

Peralta Retirees Organization (PRO)
Board Meeting, July 5, 2006
PFT Conference Room

Board Officers: Jerry Herman, President, Bruce Jacobs, Vice-President, Shirley Timm, Treasurer, Juanita Peterson, Secretary

Board Members: Pat England, Linda Japzon, Sondra Neiman, Alex Pappas, Ned Pearlstein
Absent: Remo Arancio, George Herring

Guest: Jennifer Seibert, PCCD Benefits Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the June 7th Board Meeting were distributed earlier to all Board members via email. Jerry asked that the Benefits Report section include the concern that Bruce, Jerry and Alex have not received a response to the letter they have written to Jennifer Seibert to clarify the position on whether or not "past practices" will be honored.

MSU (Shirley, Pat) that the minutes of the June 7th Board Meeting minutes be approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report: Shirley reported a balance of \$9188.42. Of these funds, \$2,000 are dedicated to scholarships. She will find out the procedures for giving out these scholarships to the four colleges.

Jerry introduced the District Benefits Coordinator, Jennifer Seibert, and thanked her for coming.

Ms. Seibert said that there is talk of going back to the Blue Cross (BC) network, but is contingent on approval of the PCCD Board. If approved, the change would become effective on September 1, 2006 but may not change until September 1, 2007. Re-enrollment time is coming up and she distributed a FACTSHEET dated July 2005 Draft. Re-enrollment will proceed whether or not the change to BC occurs. All retired and active employees and their eligible dependents must re-enroll even if not changing provider.

The first re-enrollment announcement will be mailed mid-July; enrollment forms will follow in mid-August with clear instructions on enrolling/re-enrolling. The forms must be returned by October 31. With the change, new cards will be issued in the name of the employee. Several of the group requested that cards be issued in the name of the person covered. Ms. Siebert will see if that can be done, if not, she will let us know why or why not. If a form is not received by the PCCD Benefits Office, three separate reminders will be sent to the employee/retiree. The suggestion was made that email notices be sent as well as hard copy forms. Bruce will coordinate re-enrollment with the next issue of the Newsletter.

There is a non-Medicare re-imburement group for which Ms. Seibert may not have correct addresses. She will provide a list of non-Medicare people and asked for a point-person in PRO to work with her. When BC began leasing its network and since there seems to be a preference for BC, she looked into

leasing the network. Blue Cross has a wider network of providers than does CoreSource Interplan. It should be made clear that PCCD is not changing insurers, but is giving a wider choice of providers than CS offers.

If the PCCD Board approves the change to BC on Tuesday night, July 11, new cards will be out on August 15, 2006, with re-enrollment on October 15. Before being dropped from the insurance roll, there will be four (4) notices sent and a certified letter sent to those not returning the form by the required date. Another person is scheduled to be hired in the Employee Relations Office.

MSU (Alex, Sondra) that PRO will help Ms. Seibert in anyway possible with the re-enrollment process.

Bruce announced that the Newsletter will be finished on July 12. He also asked, "Can CS limit the number of times they question if there is a secondary insurer while delaying claims payments?"

Benefits Report: Ms. Seibert was reminded of the problem a member has had with obtaining reimbursement for podiatry care at Kaiser Permanente. She said that she would look for a previous contract that might have covered podiatry care and will let PRO know what she finds. The position of the District is that it is the responsibility of the member requiring coverage to prove that coverage has been granted in the past. Bruce said that a note will be put in the next Newsletter asking if anyone has a copy of a Kaiser Permanente booklet prior to 1991.

Newsletter Report: Bruce said the Newsletter will be mailed next week. He asked Linda for information about herself to include in the Newsletter. The Newsletter will include a full sheet of information on the coming PRO picnic on August 17th, so all relevant information should be given to Bruce right away. Alex was asked to write about the health problems the Benefit Committee has solved or resolved for PRO members. Bruce will ask Ed Minisian to submit a letter-to-the-editor of the Newsletter to share his concern about privacy on reimbursement forms. Ned and Sondra will apply labels and stamps to the Newsletter and will mail the copies on Saturday, July 14. The Newsletters should be in the mailboxes of paid members on Monday, July 16..

President's Report: The topic of membership cards will be an agenda item of the next meeting. Jerry noted that Alex will be leaving for Turkey on July 17 and will return January 10, 2007. Alex will participate using email and telephone, if need be. Pending concerns Alex will follow and/or work on are coverage for podiatry care and the buy-in rate of health care for surviving spouses.

Service Committee: The Committee meets every other month, but unfortunately only two members of the 6 members have been attending. Bruce will put a notice in the next Newsletter with information of whom to contact to join a PRO committee. It is hoped committee membership will be increased.

The Committee has been working on scholarships and has decided to work with two colleges first and then later work with the other colleges. They are looking into the types of services that can be offered with the budget available. The plan is to identify ten students per campus for whom to provide transportation tickets. The Committee will be meeting on July 6th and will meet again in August.

Membership Committee: Jerry reported that he and George talked about George remaining on the Board and will attend as his time permits, and if he misses too many meetings, then he will resign. However, George has resigned from the Membership Committee and suggestions were taken as to who would become Chair. It was generally agreed that the Chair should attend Board meetings. Jerry will consult with the persons suggested.

Social Committee: Linda reported that she has sent a check for \$232 to reserve space at Robert's Huckleberry Area for the August picnic, but has yet to receive confirmation. She will call the other members and will set up a meeting. Jay and Linda will shop for the picnic. Bruce will send a notice to all with email addresses, but noted that the Newsletter will be the only notice to the membership except for those having email. The question arose: Who should be in charge of planning periodic entertainment events, e.g., Ragtime. Linda said she and the Social Committee will be in charge of planning such events.

Jerry announced a new member who had just arrived, Michael Mills. He believes that Michael would be an effective member of the Benefits Committee and suggested that Michael be appointed interim-chair during Alex's absence.

MSU (Jerry, Ned) that Michael Mills be the interim chair of the Benefits Committee.

Jerry also announced that Sara Connors is the new PFT Labor Coordinator.

The next meeting of PRO Board will be August 2, 2006 at 1 PM in the PFT Conference Room.

MSU (Ned, Pat) that the meeting adjourn at 3:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Juanita Peterson, PRO Secretary