

Peralta Retirees Organization
April 2, 2008
PFT Office--Meeting Location

PRO minutes

At 1:06 Jerry Herman called the monthly meeting of PRO to order.

Board Members who attended:

Jerry Herman
Bruce Jacobs
Shirley Timm
Juanita Peterson
Remo Arancio
Alex Pappas
Ned Pearlstein
Linda Japzon
Pat England
Sondra Neiman
Ann Whitehead

Absent

Odell Johnson

TREASURER'S REPORT

Shirley reported that the current bank balance is \$17,480.40.
Motion to accept the report advanced by Ned and
seconded by Alex.

MSP

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Juanita shared that she has the Feb. 6, 08 and March 5, 08
minutes. Juanita distributed copies of the March 5, 08 minutes
to all members present.

Sondra questioned Juanita regarding a printing of a mock-up of
some document Jerry had prepared. Turned out that this
represented a total misunderstanding and the matter was dropped.

MOTION to accept the minutes:

Remo so moved

Ned seconded
MSP unanimously

Before advancing to the next item on the agenda Jerry Herman announced that Juanita Peterson would be stepping down as the Secretary. Jerry was joined unanimously by the members present when he warmly expressed enthusiastic thanks to Juanita “both as Secretary and to you as a person”.

The following discussion regarding Juanita’s willingness to remain on the Board took a variety of avenues for discussion. The thought was originally expressed by Shirley Timm. At one point Ned suggested that the Board might **expand** its membership formula. Juanita was asked---might she want to remain?----Juanita chose to reply after she had a chance to think the idea through.

Ultimately this entire proposition was tabled. A motion to accept expansion
Ned Pearlstein so moved
Alex Pappas seconded
and Bruce moved to **table** the discussion with the unanimous approval of
the members present
MSP unanimously

A point of personal privilege was advanced by Bruce Jacobs at this time. He requests that all minutes be made available to him electronically.

NEWSLETTER

Items for the newsletter that were suggested and agreed upon include the following:

Reproduction of Rick Robinson’s eulogy delivered at the memorial service of Ellen Gomez.

PCCD settled Bruce’s claim on his wife’s immunization. Bruce is therefore dropping the lawsuit he filed against the District. The District paid for the immunization but did not change the SPD to cover immunizations. Instead they reclassified an earlier routine care claim to a non-routine category. This meant

that the immunization was covered under the \$250.00 routine care limit.

Bruce indicated that he had received a letter from STRS saying that they would not pay his Part A Medicare because the District had failed to complete the necessary procedures to ensure eligibility for the STRS payments until 2005, the year after he retired. Bruce indicated that there will probably be a significant number of other retirees in a similar situation and that this will cost the District about \$5000.00 for each retiree similarly situated.

Reproduction of survey of surgeons' attitudes toward Health insurance.

Possibility of Joel Schlader (Woodminster producer/director) writing up a piece to inspire interest in attendance of the production of PIRATES OF PENZANCE

A description of the medical claim procedure. This suggestion ended by Alex Pappas's suggestion that he, Alex will obtain from the "broker" a written document with all the proper elements for processing a claim. Ultimately it was generally agreed that such a procedure is difficult because of the individual differences, given year of retirement.

Sondra will write up a positive report surrounding PRO's theatre experience.

Announcements of dates for Picnic and Woodminster show, once determined will be outlined in next newsletter. Bruce needs all newsletter info by April 8, 2008.

PRESIDENT

Jerry Herman explained that Ann Whitehead, with Board approval will become Secretary and will carry out the responsibilities following Juanita Peterson's departure from this role. Recommendation to accept Ann's appointment

Alex so move
Remo seconded
MSP unanimously

Jerry shared his enthusiasm for the success of the “Chicago” show held at the Altarena. Jerry told the Board that 40 tickets were sold. Juanita commented that her family of four enjoyed the show immensely.

Jerry showed an image of a business/id card designed by Bruce that PRO will make available to its entire membership. Everyone agreed with Remo’s suggestion that the slogan (below) appear on the card and that the mention on the draft of the membership card of PCCD is misleading

“Protect your benefits and benefit Peralta students”

Ultimately, the cards require a lengthy computer preparation and a motion was advanced to hire someone to prepare the card information to be given to the printer.

Alex so moved
Pat seconded
MSP unanimously

Eventually, Bruce said he would get a sense of how much time it would take to enter the info. At that point he and Jerry would make a decision about how to proceed. Juanita and Shirley agreed to prepare the information for the cards.

Ann offered to do this work provided she could have until July 1, 2008 to complete the project. July 1 may be a little too late for the desired time-of-completion.

BENEFITS

Alex presented information regarding access to brand-name prescription drugs and so-called generic prescription drugs.

Following long discussion it was agreed that retirees may request their physicians to **demand brand name** drugs and that such a demand must appear on the physician's communication to the pharmacist. The point of this discussion was that though generic might be available, the patient **does not have** to take generic.

Remo described the reality of a given pill's composition: namely, that though a selection of pills for a specific use might be prepared as a group, the actual composition of any given pill may differ. The chemical composition is not necessarily **uniform** in a given group enclosed within the same vial.

Shirley had communicated with Pension Dynamics and the currently due reimbursement checks are essentially "in the mail."

SOCIAL

Linda shared several considerations regarding the upcoming social schedule. Basically three separate events may be able to be scheduled:

May 29 – an A's game

August 14 – a picnic

September 5 – Woodminster's PIRATES OF PENZANCE

Linda suggested that larger attendance may be inspired with door prizes.

SERVICE

Sondra reported that she had contacted all four VP of Student Services at Peralta's campuses regarding the PRO scholarship awards for 2008 graduating class. Each campus has a different date at which the scholarships are awarded. A representative from PRO usually presents the award at these ceremonies.

Sondra also reported that she will advance to Bruce the

identification of folks who sent a contribution to the scholarship fund for inclusion in the newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS

Ned reported that he had contacted some local community college districts' retiree organizations and found that that their programs were very limited. PRO IS MUCH MORE ACTIVE regarding retiree health issues than similar groups at other institutions.

Shirley reported that PRO is incorporated and is a "non-profit" in the State of California and she is working on PRO becoming a "non-profit" as far as Federal definition is concerned.

With respect to the whole topic of liability insurance there was essential agreement that PRO need not purchase this insurance right now.

ADJOURNMENT

Alex so moved

Bruce seconded

MSP unanimously 3:02PM