July 6, 2011 PRO Board Meeting

PRESENT: Bruce Jacobs, Jerry Herman, Anna Pavelka- Lodato, Ann Whitehead, Alex Pappas, Remo Arancio, Sondra Neiman, Ned Pearlstein, Linda Japzon.

ABSENT: Jay Quesada and Pat England.

GUESTS: Don Bechler.

Jerry opened the meeting at 2:00PM and introduced PRO's guest speaker, Don Bechler, who delivered his presentation on the status of *Senate Bill 810* which contains the SINGLE PAYER provisions currently sponsored by Senator Leno (with 45 co-sponsors) in the California Senate.

Mr. Bechler outlined the recent history of the Single Payer effort noting that Governor Schwartzeneger has twice vetoed recent similar attempts and that the bill (during the fiscal year 2009-2010) passed the California Senate and went to the California Assembly where it was pulled. Earlier this year the bill was re-introduced by Senator Leno. Even if it passes both houses and is signed by the Governor a second bill authorizing funding mechanisms for the system will need a 2/3 vote to pass the legislature or a majority vote on a ballot measure.

Mr. Bechler indicated that Senate Bill 810, if passed, will determine that a governor appoint a Commissioner who presides over six regions in California and thus oversees access to care as provided by the bill.

Secretary's Report:

Sondra corrected the spelling of Socorro Taylor's name. Motion to accept, moved by Sondra, seconded by Ned. Minutes approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report:

Anna reported that PRO's current balance in the account is \$20,720.79. Anna also stated that on July 15, 2011 at 11AM Shirley, Anna and Jerry will meet to establish current signature cards needed

for the PRO bank account.

Anna requested the option to acquire Quicken software and laser checks----request approved.

<u>Newsletter:</u> Bruce reported that Judy Pope assisted him in the preparation of his article on SB 810 appearing in the current issue of PRO's newsletter.

Bruce reported that he attended the recent meeting of the "Retirement Board of Authority" and that he found the discussion obscure and laced with the use of unfamiliar acronyms.

President's Report:

Jerry delivered copies of the "Policy on Guest Participation in PRO Board Meetings". A copy is available in the PRO archives.

Motion was advanced to accept.

Ann moved, seconded by Ned.

MSU

Jerry reported that 14 tickets were already sold for the upcoming Woodminster event. Jerry also reported that on July 27 a PC TV person will videotape member/s from PRO in an interview reminiscing Peralta Days. Linda suggested that Jay attend this videotaping session accompanying Jerry.

Jerry also identified a requested report delivered via a post-card to PRO by the California Secretary of State---a request for "Statement of Information". Bruce agreed to follow through with the request via the website identified.

Benefits Committee:

Alex raised a situation regarding a surviving spouse and described the monthly cost in such a situation. Ultimately, in this discussion, Bruce determined that a surviving spouse is enabled to receive reimbursement for Medicare Part B. Alex indicated that he would verify if this were the case.

Commentary followed in which Bruce and Jerry shared that PCCD Benefits Department indicated that contracts prior to July 1, 2004 required that retirees eligible for Medicare to enroll or face loss of benefits from Peralta. Bruce reviewed the Contract language from the 2000-2003 PFT /PCCD Agreement and determined that the language describing the Medicare requirements was internally inconsistent. The PRO Board agreed that if the District were to attempt to deny coverage to pre July 1, 2004 retirees who are over 65 and do not enroll in Medicare, PRO would try to get those reticent retirees to so enroll.

Social Committee Report:

Linda said that there is no report at this time. She requested help determining an appropriate gift for Shirley Timm who has recently resigned as PRO Treasurer. It was suggested that Linda purchase an animal-themed gift for Shirley. Linda also noted that Jay had followed through with notification to recent retirees, soliciting their membership in PRO.

Service Committee Report:

Sondra read aloud a letter received from one of PRO's awardees and Ann agreed to place the letter in PRO's archives. Bruce also advanced a motion to remain with the Foundation as the organization of choice to administer PRO scholarship funds but with the proviso that the charges involved come from PRO accounts and not from the moneys contributed for the scholarships.

Seconded by Sondra

- 1 Opposed
- 1 Abstained

Motion passed

Jerry announced that the next meeting of PRO is August 3, 2011. Also, Jerry announced that the September meeting will be September 14, 2011.

The meeting closed at 3:00PM.