

PRO Meeting
April 6, 2011

PRESENT: Jerry Herman, Bruce Jacobs, Shirley Timm, Linda Japzon, Jay Quesada, Sondra Neiman, Ned Pearlstein, Alex Pappas, Remo Arancio, Ann Whitehead.

ABSENT: Pat England.

GUESTS: Barbara Joans.

Jerry called the meeting to order at 1:07PM.

Secretary's Report

Moved by Ned, seconded by Remo. Report was approved.
MSU

Treasurer's Report

Shirley shared that the current bank balance is \$20,554.02.

Newsletter:

Referring to the April 2011 issue of PRO's newsletter Bruce commented on the PFT-PRO Retirement Workshop held at Laney College on Wednesday March 31, 2011. In attendance there were 21 incipient retirees. Bruce described Debra's helpful introductory comments delivered to the audience and Jerry's enthusiastic and descriptive statements regarding PRO membership. Debra Weintraub happened to visit the PRO meeting at this juncture and commented with high praise the Power-Point presentation made by Bruce at this same workshop. This same presentation is available in print form and copies were distributed at the workshop. It will also be available electronically at both PRO and PFT websites. Jerry agreed to conduct another such meeting

located at the COA campus. As of the close of this PRO meeting that date had not been determined. Assuming that date may be in early May, Alex agreed to make the Power-Point presentation since Bruce will be out of town.

At this point in the PRO meeting Jerry invited Debra Weintraub, President of PFT to address the PRO Board. Debra confirmed that the newly formed PCCD Retirement Board of Authority does include a members of PRO and one representative from each of the following bargaining organizations: PFT, SEIU and Local 39. Debra invited everyone to a scheduled retirement party honoring Mark Greenside's retirement on April 28, 2011 at the La Estralita Restaurant 4:30-7:00PM. Bruce agreed to email this invitation to the entire PRO membership.

Benefits Committee

Alex reported that the most recent Benefits Committee meeting revealed nothing of particular change. He noted that during this meeting Trudy Largent had specifically raised the question—"what exactly is the purpose of this committee"? Alex also shared that Peter Wantauch stated that among California Community Colleges, PCCD ranked at the highest pay-out for benefits. e.g.

Peralta 21 % of total budget

Next 17% of total budget

All other Districts , even less % of total budgets

Social Committee

Linda reported that the recent Altarena play was a success. Jerry shared guarded enthusiasm for future participation in Altarena events ONLY because of the frustrations in trying to reach their often unstaffed box-office. Linda shared that Shirley Connor cannot open her home for

a Spring gathering because of her recent bone fracture. Nevertheless, Shirley will happily extend to PRO a chance for a "social" in her Alameda home later.

Linda and Jay suggested Pasta Pelican as a substitute location for a PRO sponsored Spring social event. Pasta Pelican is located in Alameda close to COA. On any Thursday evening this restaurant offers wine-tasting at \$10.00 per person along with availability of snacks or cocktails at a per person price. It was agreed to have a PRO social gathering on Thursday May 12, 2011 at Pasta Pelican. The membership will receive emailed announcements and Jay will place phoned invitations.

Service Committee

Sondra reported that her relationship with the newly staffed Foundation office works smoothly. Jay moved, seconded by Sondra to proceed with the annual \$4,000.00 scholarship moneys, one for each of the four campuses.

MSU

Sondra distributed copies of a letter she received from Stephanie Casenza in which Stephanie stated that a practice of assessing a 5% gift fee on all **new** restricted donations as of April 1, 2011 will be levied. A lengthy discussion took place and resulted with the following agreement: that Jerry will address Stephanie regarding such questions as:

How much money has the Foundation raised?

Who determined the 5% rate for new donations?

Are all PCCD-based scholarship donations assessed equally?

Bruce described upcoming Woodminster programs and it was agreed that PRO will organize a theatre party for the production of My Fair Lady on August 5, 2011. In Fall, PRO's annual picnic was scheduled for Thursday September

8, 2011.

Finally Alex discussed in general terms the Single Payer issue. Alex's comments included several specific observations. e.g.

every industrialized nation on the globe has a single-payer medical program except USA.

in California SB 810 addresses universal health care

at the Federal level, Conyers HR 676 addresses comprehensive health care

Vermont has processed, but not passed such an act

Alex urges support for California's SB 810. Ann has established a file in PRO's archives with definitive material outlining the text of various legislative bills.

Jerry adjourned the meeting at 2:55PM