

Peralta Retirees Organization (PRO)
Board Meeting, June 7, 2006
PFT Conference Room

Board Officers: Jerry Herman, President, Bruce Jacobs, Vice-President, Shirley Timm, Treasurer,
Juanita Peterson, Secretary

Board Members: Remo Arancio, Pat England, Linda Japson, Sondra Neiman, Alex Pappas
Ned Pearlstein

Absent: George Herring

The meeting was called to order at 10:37 A.M.

Secretary's Report: Juanita distributed the minutes of the May 3 meeting. Corrections: The required attendance by Aroma for the social was corrected from 500 to 50 persons.

MSU (Shirley, Ned) that the minutes are approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Shirley reported a balance of \$9,345.50. PRO has 311 paid members or Of which 3 are deceased and 20 have paid dues more than once. There are 29 former 2005 members who have not paid 2006 dues.

It was agreed that Jerry would write a general letter to encourage membership, email the letter to Juanita who will mail the letters to those yet to become paid 2006 members.

Newsletter Report: Bruce said he had not received any notices of deaths to include in the next issue. Linda asked about Marilyn Collard and agreed to provide information about her to Bruce. Remo suggested that Bruce include food recipes as fillers in the Newsletter, and Alex suggested a note about Gore's movie, "An Inconvenient Truth". Bruce announced that an article concerning saving for retirement is now available on the PRO website. . He also announced that Ron Dellums had won the Oakland mayoral race.

Kimberly Wypychowski of PSW, the current broker for PCCD, told Bruce that a website has been created for PCCD retirees that contains healthcare information for both CoreSource and Kaiser Members. In the next Newsletter, Bruce will write an article about this website and inform how to reach it via a link on the PRO website.

President's Report: Jerry introduced Linda Japzon as the new Board members. She and Jay Quesada have contributed greatly to the Social Committee. Linda is serving the one-year term left by the resignation of Phyllis Jones. The Board welcomes Linda. She will run for board membership in the fall.

Jerry was notified by George Herring that he has agreed to serve, for one year, as Interim President of Merritt College. George is serving a two-year term on the PRO Board and has requested a leave-of-

absence for one year during his work at Merritt College. The question to the Board is whether to grant the leave or to request that George resign.

Ned argued forcefully for resignation with encouragement that George run again for board membership after completing his service as Merritt President.

Discussion followed as to whether the Board had a policy on granting leaves of any length. Bruce proposed that the Board not allow a leave-of-absence for more than three months. No action was taken on this proposal. There was concern expressed about the length of time George was requesting. Recognizing the work George has done for PRO on membership and for his administrative expertise, the Board regretfully asked Jerry to write to George that the Board does not grant leaves for that period of time and ask him to send a letter of resignation unless he can make even a limited commitment to serve on the Board.

Some members are having continued problems with reimbursement for co-pay. A point of contention is information required on the form that infringes on personal privacy. Ed Minasian suggested that personal information be blacked out on the form before it is submitted. PCCD and CS do not require the name of the doctor on all reimbursement requests. Bruce suggested that Ed write a letter to the editor of the Newsletter to share the information about blacking out the personal information before submitting receipts for reimbursement.

ACSIA, a long-term-care company, has requested to make a presentation to retirees. Alex suggested that ACSIA compare their plan with that of STRS and PERS relative to cost and benefits. Bruce questioned the purpose of having such a presentation. Ned believes that such a presentation should be made at an earlier age and suggested that the Board communicate with the new President of the PFT about setting up a presentation for current PCCD employees. Jerry will relay the Board's comments to ACSIA and the PFT denying ACSIA's request.

These questions came up: Should the Newsletter accept ads? Does an ad serve as an endorsement? Which type of ads would be compatible with PRO's non-profit status?

Benefits Committee: There have been a variety of health questions that have been addressed to Alex and other members of the Benefits Committee. Example: a husband and wife, both retirees of PCCD, have had their CoreSource memberships designated as a retired employee and dependent instead of both being designated retired employees. Alex is requesting Jennifer Seibert to resolve the situation. Alex will give a report in the Newsletter about these types of health problems that come up. He also said there is another network for approval of providers that he will follow up on. In April, a letter was written to Ms. Seibert concerning several health problems for which he has yet to receive a reply.

Information on skilled nursing care: Medicare pays for 100 days; neither CS nor Medicare pays for custodial care. The difference between nursing care and custodial care will be written up for a Newsletter article. It should be noted that long-term care cannot be applied for after the age of 79, but current coverage is not affected.

Another concern is that many CS claim forms repeatedly ask if there is another insurance coverage. When filling out several forms, responding to this question once should be adequate. Alex thinks this

may be a problem with the CS claim form that he will take up with Ms. Seibert. Another follow-up needed is a reply to the letter that Bruce, Jerry and Alex wrote concerning past practices that they sent to Ms. Seibert.

Social Committee: Linda requested that she and Jay serve as co-chairs. The Board readily approved. Ralph Marinaro will be asked for a list of members of the Social Committee; Jerry urged that more people be asked to be members.

Linda reported that Robert's Huckleberry picnic area has been reserved for August 17th beginning at 10 to 10:30 AM. It will cost \$150 to use the space and \$75 refundable deposit is required. The theme will be Mexican and the Committee requested funds for supplies.

MSU (Bruce, Pat) that the Board provide the Social Committee funds necessary up to \$500 over and above the required \$150 needed for the rent.

Meeting time: Taking into consideration the time and personal commitments of members of the Board, it was agreed to have Board meetings on the first Wednesday of each month from 1 PM to 3 PM.

Ragtime: The performance is scheduled for July 14th. Tickets cost \$18 each with \$1 handling fee to cover the number of tickets ordered, example: \$37 for two tickets.

Only one outreach has been done for ticket sales. It was suggested that an email notice be sent out this week to encourage people to purchase tickets. Bruce said PRO may be able to pay for a minimum of 30 tickets. PRO receives a special discount. The balance on the number of tickets contracted for is due 2 weeks before the performance. We must also allow time for mailing out the tickets.

Seven tables have been reserved at Woodminster that will be available at 6:30 PM. Ticket holders can bring their dinners and wine. A map to Woodminster will be included when sending the tickets, parking is separate. There is some parking outside.

PRO must pay for ALL tickets reserved by July 1. To request tickets, send a check in the appropriate amount to PRO, PO Box 1951, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Lifetime Membership: At the March meeting, dues for membership were agreed upon (\$20 for one year; \$55 for three years; \$80 for five years; \$250 for lifetime). Starting in November, these dues will apply. This information will appear in the next Newsletter. The possibility of issuing membership cards will be taken up at another meeting.

MSU (Remo, Linda) that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita Peterson