

Peralta Retirees Organization (PRO)
Board Meeting, September 6, 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, Ned Pearlstein

Absent: George Herring, Linda Japzon, Alex Pappas

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM by Jerry.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the August 2, 2006 meeting were distributed. To the last sentence of the first paragraph of the President's Report "before the District will take any action" was added for clarification. Also, it was suggested that the time and date of the next scheduled Board meeting be included at the end of the meeting minutes.

MSU (Remo, Shirley) that the minutes for August 2, 2006 be approved as amended.

In addition, Juanita reported that she had sent the most recent Newsletter to each member of the Peralta Community Colleges Board and to the president of each of each college.

Treasurer's Report: The current balance in the PRO account is \$7,468.66

The account includes \$2,000 for scholarships and a sum of \$1,000 has been set aside for books for the four college libraries of the District.

Concerning the library books, Sondra, Chair of the Service Committee, will speak with persons in the Peralta Foundation about dispensation of the library book funds.

Shirley reported that work on PRO's non-profit status is about three-fourths finished. She is doing all of the narrative writing and invited others to help. She is waiting on the financial report which must have a balance of less than \$10,000.

Newsletter and Website: Bruce said that the next Newsletter focus will be on encouraging members to include their information in the PRO Directory that is on the PRO Website. The Picnic information currently on the Website will be replaced with the all-member meeting in November. He said the deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is October 1 and that the Newsletter will go to the printer by October 16.

Articles to be included in the Newsletter are: Jerry's President's report; comments about the Ragtime performance; PRO election information; Re-enrollment information; information on required minimum distributions (RMD); an article by Sondra on scholarships and library books; an article on the new CoreSource card.

The question arose as to whether or not to include ads in the Newsletter? It was suggested that this be an agenda item for the November meeting. Also questioned: should the Newsletter accept articles from members and, if so, how much space to allow and what subject matter would be accepted?

Sondra suggested that the Social Committee plan an event for the holidays.

President's Report (cont'd): PFT auditors will be using the PFT Conference Room on October 4, 5, & 6, so PRO needs to find another room for the October 4th meeting. Jerry will ask the District Office for a room and will email its location to the Board members.

For the January and April Newsletters, Bruce will be gone and PRO needs to find someone with skills to do the Newsletter. It is possible that Bruce can do the January Newsletter. Pat England said she has done similar publications and would work with Bruce to learn how to use the Newsletter software.

Social Committee Report: Linda has informed Jerry that 60 people had attended the Picnic. He said that those people who brought food should be acknowledged.

Benefits Committee: Jerry attended the last District Benefits Committee Meeting. Most of the time was devoted to perfecting the re-enrollment forms which are due to be sent out soon. He volunteered help by PRO.

Remo has concerns that surviving spouses are questioning the 20% increase in rates at Kaiser. Is any information available about this?

The question was raised: How does the District decide what to charge for healthcare for surviving spouses? It was noted in a recent Newsletter article that the District insurance provides better coverage than that offered by other healthcare insurers.

It was noted that the new CoreSource cards have been mailed and that they are smaller than the previous ones.

The correctness of the coding used by CS for gynecological exams is questioned by Bruce. He believes that, according to the contract, \$250 is for a routine exam and all other exams are covered at no cost.

Remo asked about the results of the CS survey. Jerry will ask Jennifer for the information.

Remo also expressed concern that he has received medication by mail that he has not ordered and that this has happened before. Jerry suggested that Remo write an article for the Newsletter about twice receiving medication by mail that he has not ordered and that perhaps this has happened to others.

Jennifer Seibert is trying to get a dedicated telephone number for Peralta CoreSource patients. Meanwhile, to reach Jennifer, call the old number, then push 5#.

Jerry has asked Board members Ned, Bruce, and Remo to attend the Peralta Re-enrollment Benefits Fair being held on October 2, October 3 (Berkeley City College), and October 4 (the District Office).

Service Committee: Concerning money set aside for scholarships, Bruce reminded that it is not too early to setup procedures for the scholarships to be given on Awards Night. Sondra, Chair, had obtained a form from the Peralta Foundation which is required for control purposes whenever funds are given to the Foundation. With Sondra as Scribe the Board assisted in filling out the required information which follows:

Title of Fund: Peralta Retirees Organization (PRO) Scholarships

Contact: Sondra Neiman, PRO Board member

Administered by Foundation or Other: The Foundation

Established By: PRO

Relationship: An organization of all Peralta Retirees.

Purpose: To provide one academic Scholarship per campus (COA, Laney, Merritt, Berkeley City College) per year to a graduating or transferring student for continuing education.

Frequency & Amount of Award: Annual, \$500 per college

Original Funding Amount: \$2,000

Comments: Request that each scholarship be presented to the recipient student by a member of PRO.

Sondra expressed concern that the Service Committee has done a lot of work on transportation scholarships, and at the last Committee meeting on August 26, the members urge that the scholarships be given. The Committee has worked with Cal Works and Jerry suggested that Sondra work with Cal Works on criteria and information about students. She requested that a majority of the Board support funding for the idea of transportation scholarships which are planned as 31-day AC Transit at \$70 each.

MSC (Bruce, Pat) that the Board allot to the Service Committee \$1,000 to pay for five \$70 one-month and ten \$17.50 passes for the transportation scholarship program. [5 ayes, 1 no, 2 abstentions].

November Meeting: The date for the all-member, general PRO meeting is to be on Wednesday, November 8th, or Thursday, November 9th, depending upon availability of a space. November 8th and the use of the Peralta Board Room are favored.

If Beginner's Inn is not available, the Social Committee will be asked to determine a place for the lunch. Jerry will contact the District for the availability of the Board Room and check on the use of Beginner's Inn. Remo will check on a possible place on Park Blvd. for the lunch.

At the October meeting, the Board will nominate officers and design a ballot. Ned and Linda will be up for election to a two-year term.

MSU (Ned, Remo) that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.

NEXT PRO BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 6, 2006 AT 1 PM, FINANCIAL SERVICES AREA OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita Peterson, Secretary