

PRO minutes September 2, 2009 Meeting

PRESENT: Jerry Herman, Bruce Jacobs, Shirley Timm, Sondra Neiman, Ann Whitehead, Jay Quesada, Linda Japzon, Ned Pearlstein.

ABSENT: Alex Pappas, Pat England, Remo Arancio

At 1:00PM Jerry called the meeting to order. Jerry announced that Jennifer Seibert will visit the meeting at about 1:30PM. Ned announced that he has one ticket for sale for BRIGADOON. Bruce agreed to send via email a notice to the membership at-large regarding Ned's available ticket for purchase.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Ann distributed the minutes and Shirley corrected the wording with respect to the number of names currently appearing on the membership list. Ann changed the wording back to the list of statistics Shirley had delivered during the August meeting. It was moved and seconded to accept the corrected minutes: Shirley, Jay.
MSU.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Shirley stated that the current balance in PRO's bank account is \$17,809.20. Shirley also shared that a check in the amount of \$840.00 had recently been written to WEDGEWOOD, the location for the next Annual PRO Luncheon now scheduled for Thursday November 12, 2009. Ann inquired if the figure of 17 thousand...reflected deduction of the \$840.00 just written to WEDGEWOOD. Shirley replied "yes".

NEWSLETTER: Bruce shared that the next newsletter due early October shall promote the lunch scheduled for November 12, show photos from the picnic, show photos from the BRIGADOON event if possible, and identify recent obituary notices. Bruce also stated that the BRIGADOON tickets are sold out... (except for Ned's singleton).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jerry announced that he will be out of town in early October and therefore Bruce will preside at the PRO meeting on Wednesday October 7, 2009. Jerry shared that in a recent conversation with Richard Bidleman, Richard urged PRO to employ a "formal dues policy". The following record illustrates newly adopted policies:

RENEWALS: Any dues paid up to and including September 30 of any given year shall be applied to that current year.

Dues paid as of October 1 shall be applied to the following year.
Ned, Shirley. MSU

NEW MEMBERS: Any new member regardless of month in which he/she joined PRO shall have current year dues plus the following year so credited. Bruce, Shirley. MSU

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT: Linda stated that about 45 people attended the picnic.

At this point in the meeting Jennifer Seibert arrived and she shared the following announcements:

annual "Open Enrollment" is scheduled Oct. 1-30, 2009

annual Benefits Fair is scheduled for Tuesday Oct.20, 2009
at the PCCD District Board Room, 10AM until 4PM

the Fair shall include workshops such as "Eldercare" and "Cancer Awareness"

a flyer identifying all the events available at the Fair shall be distributed by mail from PCCD to all current and retired Peralta folks and shall be ready by Sept. 30.

Jennifer stated that she will contact the offices of Barbara Lee to see if someone from the Lee office might be able to come to the Fair and speak to the current status of the National Health Care debate

Additionally Jennifer said that the parking at the District Office shall be free all day, October 20, 2009

Bruce mentioned the following with respect to Jennifer's comments:

Bruce offered to promote the Benefits Fair in the October issue of PRO's Newsletter.

Bruce agreed that PRO enclose a copy of Jennifer's Benefits Fair flyer in PRO's Oct. newsletter mailed via USPS

Linda, Jay and Remo have agreed to serve at a PRO table during the Fair

Independent of the discussion surrounding the Benefits Fair, Bruce asked Jennifer about the procedure in Coresource when one goes out of network. Bruce explained that he was directed to send such an inquiry to Coresource where it was then sent to BLUE CROSS-ANTHEM, the PPO. Jennifer replied that such requests--i.e. "out of network" requests--do indeed follow the procedure Bruce was given. Bruce's question was "why can't an individual simply send the request to the PPO directly". The reply inferred by Jennifer was simply to follow the Coresource directive.

Lastly, Jennifer mentioned that Benefit Dynamics (Pension Dynamics) is urging all subscribers to initiate the practice of direct deposit to receive Part B reimbursement and she stated that forms for enabling direct deposit are available online. Also Benefit Dynamics has reserved a table at the Benefits Fair where such forms shall be available. For anyone relying on a print check via USPS there will be a one week or so delay.

SOCIAL,,, revisited---Linda mentioned that Becky Stone and Michael Wirth---new retirees and new members of PRO---attended the picnic. Linda also identified Thursday November 12 as the next date for the Annual PRO Luncheon to be held at WEDGEWOOD, as in the recent past.

MEMBERSHIP: Jay explained that it is hard to get hold of folks who have recently retired although clearly she has tried multiple times and encountered disconnected phones, absence of email addresses, and general unwillingness on part of PCCD to share information. Jay explained that her best option may indeed be by word-of-mouth. Ned expressed irritation with PCCD's unwillingness to share identification of recent retirees and/or deaths as "uncalled-for".

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT: Sondra confirmed that her committee had met on August 27, 2009. Sondra also shared that the current balance in the scholarship account maintained at the Peralta Foundation Office is \$3,555.37. Additionally Sondra demonstrated that she currently is holding \$300.00 dollars worth of recently received moneys destined for the same account. Lastly, after careful analysis Sondra stated that the book-drive shall be discontinued until further notice

BENEFITS COMMITTEE: Jerry told the PRO Board that he and Michael Mills had attended the most recent meeting of the PCCD Benefits Committee wherein Diana Lara asked for "classified representation", apparently unaware of the fact that PRO represents ALL retired employees from PCCD--i.e. managers, faculty and classified. Jay mentioned the fact that SEIU meets monthly and she and Linda plan to attend SEIU's scheduled monthly lunch meeting in October.

Regarding PRO's scheduled luncheon for November 12 Bruce advanced the motion that all the Union Presidents--PFT, SEIU, Local 39--in Peralta be invited guests. Ned, Bruce MSU

Near the close of the meeting Jerry read essential comments of a letter sent to the PFT President's Office from the Fresno's Retirees Organization. This K-12 retiree group has experienced huge increases in benefit co-pays. Unresolved discussion took place regarding PRO's sending moneys to assist this group. Bruce suggested that PRO reply sympathetically in writing to the group. Motion was advanced by Ned and seconded by Sondra. MSU

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55PM