PRO Meeting Jan. 7, 2015

<u>Present:</u> Debby Weintraub, Bruce Jacobs, Anna Pavelka Lodatao. Ann Whitehead, Linda Japzon, Jay Quesada, Remo Arancio. Tom Branca, Yvonne Price.

Absent: Alex Pappas, Pat England and Jerry Herman.

Guest:

Joe Camara

Secretary's Report:

Both the reports for October and December were approved: Remo moved for approval, seconded by Anna. MSU

Later Jay corrected the December minutes stating that she is not the person, rather it is Bruce, who will prepare for the lunch and Magic Theater afternoon performance planned in February.

Treasurer's Report:

Anna shared copies of her Annual Report and identified \$23,252.33 as the current balance in PRO's account. Additionally Anna illustrated that PRO's 2014 social events cost, \$2,254.00, varied little from the same costs in 2013.

Newsletter:

Bruce highly commended the report Helene Maxwell generously shared in the most recent issue of the PRO newsletter, Jan. - March, 2015. Bruce stated that he is searching for a "back-up" for the entire endeavor of producing the newsletter. Joe Camara indicated that he is willing to be such a person. He indicated that he is already familiar with the software. Bruce and Joe will work together on the next newsletter. Debby commented that it would be desirable if any PRO board member might

encourage a retiree to write an account for publication in the newsletter of an interesting pursuit during his/her retirement.

President's Report:

Debby reported that Mark Greenside had undertaken the effort to explore an alternate Medical Broker. The name of a possible Broker (replacing PSW) is "Dickerson Employee Benefits", a company Mark and Bruce located. The Dickerson company is run by one son of Barbara Lee and is currently located in southern California. The Dickerson company focuses on benefits management for public institutions.

Debby shared that Abby Brewer, President of SEIU Local 1021, will join PRO and PFT in their lobbying of the PCCD Board regarding the choice of the replacement for PSW. The next meeting of the committee convened to identify PSW replacement will take place on Thursday January 8, 2015.

Debby also quoted Chancellor Ortiz--even in the absence of a medical broker "we are OK for the next several months".

Social Committee Report:

Bruce has investigated the opportunity to attend the Phnom Penh restaurant prior to attendance at Laney of the Magic Theatre play scheduled for February 21, 2015.

The lunch price per person, \$15.00, has been identified in the most recent newsletter and Bruce emphasized that someone must contact Phnom Penh immediately after February 7 with the number of attendees expected and arrange the menu. Anna agreed to investigate and publicize a drama available sometime in March for an additional PRO theatre event.

Both Jay and Linda shared leftover "PRO" pens with the board and Remo agreed to ask Nancy, PRO's printer, for a quote on new PRO T-shirts.

Medicare Part D

Bruce reported that prior to the winter break he had participated with the PFT team in negotiations with the District regarding reimbursement for retirees who have to pay Medicare Part D premiums. He reported that the PFT and the District reached a possible agreement which would allow for the reimbursement of retirees who retired while the current contract was in force (i.e. people who retired in 2013 or thereafter). The District refused to negotiate the issue of prior retirees with the PFT since the union does not represent those people. Bruce and Debby will schedule a meeting with Trudy Largent to request that the agreement be extended to all retirees.

Membership:

Jay reported that she always asks each college President to name the folks retiring at the close of each academic year and she never gets an answer. Ann suggested that PRO ask each of PFT's college reps to assist PRO in such identifications. PRO workshops held during mid Spring semester offer potential retirees an opportunity to understand options and join PRO. Debby suggested that Tom Branca, Patricia Dudley and Dianna Lara be present at such workshops to increase upcoming retiree's awareness.

Tom Branca:

Tom reported that Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield are working together to create a database of medical records for all those enrolled in their insurance programs. He indicated that one can opt out of "sharing of medical records" between between Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield. He said that Consumer Watchdog has recommended that people opt out since the new database does not have any published security measures. Debby commented that insurance companies currently can share information regarding one's medical records although the sharing

of that information is governed by state law.

Scholarship Committee:

Yvonne reported that she had attended a committee meeting on January 7, just prior to PRO's meeting on same date. Yvonne shared the following:

The meeting was poorly attended.

Michael Mills was present.

Representatives from Merritt and Laney were absent.

Applications to students are open as of January 20.

Applicants must have their materials in by March 9.

PRO receives their 3 names per campus by March 16 for evaluation/recommendations.

The Scholarship committee will post dates for training. Yvonne will let the PRO Board members know the dates.

Bruce said that he will email members of PRO to solicit readers and presenters for the scholarships at the beginning of March.

The meeting adjourned at 3PM.