

Peralta Retirees Organization

Meeting Minutes December 7, 2016

Present: Karen Anderson, Remo Arancio, Tom Branca, Telly Castro, Patricia Dudley, Jerry Herman, Bruce Jacobs (Vice President), John Lodato, Helene Maxwell, Anna Pavelka-Lodato (Treasurer), Debby Weintraub (President)

Absent: Alex Pappas

Agenda item	Discussion	Follow up action
Approval of minutes	No minutes to approve	
Officers' Reports		
	Debby welcomes our new members Karen, Helene and Telly. Introductions.	
Secretary	Debby: Secretary position is vacant. Since Officers elections are in January, recommends filling vacancy then. Generally, responsibilities are minutes only. Patricia to take minutes today.	
Treasurer	A. There is \$25,506.75 in the PRO account. The scholarship balance is \$2520.21 with three contributions. B. November luncheon cost: \$1896.42. There was a \$20 cost to attendees.	
Vice President	Will discuss newsletter subsequently in this meeting.	
President	A. <b>Dependent Audit Survey:</b> New deadline for survey is 11/11/16. For any person not completing form (when needed) Seibert will review case-by-case. PFT is submitting a new procedure for these audits and will probably be approved by the district. Next audit cycle, PRO and PFT will meet with district to determine timelines. District cannot take away insurance benefits as it is a negotiated item. Bruce suggests setting up a secure website for this process (CoreSource may or may not have a secure email for accepting electronically). Bruce also interested in determining savings from audit. What is the frequency of audits? B. <b>Privatization of Medicare/Social Security:</b> Threats to public education with new national administration. Debby feels personally that as an organization, we should respond. Helene describes that block-by-block actions were effective. Debby states that PRO's agenda is protection of benefits, and keeping retirees connected. Karen suggests putting out letters of concern to legislators. Bruce states newsletter is a forum that can be used. Debby reminds us that political actions must be approved of by this Board.	A. Debby will ask at the Benefits Meeting how much was saved by audit, and frequency of future audits.

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Social Committee	<p><b>A. Luncheon:</b> was a great success. Many thanks to John for organizing the luncheon. John also thanks Bruce and Jerry.</p> <p><b>B. Tribute for Ann Whitehead:</b> PFT is having a luncheon on 12/19 at 1:00 for Ann. PRO is invited.</p>	<p>Social activities on the agenda for January. John will do the Garden Party.</p>
Benefits Committee	Benefits Committee meets tomorrow.	
Scholarships	Willing to help with scholarships: Jose Ortiz, Bill Sato, Carol Dalessio, Deborah Patton, Helene.	
Newsletter	<p>Bruce requests a temporary replacement for spearheading newsletter. He also suggests compiling a "Survivors Guide" for the April newsletter to help survivors work through the Peralta processes. Content for January: Bruce asks that new members submit a photo and a paragraph about themselves, Board elections, Dependent Audit and PRO's actions to support members, photos from luncheon, Albert Lannon's letter, article about allowing changes in benefits (privatization) for current employees (not retirees). Deadline 12/15/2016.</p> <p>Debby spoke about need for more newsletter volunteers: John will try to get an intern for graphics and layout. Helen willing to edit with someone else.</p>	<p>Volunteers for Survival Guide subcommittee: Bruce, Karen, Telly. John will check with Burt Dragin. Helene will to collaborate on editing.</p>
Old Business	<p><b>A. Speakers Bureau:</b> Helene suggests the Affordable Care Act, especially as it affects retirees hired after 2004.</p> <p><b>B. Retirement Board:</b> Jerry explained that this Board is independent from the Peralta Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to oversee district investments of OPEB bonds. PRO members are advisory only: Jerry, Michael Mills, Mike Wirth). Report: \$210 million in assets and \$150 million in retiree liabilities.</p> <p><b>C. Meeting schedule for 2017:</b> Meetings in January, March, April, June, July, September, October, November is luncheon meeting, and December. No meetings in February, May or August.</p>	<p>Karen and Telly will try to obtain list of those currently retiring.</p>
New Business	<p><b>A. Use of PRO email list for political purposes:</b> Jerry and Debby agree that newsletter is better than email. Jerry thinks that we should develop a policy for use of the database. Patricia suggests that the website can also be used.</p> <p><b>B. Indemnification Insurance:</b> PRO can buy insurance to indemnify itself.</p> <p><b>C. Pearl Harbor Day:</b> John asks that we remember.</p>	<p>Bruce will investigate indemnification insurance.</p>
Adjournment	3:15 p.m. M/S/U. Next Meeting: January 4,2017 1:00 pm	

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Dudley