

PRO Board meeting May 7, 2008

Jerry Herman called the meeting to order at 1:06PM.

PRESENT

Jerry Herman  
Bruce Jacobs  
Shirley Timm  
Ann Whitehead  
Remo Arancio  
Odell Johnson  
Pat Englund  
Jay Quesada  
Linda Japzon  
Alex Pappas  
Ned Pearlstein  
Sondra Neiman

SECRETARY

Ann Whitehead shared copies of the April 2, 2008 meeting minutes and incorporated several spelling/wording/date corrections.

Motion advanced by Pat and seconded by Shirley to accept the corrected minutes.

MSP

TREASURER

Shirley Timm reported that the current account balance is \$16,910.00.

Motion advanced by Ned and seconded by Alex to accept the report.

MSP

## NEWSLETTER

Bruce shared with the Board his recent communication with Caremark confirming that the shingles vaccination is indeed NOW covered, contrary to previously reported status. Bruce described carefully his own experience obtaining the vaccine. Doctors's offices like to "group" the appointments for administering this vaccine because it has an unusually short shelf-life. Therefore Bruce went to Long's pharmacy at 3300 Webster St. in Oakland where the pharmacist gave him his shot. Generally speaking, the vaccine is relatively new and will not necessarily be available on a routine basis in physicians's offices. Sondra described her experience where she ended up paying \$200.00. Bruce conveyed that he believes she will be reimbursed without any hurdles. Bruce paid \$1.00 for his vaccination (i.e. prescription) and then was required to pay the pharmacist \$20.00 for administering the shot. Bruce intends to seek reimbursement for the \$20.00 fee.

## PRESIDENT

Jerry shared his afterthoughts regarding the expansion of the PRO Board membership. His conclusion is to maintain the membership at exactly eleven.

## BENEFITS

Alex reported to the Board his recent experience assisting the PFT with a complicated issue surrounding "pre-existing" clause/s in the Summary Plan Description (SPD) for active employees. Please note--there are separate SPDs for active employees vs retirees. Apparently a member of the active adjunct employees is threatened with withholding of coverage because of the "pre-existing" language that allegedly applies to her situation. Additionally the usual

six-month waiting period was not fulfilled. At the time that this faculty person was offered the choice of Kaiser or Coresource (i.e. her initial subscription for health coverage) she elected Coresource. She did not know that Kaiser applies no such limitation with respect to "pre-existing" conditions. Alex advanced the reasoning that the ERISA Law states categorically that differences in plans' coverage/s MUST be made explicitly clear to a new subscriber at the moment of signing on to a plan.

Additionally Alex shared with the Board the details of a complex situation surrounding a 1991 retiree's medical claim. This retiree was told by PCCD that she must join Kaiser's Senior Advantage program in order to receive the reimbursement for Part B of Medicare. Alex requested that the PRO Board advance a letter to Jennifer Seibert, PCCD Benefits Office Officer requesting an explanation as to why membership in Kaiser's Senior Advantage program MUST apply to a 1991 retiree. At the time, 1991, Senior Advantage was not even available. As of July 1, 2004 retirees enrolled in Kaiser were required to sign up for Senior Advantage.

Motion was advanced by Ned and seconded by Pat for Alex to prepare such a letter to Jennifer Seibert.

6 - Yes

1 - No

4 - Abstentions

## SERVICE

Linda has reserved the Picnic location at the Huckleberry Area of Roberts Regional Park. The date of the Picnic is August 14, 2008. Linda requested a budget of \$75.00 to cover cost of door prizes. Ned moved that the prize money be approved and Alex seconded the motion.

## MSP

Remo explained that he has already made a down payment for the acquisition of 25 baseball tickets at \$22.00 per ticket for the A,s - Toronto game on May 29, 2008 at 12:35PM. Bruce agreed to email all retirees in order to increase

attendance for this event. Also, Bruce will make the opportunity available to the members of the Laney Athletic Department if our ticket sales are low. Right now PRO has a 25 ticket commitment to meet.

Regarding the PIRATES OF PENZANCE event Linda reported she will secure picnic tables for PRO use prior to the performance. Bruce noted that the tickets run approximately \$20.00 for the play at group rates.

## MEMBERSHIP

Odell reported that he held a meeting for his committee in February. Odell agreed to send a letter requesting payment of dues from current members whose dues are late. Odell also said that he will obtain the names of new upcoming retirees to whom PRO will extend invitations of membership. Odell also asked for the names of PRO Board members who are willing to telephone some of the names that appear on the unpaid-dues list. Ned commented that if people want to be represented by PRO they indeed should maintain current status with respect to the annual dues.

## OLD BUSINESS

Bruce reported that he has mastered the correct "mail merge" technique/s required for producing membership cards that bear the individual's name. There remain several financial issues involved with the printing of the cards.....issues that must be addressed with the printer so that the PRO Board can understand how the expenses may run.

Shirley distributed copies of the "Conflict of Interest" policy to all Board members. This distribution is required once per year by law for all Non-Profits. Shirley also reported that the most recent application regarding Non-Profit status has greatly increased in size and expanded the items of information required for completion. Jerry agreed to meet with Shirley to complete this necessary paperwork.

## NEW BUSINESS

Bruce suggested that the PRO Board provide a dinner for the purpose of honoring Juanita for her lengthy and extraordinary service to PRO as its first Secretary. Ned introduced a friendly amendment to make this occasion a luncheon instead. His amendment was unanimously approved.

MSP

A general discussion took place regarding the best way to “gift” Juanita.....a plaque was mentioned and more or less rejected. Linda agreed to search for a good restaurant for this luncheon. Among the places identified are China Village and Venezia. The date for the luncheon shall be June 4, 2008 and will serve as the June meeting place for the PRO Board as well.

At Jerry’s suggestion Ann agreed to investigate/locate a suitable lockable file for the safe-keeping of all PRO records.

Bruce moved for adjournment and Linda seconded.

MSP

Meeting adjourned at 3:05PM

Respectfully submitted by Ann Whitehead