

PRO Meeting
March 2, 2011

PRESENT: Jerry Herman, Bruce Jacobs, Linda Japzon, Alex Pappas, Ned Pearlstein, Sondra Neiman, Remo Arancio and Ann Whitehead

ABSENT: Shirley Timm, Pat England and Jay Quesada

GUESTS: Ray Richardson and Barbara Joans

Jerry called the meeting to order at 1:06PM

Secretary's Report: Ned moved for approval of the minutes, seconded by Remo. MSU

There was no treasurer's report because of Shirley's absence.

Newsletter: Bruce said that the deadline for new information in April's edition is March 30, 2011. The next issue will possibly contain a poem by retired Laney Instructor Al Lennon, some helpful hints for earthquake preparedness, an update on the status of the OPEB (other post employment benefits) bonds, and commentary regarding the Wisconsin public employees' challenge to Governor Scott Walker. Bruce added that the death of Laney Instructor, Fletcher Hicks will be announced in the April Newsletter.

Three major discussions absorbed the bulk of this meeting. One discussion addressed the state-of-confusion upcoming retirees endure because of the lack of well defined steps one must follow in order to make an informed decision regarding retirement at this time. Barbara Joans offered to draft an outline of the appropriate steps one must take in pursuit of what has become a highly paper-driven process.

The second discussion concentrated on the recent formation of a PCCD "retirement committee" to which Jerry has requested inclusion. As of the date of today's meeting Wise Allen had not replied to Jerry's request. No one present was certain of the committee's purpose.

The third topic resulted from Jerry's recent attendance at the PCCD Benefits Committee meeting where Medicare Part D surfaced. Under the new Health Care legislation Medicare beneficiaries whose income exceeds \$85,000 for a single person (\$170,000 for a couple) must pay \$12/month if they are enrolled in Medicare D which includes all Kaiser Senior Advantage retirees whose income exceeds the limit. This is a charge the District will **not** reimburse. At this same meeting Peter Wantauch, the broker, stated that there are 145 retirees from Peralta who are not enrolled in Medicare. Bruce obtained a copy of the contract under which the 145 had likely retired. The language in the contract indicates

that any present or future Medicare fees paid by a retiree must be reimbursed by the District. Jerry stated that both Coresource and Kaiser enrollees are affected by this Medicare Part D cloud as of January 1, 2011. Alex pointed out that IRS and Medicare can link to establish a given retiree's current income status. Jerry agreed to follow-up with the District by pointing out the contract language.

Social Committee: Linda reported that she will investigate the possibility of a Spring Garden Party at the home of Shirley Conner. For future social events Board members identified the following possibilities: participation in a KQED solicitation drive, a beach clean-up endeavor, an evening at Freight and Salvage, another Altarena theatre party, and a Woodminster event this summer. Jerry announced that there are 20 tickets sold for the current Altarena play scheduled for this month's PRO attendance on the 26th.

Service Committee: Sondra said that she was going to the District Foundation Office following this meeting with checks amounting to more than \$400.00 for deposit in the PRO Scholarship account.

Debra Weintraub visited this meeting briefly and shared that PFT will contribute \$1,000.00 to the Wisconsin public employees' efforts. As a direct result of Sondra's strong leadership, PRO has decided to respond to the Wisconsin protesters by contributing \$200.00 in pizza delivery to their scene of crisis. A motion advanced by Bruce and seconded by Ned formalized the contribution.
MSU

Ned announced that the Community College Council will participate in a rally supporting the public employees in Wisconsin scheduled for March 4, 2011 at 350 Mc Callister Street in San Francisco.

Jerry adjourned the meeting at 2:48PM.