

Peralta Retirees Organization

Meeting Minutes: December 11, 2019

Present: Debra Weintraub (President) Bruce Jacobs (Vice President), Jerry Herman, Burt Dragin, Stan Peters, Judy Cohen (Secretary)
Alex Pappas

| Agenda item | Discussion | Follow up action |
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| | Call to order at 1:05 pm | |
| Approval of Minutes | | |
| Secretary | Minutes Approved with corrections | |
| Treasurer | Account balance: \$11,194.69; Only activity was luncheon and collection of dues (71 paid, \$1584). Last quarter was a wash. Newsletter cost is \$1000 per quarter. Paypal is worth the convenience. Scholarship income is untracked; checks sent to Peralta Foundation; \$3975 in contributions in 2018-19. Last spring distributed \$6000 in scholarships, mostly from the general fund. (Note: we do profiles on the winners) Karolyn sorts mail and sends dues to Bruce. | Debbie will speak to Carolyn to see if there is an accounting of the scholarship funds. Figure out if the money is tracked and solve issue if not. |
| Vice President | Two projects: SPD and OPEB Bond. Per Board resolution, the District has obligation to the pay pre-2004 hired retirees. District established a second trust fund for post-2004 retiree health benefits. District using OPEB to pay for post-2004 hired retirees (they get benefits until Medicare eligible, currently age 65). Is this supplanting? Document (OPEB Substantive Plan) reflects permission. Board scrutinized hired retirees (they get benefits until Medicare eligible, currently age 65). Is this supplanting? Document (OPEB Substantive Plan) reflects permission. Board scrutinized legally; legal opinion in minutes of the Retirement board indicates it is legal. Approximately \$210 million in Trust. Enough to pay those who need coverage to age 65. This is positive outreach for joining PRO. | Look for interested person to review documents (Mike Wirth?) |
| President | We need a Treasurer! Debbie attended PFT demonstration at Board demanding equity for part time faculty. It is important to support active PFT members | |
| Scholarship Committee | See Treasurer report. There is a new person at the Peralta Foundation which poses renewed communication issues. (note: Foundation deducts 5% for services) Are there award ceremonies? PRO wants to honor its winners. | Debbie will reach out to new person. |

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| Social committee | Luncheon very well attended. Jerry heartened by luncheon attendance, best in years. Location was good. Very helpful calling people in advance. If we push and publicize we can raise more for scholarships. | Write up lessons learned from the event. |
| Membership Committee | Debbie thinking about offering a T-Shirt for a lifetime membership. Stress personal contact to new retirees. | Jerry will check if there are any shirts left in stock. Looking for someone to head membership committee. Bruce will get list of expired PRO memberships. Judy will create email group. Bruce will compose letter. Use Chimp? |
| Benefits Committee | <p>Health Benefits Committee met on 12/9. Working on foundation SPD that represents what a person's medical coverage provides (or excludes) at the time of persons' retirement promise to pre-2004 hires. Harizon acknowledges there are issues. Bruce is working with Harizon to locate and correct changes made to SPD that were not negotiated and which diminish retirees benefits.</p> <p>Discussion about unsolicited checks from Coresource. Medicare renegotiated price refunds but they are going to patient rather than District. Insurance company not allowed to keep the money. Coresource must reprogram. So far the District agrees to NOT pursue those who already received the funds.</p> <p>New insurance cards coming from Trustmark (CoreSource's new name).</p> <p>Dependent audit will be coming soon.</p> <p>Notes: For post-2004 hires, per contract, spouse/dependent is covered until reaching age of Medicare eligibility. Dependents have right to buy in after death of pre 2004 Retiree until they reach age of Medicare eligibility.</p> | Harizon to meet with Bruce to see which issues are in agreement and present to Retirement Committee. Find someone who wants to be an expert on retirement issues. Document Bruce's presentations for future. |
| Newsletter | Burt Dragin is new editor. Calendar year 2020 will meet in March, June, September, December (generally first Wednesday). One month before publication of newsletter. November is annual meeting and luncheon. Newsletter printed and on-line. Suggestions for Articles: Interview new Chancellor; Prop 13 issues; | |

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| | New Trustmark Cards; Social Security issues; Medicare Part D or Peralta benefits. | |
| Retirement Board | There is concern that Retirement Board should have new members; impose time limits; bylaws indicate new appointments every 2 years; necessary for more separation between District and Retirement Board. It is important to have community members serve on the OPEB Board. Debbie to request Retirement Board to NOT consist solely of District employees (the 3 PRO members cannot vote); | Jerry will call Bill Withrow about retirement questions (was OPEB Bond developed to apply to Bridge? Is general fund being supplanted by bond money?) Jerry will email Christine to ask that Debbie be on Agenda. Debbie will ask Christine for her job description |
| New Business | | |
| Old Business | None | |
| Adjournment | Adjourned at 3:05 pm. Next meeting: March 4, 2020 | |

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Cohen