

June 1, 2011
PRO Meeting

PRESENT: Jerry Herman, Bruce Jacobs, Ned Pearlstein, Alex Pappas, Remo Arancio, Anna Pavelka-Lodato, Jay Quesada, Sondra Neiman, Linda Japzon, Ann Whitehead.

ABSENT: Pat England.

GUESTS: Barbara Joans.

Jerry called the meeting to order at 12:58PM.

Secretary's Report: Remo moved, seconded by Ned, abstained by one. Minutes for May 2011 approved.

Treasurer's Report: There was no report. Jerry welcomed Anna Pavelka-Lodato who has replaced Shirley Timm, now resigned, as PRO's new treasurer.

Newsletter: Bruce reported that among the items for inclusion in the next newsletter will be:

- announcement of the "My Fair Lady" performance at Woodminster (Aug. 5, 2011).

- announcement of the Annual Picnic in September.

- Jerry's article introducing Anna Pavelka-Lodato's agreement to serve as Treasurer and his thanks for Shirley Timm's extensive service as Treasurer to PRO since its inception.

- Bruce will author an article describing the current status of Single-Payer legislation--in California and Vermont.

Material regarding this topic can be accessed in PRO's file titled Single-Payer for anyone's perusal.

Additionally, Bruce stated that the deadline for inclusion of

information in July's issue will be determined later.

Ned reported that the California Single-Payer Bill, SB 810, is stuck in the Appropriations Committee because they do not have the money to move ahead.

Bruce cautioned that we must remain vigilant regarding the content of the bill: e.g. Part B of Medicare in the recently passed Vermont bill may be paying into the State, not a Federal, agency.

Also, Bruce advanced that the following question remains---what are the implications for PRO members who retired under labor contracts with Peralta?

Ned suggested that Judy Pope, member of Wellstone Club where Ned also maintains membership, is an excellent source of accurate information regarding the status of the Single-Payer legislation.

Lastly, there was some discussion of printing some photos from the early days of Peralta. Alex mentioned that Stan Kossen had recently sent one such photo and that Alex had forwarded it to Bruce for possible inclusion in the next newsletter.

President's Report: Jerry introduced Anna Pavelka-Lodato with approbation and requested her to describe her history with PCCD.

Jerry reported that Ron Gerhard is the Chair of the recently formed Retirement Board of Authority. At its most recent meeting Trustee Withrow suggested that the committee be expanded by 3 members each from the retired member groups--i.e. managers, faculty and classified. Such members will have no vote but otherwise will have an opportunity to participate. Additionally, Trustee Withrow stated that 1 member each from the three unions of active PCCD employees i.e. PFT, SEIU and Local 39 also participate under the same rules. Those meetings are scheduled quarterly and usually are conducted 4-6PM on date of meeting.

Jerry shared that he had attended the PFT-PRO sponsored retirement meetings at COA and Laney where he actively solicited PRO memberships.

Benefits Committee: Alex reported the following:

-that PCCD is thinking of revising its policy of providing \$30.00 per month to employees who decline the District's medical insurance (Kaiser or Coresource) who may have health care coverage elsewhere (e.g. through one's spouse). PCCD might consider giving \$300.00 per month to employees who are covered elsewhere. By some calculation as many as 36 might apply whereupon PCCD claims a savings of \$97,000.00. Peter Wantuch seriously questions that claim.

-that UCB is considering a multi-tier employee contribution rate toward employee medical insurance benefits (i.e. those earning under \$40,000.00 per year pay very low rates while those employees earning over \$40,000.00 per year pay much more).

-Jamie Cegelski (eventswithjamie@gmail.com) made a presentation for her company that offers discount certificates to those Peralta employees who attend District sponsored events. The certificates are discount coupons for various products and services.

-a representative from Colonial Life Insurance discussed the advantages of his company's supplement (voluntary) insurance plans that could be offered at District sponsored events. Peter Wantuch, the District's broker, opposes such sales presentation to employees.

At this point in the PRO meeting Alex shared a copy of Peter Wantuch's "Bay 10" comparison chart regarding medical benefits. Ann placed the original document into the PRO files and made a copy for Ned at his request.

Social Committee: Linda reported that a reservation for the upcoming September Picnic is already paid for and that she will deliver a theme for that Picnic before the due-date of the next newsletter. Bruce shared that he has already purchased 36 tickets for the Woodminster event and that this year he declined reserving any picnic tables. Bruce urges all Board members to participate in an effort to sell the

tickets.

Service Committee: Sondra reported that four student scholarships (\$1,000.00 each) were delivered to each of the Peralta Colleges and that the process of delivery came at an acutely busy time for the Foundation staff. Bruce would like to have a biographic sketch of each of the four awarded students. Jay urged that in the future Socorro Taylor (now a retiree and a member of PRO) assist Sondra in the process of coordinating the scholarship delivery. If indeed PRO severs its current relationship to the Peralta Foundation, Sondra stated that she may not continue assisting in the delivery of moneys to the Foundation and participating in the management of the actual awards provided at each graduation ceremony annually, particularly in the absence of effective help. Bruce suggests that some other Foundation may administer the scholarship moneys in the future and he will share his findings regarding possible identification of a different foundation at the next meeting.

At an earlier point in this meeting an impromptu question was advanced by a guest and answered by the President of PRO with a rejection to proceed with the guest's interrogation. The PRO Board ultimately agreed to formally vote on the rules pertaining to guests' options, invited guests' options, and all the rules of information-exchange appropriate for guest visitors to this group. Jerry will return with a drafted statement of policy to be formally voted on by the entire PRO Board during its July 6, 2011 meeting.

With respect to the entire issue of Non-Profit status Bruce explained that the Board had decided against continuing to pursue non-profit status in order to keep open the option of supporting or opposing political candidates who might run for the PCCD Board on a platform that threatened to reduce or eliminate retiree health benefits.

Jerry adjourned the meeting at 2:48PM