

Peralta Retirees Organization (pro)
Board Meeting, June 6, 2007
PFT Conference Room

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

Board Members: Remo Arancio, Sondra Neiman, Alex Pappas, Ned Pearlstein,
Odell Johnson
Absent: Pat England, Linda Japzon

Bruce, presiding, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM and asked for a review of the agenda.

Minutes: Juanita distributed the minutes of the May 16th Board meeting.
MSU (Ned, Alex) that the Minutes of May 16th are accepted as presented.

Health Benefits Meeting: Alex, Bruce, and Debra Weintraub met with Tom Smith to ask him to arrange a meeting with Rick Greenspan, Bruce, Odell, Remo, and Peter, of PSW Benefit Resources. The purpose of the proposed meeting would be to go over the changes recommended by the PRO Benefits Ad hoc committee. Tom was resistant, but a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13th at 10 AM. Tom had questions on Alex's review, so Bruce and Alex made a ten-page table that contrasts CoreSource SPD and Blue Cross SPD with discussion of the differences. (The table was distributed to each Board member). Remo noted that on Prescription Drug Benefits in the Coresource SPD, there is no statement to fill prescriptions as the doctor recommends. In 1997, Ned had his prescriptions filled with generic instead of the brand-named drug...

A discussion followed about filling prescriptions with generic drugs, and the savings that may incur, over filling prescriptions with doctor designated drugs.

Social Committee Report: Bruce said that Linda is ill and suggested that a card be sent from the Board. Jerry had emailed Linda asking her to reserve tickets for West Side Story and for tables prior to the performance. He also asked that she reserve the Huckleberry site in Robert's Area of Tilden for August 2nd. Sondra suggested changing to a later date so that Jerry and Shirley, who will be away on August 2nd, can attend. Bruce will email Jerry and ask him to decide between August 2, 9, or 16 as the date for the Picnic. The date will be advertised in the next Newsletter.

Newsletter Report: The lead story will be on the SPD review and the results of the June 13th meeting with the SPD Broker. Ned reminded that there will be ten plans under which employees will retire, therefore, PRO should request that copies of the different Summary Plan Directories be obtained. Bruce will put a box in the Newsletter requesting any of these Directories be submitted. Any enhancements agreed to by the District are applied to all employees; there are no "take-away" agreements.

Remo reported that Ed Minasian has requested that a note about the publication and readings held of his book be acknowledged. Bruce said that there will be a column on creativity in the Newsletter. Carmen Rezendes has written an essay on the adventure she

had while hiking in the desert. All agreed to ask Carmen permission to include her essay in the Newsletter or to share it with the members of the Board.

Sondra requested that the Newsletter include the notice about contributions to the PRO Scholarship Fund, and that biographies of the four winners of the PRO scholarships be published in the Newsletter. The Newsletter will also include a flyer about the PRO Picnic to be held in August, and a brief report that some PRO members attended the Shotgun Players' performance of "Blood Wedding".

Ned suggested including a column on medical names and abbreviations; he requested that the initials used for medical names be sent to Alex. It was also suggested that a future Newsletter have a feature column about medical benefits.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 11th and the Newsletter can be prepared for mailing at or during the meeting. Juanita will prepare the labels and Remo will purchase stamps.

Ned thinks that it would be useful for the Newsletter to be linked somehow with the Peralta Teacher, the CFT, and SEIU. Ned also proposed that former PFT member's information be given to the PFT so that former faculty could receive CFT and CCC mailings. Juanita agreed to prepare the mailing list.

Deadline for submission of items for the Newsletter is June 28th.

Other items: Remo suggested that each college be "blanketed" with PRO information at the end of the academic year.

Ned suggested that items for the next meeting be sent to Jerry, particularly ways to promote memberships. PRO needs to address the issues of the two potential retiree cohorts: those employed before 2004 and those employed after 2004.

Sondra reported that the presenters of the PRO Scholarships were: Dr. Herring at Merritt College, Jerry Herman at Laney College and College of Alameda, and Ned Pearlstein at Berkeley City College. She has written a letter of appreciation to each of them.

Ned believes that PRO should consider giving scholarships to on-going students at the colleges as well as, or alternately with, students who are graduating.

Concern was expressed that PERS is increasing the premium for the Long Term Care policy it provides, perhaps a topic for a future meeting.

MSU (Alex, Ned) that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:140 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Juanita Peterson, PRO Secretary

NEXT MEETING: JULY 11, 2007, 1 TO 3 PM, PFT CONFERENCE ROOM