

Peralta Retirees Organization

Meeting Minutes: December 17,2021

Present via Zoom:, Debbie Weintraub, Bruce Jacobs, Ann Elliott, Jerry Herman, Karen Anderson, Burt Dragin, Judy Cohen

Agenda item	Discussion	Follow up action
Call to Order	2:30 p.m. Special Meeting to discuss “Where is PRO Going?”	
Approval of Minutes	No changes. Minutes approved	
Financial Report--Bruce	Finances stable. 96 emails sent to expired memberships. No big responses via PayPal, but 5 or 6 responded. Closing balance \$11,124.92. If most renew during the next year, PRO will be in good order. No invoice received from Felix to date. Expecting to spend approx. \$325. There are 30 names without emails. In January Newsletter there should be an insert asking for renewal. Need a sense of who wants Newsletter (add request for feedback). Ann printed last batch of 30 Newsletters, but Bruce thinks we should be mailing all Newsletters. Need to discuss details and expense.	
President	\$3777.75 in Foundation account for scholarships. Jerry sending \$500 before end of year. With this balance, PRO can again give \$750/per college scholarships next year (2022).	
Membership	There are 696 retirees receiving benefits. There are 207 remaining eligible for Pre 2004 retirement benefits. Jerry went through newsletter thinking we do not know who is deceased. He wants to develop a way to find out when people pass away. Christina has not sent more info. Bruce emails about 360 retirees who are in PRO. Some are not current with dues. Many choose annual renewal. Many of the 360 expired in 2020. Historically number of retirees and memberships decreasing (only about ½ of the 696 are in PRO). Some are quite elderly with no interest in PRO.	
Discussion	What are PRO goals going forward? Where to focus resources? Financial status is consistent. Fewer people participating in Board and other activities. At this point no active threat to lifetime benefits. District currently stable. Trust fund stable. Average age of retirees is 77.5 PRO Strengths:	Get access to people who are retirees and not in PRO. How to get younger generation interested

Peralta Retirees Organization

	<p>Workshops very helpful</p> <p>Scholarships</p> <p>Provides retirees with social informational services</p> <p>Newsletter necessary for communication; talk about experience; Kaiser & Blue Cross. Have voices in Newsletter. Editorial stance; books and entertainment.</p>	<p>and increase Board members.</p>
	<p>Future PRO Activities to Encourage Membership & Participation</p> <p>A virtual meeting about Retirement and Medicare</p> <p>Create a Giving Day.</p> <p>Bruce willing to do Zoom Workshops;</p>	<p>Discuss why we are here</p> <p>Find Board Replacements</p>
	<p>207 Peralta retirees eligible for lifetime benefits. Create new membership category for those not yet retired.</p>	<p>New blood to organization interested in helping PRO protect benefits.</p>
<p>Newsletter</p>	<p>Make sure Newsletter goes out in first 2 weeks of quarter; or at earliest time in January, Focus Newsletter on Peralta info; Benefits, Medicare (any changes). For Upcoming focus on Special Meeting. Goals; PRO Board; essentials.</p> <p>Burt must have schedule deadlines. Printed publication is desirable. Burt can design pages with headlines-need person to lay it out. Print person needs 4 or 8 pages.</p> <p>Bruce willing to do layout. He had different software. He can share it with one or two people. Burt and Ann will be Editors. How to find new layout person? Neighborhood listerve?</p>	<p>Find someone new to layout Newsletter.</p>
	<p>Each Person on Board submit photo and write about what is important about PRO. What can PRO do? Why joined; focus on highlighting PRO encouraging people to join. Look for replacements.</p> <p>4-page print Newsletter in order to publish first two weeks in January. January 6th have content. Burt will send list to each Board member.</p> <p>Can we have a Medicare column?</p> <p>Article: Bruce and Harizon completed new SPD-Pre 2004. Posted in Trustmark. Jose Ortiz will work with Bruce on Post 2004. Bruce willing to write article for Newsletter. District cannot take away our benefits.</p> <p>Value of workshops; Medicare information; providing social connection to retirees; scholarships. As elders, finding ways to replace ourselves.</p>	

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 3/2/2022

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Cohen