**SLO Bytes Computer Users’ Group**Minutes of the February 5th 2017 BOD Meeting

**Officers present**: John Waller, Earl Kaplan Bob Styerwalt, Alan Raul and Ralph Sutter   
  
**Other volunteers present**: Peter Stonehewer, Linda Styerwalt and Russ Foster

President **Earl Kaplan** called the meeting to order at 12:22 pm.

The minutes from the January 1st 2017meeting were approved as submitted.

Training Officer **Alan Raul** informed the BOD that he wouldn’t attend the March General Session. He will participate in the Linux SCALE conference in Pasadena.

Secretary **Ralph Sutter** will miss the April General Session because he will be travelling on the East Coast.

Treasurer **Bob Styerwalt** distributed the spreadsheet, SLO Bytes Financial Trends, tracing the trajectory of the club’s finances over the past 3 years. In short, membership is declining while expenses are rising. The annual shortfall is not sustainable in the long run. The BOD discussed how to deal with the situation. Alan warned that expanding the membership or raising dues are not realistic. We must find ways to lower expenses.

One way to do so is to investigate the savings gained if we moved the General Session from the large IOOF Hall to the Dining Room. Earl will contact IOOF Liaison Tim Olson to learn what saving this move might bring. Several BOD members will try to track down an appropriate projection screen.

Several board members suggested that we search again for less expensive liability insurance. SLO Bytes member Russ Foster mentioned several agents that historically have offered low rates for the required one million dollar coverage. Foster also proposed that SLO Bytes hold its General Session meetings at the Grange Hall. Russ will submit a proposal with rates and conditions.

Styerwalt advised the BOD of those members whose membership was due or overdue. We discussed the likelihood of receiving renewals from each of these individuals.

Program Chair **John Waller** mused that it might be interesting to schedule the Robotics program of a local high school or Cal Poly to present during an upcoming General Session. He then wondered out loud how much the topic would appeal to our general membership.

Ralph has lined up a presentation for the March Second Session; the Microsoft ~~Hollow Lens~~ HoloLens Virtual Reality goggles. The presenter will be **Joseph Stute**, a member of the SLO Bytes Linux Group.

The meeting ended at 12:50 PM.

Ralph Sutter