one term.
12. This State Board and officers would be charged with preparing and presenting a Strategic Plan and five-year, pro forma budget at the Annual Meeting for ratification by a simple majority of all Branch Officers present (Big and Little SIR).
13. The entire State Board has fiduciary responsibility to the organization.
14. The President would preside over the Board and, in his absence, the Vice President.
15. The Board and Officers would be required to present a "State of the Club" report at the Annual Meeting and then to the membership through the Branch Big Sirs.