

Peralta Retirees Organization (PRO)
Board Meeting, August 2, 2006
PFT Conference Room

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

Board Members: Remo Arancio, Pat England, Sondra Neiman

Absent: George Herring, Linda Japzon, Alex Pappas, Ned Pearlstein

Guest: Debra Weintraub, PFT President

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the July 5, 2006 Board Meeting was distributed. The following corrections were made: Japzon, not Japson; paragraph below Treasurer's Report: replace "November 1, 2006" with "September 1, 2006"; paragraph above Benefits Report: replace the quote with "Can CS limit the number of times they question if there is a secondary insurer while delaying claims payments."

MSU (Pat, Shirley) that the minutes of July 5, 2006 Board meeting be approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Shirley reported the current balance of the Treasury is \$9,002.67.

Without objection, the Treasurer's report was accepted.

Newsletter/Website Report: The October Newsletter will be sent to ALL members since it will contain information on the election of PRO Board members and will remind members to renew their membership. In addition, the Newsletter will contain information about the all-member meeting in November.

Remo asked about accepting ads for the Newsletter. According to Bruce, there are some problems of soliciting ads from the general public, but that in the next issue a statement will be included that suggests that a member might like to put in an ad.

President's Report: Jerry introduced Debra Weintraub, PFT President, who reported on the most recent District Benefits Meeting. She said the emphasis was on mandatory health plan enrollment, but that it is the responsibility of the District to alert employees and retirees of the enrollment process. CoreSource (CS) will issue new cards and they will have only the employee's name and will not include the name of the dependents. The District requested that PRO appoint a contact person to work with Jennifer Seibert. The new contract period begins January 1, 2007. The deadline for submitting enrollment forms is October 20th and the form must be received by Jennifer Seibert by December 1 before the District will take any action.

Debra said that dental coverage for CS retirees is not included even though the choice is listed on the CS form. The Kaiser Plan includes dental coverage only if the person is enrolled in the Senior Advantage Program.

It was suggested that a return envelope accompany the re-enrollment form. The question was asked: Will receipt of the completed re-enrollment form be confirmed by the District Benefits Office? Jerry

said PRO could include in the next Newsletter a letter of receipt that members could use along with a card that indicates phone numbers to call for information.

The District is offering \$30 per month to any employee who does not want to be insured. There will be enrollment fairs for sign up beginning October 1, and on-line sign-up may be possible, but it must be secure.

Bruce wanted to know the rate at which a dependent spouse of a deceased retiree can buy insurance. Also, if an employee leaves the District, can s/he buy into insurance at PCCD rates for the rest of his/r life, if they wish to?

Debra said the next meeting of the District Benefits Committee is scheduled for Wednesday September 27, at 10:30 AM.

Remo asked for clarification on requesting reimbursement for orthotic care. Bruce thinks the process is: send the bill to Medicare and to CS so that CS can see the EOB to know what Medicare pays and then they pay the remainder. A denial from Medicare must be received before CS will pay.

Jerry reminded the Board of the vacant chair of the Membership Committee. Bruce suggested asking a new retiree. Jerry will call George for a list of the members of the Committee.

Comments were made about Ragtime, and Jerry suggested pictures be included in the next Newsletter. Juanita will try to send to Bruce pictures she took of the performance.

Service Committee: Sondra reported that the Committee met on July 6 and that a number of the members attended. Smokey reported on some possible students needing transportation. She had also contacted a counselor at Merritt College. CAL Works has expressed interest in cooperating with the transportation program. Mental Health Intake Training Program at Merritt College also has been contacted about cooperating with the project. Chris Hadley contacted the Vice-President of the student body at Laney College and they responded favorably.

Jerry reminded the Committee that funds had been provided earlier by PRO (May 3 Board minutes) for the Service Committee to distribute funds for library books at each of the college libraries.

Since PRO Board had earlier dedicated \$2000 for scholarships, Bruce suggested that the Board should be making preparations for having the scholarships given out at the end of the next academic year.

MSU (Bruce, Sondra) that the Board donate \$2,000 to the Peralta Foundation with the proviso that \$500 per college be awarded as scholarships to graduating or transfer students; and that each Vice-President of Student Services determine the basis for the awards.

Remo called for the question.

Sondra was asked to contact the Foundation Office, make contact, and request the necessary form to complete in order to put the process into motion. In addition, it was suggested that a contact be identified on each campus, e.g., VP of Student Services, to generally follow the process for the awarding of the scholarships.

New Business: Richard Bidleman has suggested that the Board use the Pay Pal system for members to pay their membership fees. The service is free to the using member and a charge to the Board

would be 50 cents plus a small percentage per transaction. There did not seem to be enough interest on the part of the Board to use Pay Pal at this time.

Picnic: Jerry reminded that the picnic is August 17 from 11 am to 3 pm. Linda and Jay have been calling people to come and urging those who plan to come to RSVP to either of them. Bring your own food; PRO will provide paper plates, napkins, condiments. Bruce will send an email reminder about the picnic with advice to let Linda and Jay know they plan to attend. Those retirees wishing to join PRO now can do so for \$10 for the remainder of this year.

At 2:34 PM Remo suggested that the meeting adjourn.

MSU (Remo, Shirley) that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting concluded at 2:34 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita J. Peterson, Secretary