## **PRO Meeting February 4, 2015**

<u>Present:</u> Debby Weintraub, Bruce Jacobs, Anna Pavelka-Lodato, Jerry Herman, Ann Whitehead and Remo Arancio.

<u>Absent:</u> Tom Branca, Pat England, Yvonne Lewis, Alex Pappas, Jay Quesada and Linda Japzon.

**Guest:** Joe Camara

This meeting was called to order at 1:05PM. Given the absence of a quorum there were no votes taken at this meeting.

<u>Secretary's Report:</u> Bruce corrected under the section "President's Report" the following, line 5, to read "Dickerson Company is run by one of Barbara Lee's sons."

<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: Anna shared that the current bank balance is \$23,083.38. Additionally she stated that 15 people have signed up for the lunch and theatre event scheduled for February 21, 2015 at Laney College Theatre. Debby agreed to communicate to the restaurant one week prior to this event her suggested dishes for inclusion prior to the play.

Following a lengthy discussion Anna urged that the communication between PRO and the Peralta Foundation be improved for increased understanding. Ultimately, the discussion resulted in an agreement among those present at this meeting the following:

- 1. That retiree donors receive a tax record from the Foundation.
- 2. That PRO wants to receive a Quicken Report from the Foundation delineating PRO donations since the 2014 scholarships were awarded.
- 3. Bruce suggested that the Foundation reports to PRO go back to December 2013 for clarification.
- 4. Bruce urged that each check from a retiree sent to the Foundation by PRO for the scholarship fund should be copied for record keeping BEFORE it is sent to to the Foundation.

Essentially speaking, Anna is requiring a full accounting of the Foundation's fees billed to PRO as well as an accounting of PRO's donations to the foundation for the PRO scholarships.

<u>Newsletter:</u> Bruce received negative feedback from one retiree who objected to the political slant in Helene Maxwell's article. Bruce contacted the member to explain that the article was Helene's first person experience and did not reflect a political

endorsement from PRO. He also has requested that this member write a piece for the newsletter in which he shares his experiences with UBER where he was once employed. Additionally, Bruce plans to include in April's newsletter an acknowledgment of the recent death of Smokey Wilson, longtime Laney instructor.

<u>President's Report:</u> Debby reported that she attended the Benefits Committee where she learned that PCCD plans to move toward paperless communication regarding benefits issues. In that committee meeting Jennifer Seibert shared that ultimately, not right away, retirees will need an "Employee ID" for access to online Peralta information including for enrollment during open enrollment periods.

Debby also reported the following regarding the Fringe Benefits Committee:

- 1. On March 24, 2015, Keenan will provide a presentation regarding their services.
- 2, Jennifer Seibert has provided a document entitled: "Focus of this Committee," which is to serve as the mission statement for the Fringe Benefits Committee.
- 3. Debby has proposed that she will revise the document to reflect the interests of retirees and employees as part of the mission. She will forward her suggestions to Jennifer after seeking input from some PRO Board members.
- 4. Debby will send PRO Board members her suggested changes to Jennifer's document for PRO's review.

Given the absences of Jay and Linda, there were no further reports regarding upcoming social events.

## Service Committee:

Yvonne reported that one person per each college has agreed to be a "reader" by March 16 whereas eight people are needed. The following people have agreed thus far:

BCC----Jerry Herman Laney--Bruce Jacobs COA----Joe Camara Merritt--Yvonne Lewis

Debby agreed to seek the remaining four people.

## Old Business:

The PFT seems to have reached a tentative agreement for reimbursement of Medicare

D premiums for retirees who retired after July 31, 2013. Bruce and Debby have talked with Trudy Largent to request an extension of that agreement to all retirees. Trudy agreed to consider the request and to report back to Debby and Bruce within a few weeks.

Debby reported that the new/upcoming Medical Broker RFP developed by Jennifer Seibert may need to be rewritten by PRO and the other employee organizations. Debby has agreed to draft a rewrite of the statement and forward it to Jennifer Seibert. Debby has also agreed to send a copy to the following:

Trudy Largent
Mr. Gravenburg
Marie Hampton (secretary in Vice-Chancellor Sadik Ikharo's office)
All PCCD Trustees
Chancellor Ortiz
Vice-Chancellor Sadik Ikharo

## New Business:

Jerry reported that the following occurred at the Retirement Committee meeting on Thursday January 29, 2015:

- 1. Neuberger Berman shared their January 29, 2015 Report.
- 2. That their benchmark had been an increase of 5.15%.
- 3. Their gain in reality was only 4.65%.
- 4. REITS was their best performer
- 5. Commodities was their worst performer.

Additionally Jerry indicated that the bond's technical aspects meant that despite the high performance of the stock market the bonds continue to be problematic, albeit less than previously thought, for the District.

Debby called adjournment of this meeting at 2:55PM.