

Peralta Retirees Organization

Meeting Minutes: August 26, 2020

Present Via Zoom: Debra Weintraub, Bruce Jacobs, Jerry Herman, Alex Pappas, Karen Anderson, Judy Cohen

Agenda item	Discussion	Follow up action
	Call to Order 1:07 pm	
Approval of Minutes	Minutes Approved as submitted	
Treasurer Report	Current Balance: \$9363.03. New Website \$30 Fees. Bruce does not know if Karolyn Van Puten has checked mailbox. People asking how to pay dues and are given instructions	Debbie will reach out to Karolyn
Comment	Jerry shared sad news. Remo's wife Anne passed away last week (age 94) Jerry spoke with Remo, who had quit the board to care for Anne. Comments on passing of Diana Lara.	Newsletter will acknowledge for PRO.
Vice President: Bruce	No news	
President Report: Debbie	Who is running again? We did not do an election last year. This is a chance to restructure for 2-year terms. Maybe a half board this year, half next year. Concern about lack of competition. Debbie may want to step down in 2 years. Newsletter can indicate everyone is re-nominated to the Board for this period and reaffirm all. Per Jennifer Shanoski serious possibility for State takeover of Peralta. Asking for PRO to write a letter against takeover. Brice Harris (Board of Governors) reasoning that conflicts between District Admin and Bd of Trustees need oversight; Trustees not filling fiduciary responsibilities. Union indicates State Fiscal monitor (Austin) said Peralta is on solid financial ground. Point: there is now a new Chancellor (Carla Walter) and 2-3 new Board members pending. Change may prove more harmonious. Former Chancellor had many complaints about relationship with Peralta Board. Brice Harris will not recommend takeover at the BOG 9/21/20 meeting. Jennifer said PRO OPEB bonds concern BOG. State takeover would cause enrollment loss. Peralta would have to pay for a State Trustee (perhaps \$22,000/month). PAAA favoring a takeover. If takeover does happen, will it be like years ago under Armin Sarafian? PRO may have some	Anyone who wants tom be appointed to the Board, please step forward. What are the implications of a takeover? How will health benefits be affected? Recommend for BOG delay in deciding. Is there a document from Auditor or

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	institutional memory. Does PRO want to weigh in? Independent audit indicates District financially stable. OPEB Board does not want BOG State takeover without more information and reasons for consideration.	State Chancellor for reference? Debbie will send draft concerning impact to retirees health benefits. PRO opposes without compelling arguments for takeover.
Social Committee	How to publicize membership meeting. Things may not clear up by November. Number of attendees may be restricted via zoom. Positive approach to offer with invitation via Gmail to visit PRO website	Consider meeting via Zoom Date: Thursday, 11/12/20 , 11:30-1:00
Benefits	Bruce and Harizon worked on SPD. Alliant interjected that there should be a modern SPD. Bruce has not heard from Harizon. Need a zoom meeting.	Bruce will email Rick
Scholarships	Problems with Foundation. Money lost and mismanaged. Do we need to use Foundation? Are people using tax deductions with the new tax laws? Foundation does find student candidates and readers. Ricki, new to Foundation is responsive.	Stay with Foundation for now.
Newsletter	Due to health concerns, Burt Dragin will not be working on the newsletter at this time. He may have an article from Roger. Shorter Newsletter? Bruce has the software. For Newsletter: Time to renew membership; Zoom meeting; New Chancellor; State takeover; Jeff Heyman running against Bill Withrow: PRO may want to get a statement and photo from each candidate; Support of Prop 15; PRO Facebook Group; Last Chance U, Laney College football: Need Articles by 9/15/20	Bruce planning article for survivors. Debbie will contact Sue Chin, Betsy Stone about new memberships. Debbie will write to Felix about limited Newsletter.
Adjournment	2:57 p.m.	

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Cohen