

PRO meeting

December 2, 2009

PRESENT Jerry Herman, Bruce Jacobs, Shirley Timm, Sondra Neiman, Ann Whitehead, Linda Japzon, Jay Quesada, Pat England, Ned Pearlstein, and Remo Arancio.

ABSENT Alex Pappas

GUESTS Jennifer Seibert and Tom Smith

Jerry called the meeting to order at 1:01PM. Following a brief introduction to PRO's guests, Jerry asked Jennifer to share her message.

Jennifer described the process and function of the benefits-audit conducted by her office. Current identifications of dependent children, spouses, domestic partners etc. are required for accurate accounting of benefits and Jennifer emphasized that such records need yearly updating. Dependent children up to the age of 25 years are covered. Domestic partners in the state of California are eligible. Also Jennifer stated that the most recent Summary Plan Descriptions for both Kaiser and Coresource are available online. Jennifer pointed out that Medicare Part B reimbursement questions should be addressed to Pension Dynamics and medical claims and/or co-pay questions, to PSW---available as one choice on her PCCD phone answering service.

Tom Smith's comments focused on two issues: the status of the Pension Obligation Bonds and the current and anticipated budget crises impacting community colleges. With respect to the bonds Tom stated how the management of those bonds has shifted significantly to conservative choices and he confirmed that PCCD's investments are doing well. He indicated that the revenue generated by the bonds has provided the District with \$12 million toward retiree medical insurance benefits and that he expects to provide another \$6.8 million next year. With respect to the budgeting miasma for community colleges, Tom's information was coherent and dismal. Bruce and Tom agreed to work together through email and develop an article describing the financial perspectives shared by Tom for the upcoming PRO newsletter.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ann distributed minutes for the October and November meetings. In the final line of the October minutes the following phrase was added: "every two years". Remo moved that the corrected minutes be accepted, seconded by Pat. MSU

Ned moved to accept the November minutes, seconded by Remo. MSU

Lastly Ann distributed a five-page packet of information documenting support and original purpose for the purchase of Pension Obligation Bonds. These materials were located in the files archived by the PFT office.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Shirley reported that the current bank balance is \$20,383.18. Below are the facts and figures Shirley had emailed earlier following the Annual Luncheon: Shirley's statement-----

“Finally a chance to review the lunch account-we had 60 prepaid (55 showed), 14 to pay at door (13 did), 10 guests (8 showed, no walk-ins (2 did)

Total paid: 75 for \$1350.00 income.

Expenditures: Wedgewood for 75 meals: \$1674.24: band: \$400.00

Total expenditure for meeting/lunch: \$2074.24.pay at door—no show, Peggy Fryer

Walk-ins paid at door: Bill Bell, Juanita Peterson

Total expected to come: 84 : actual attendance: 78

Prepaid no shows: Marlene Griffith Bagdikian, Ione Ellioff, Ponie Rasmussen, William Sato, Smokey Wilson.

Guests (3 band, 4 dancers, Debby Weintraub) – no shows, Diana Lara (SEIU) and Bill Highsmith (Local 39).”

NEWSLETTER

Bruce intends to have the newsletter completed by January 1, 2010. He plans to write about the information shared by Tom at PRO's December meeting, cover David Conway's legal commentary delivered at the Annual Luncheon and promote a winter social event sponsored by PRO open to the entire membership. Some ideas that have surfaced include a Warriors Game, A Zellerbach event, a bus trip to wine country and a visit to Freight&Salvage (music studio in Berkeley). It was agreed that the Board would decide on an event prior to the deadline for the January-March 2010 newsletter using email and phone.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jerry shared that he attended the most recent PCCD Benefits Committee meeting recently and, as a result, initiated the visit by Jennifer and Tom at our PRO meeting today. Jerry identified January 26, 2010 for a PRO presentation to the public PCCD Board meeting. Jerry urged all members of the PRO Board to attend. Jerry introduced the idea that PRO make a contribution to the Fresno retiree group in their legal pursuit for maintenance of promised medical benefits during

retirement. Through a series of motions and amendments it was finally passed (Bruce moved, seconded by Sondra, 6-yes, 2-no) that PRO will donate to FURA \$1500.00. Lastly Jerry shared that the Fresno group (FURA) will not go to trial March 5, 2010.

SOCIAL

Linda reported that the Luncheon was a success. Linda described her experience at the Health Fair and she suggests that PRO acquire a banner and possibly tee shirts inscribed to highlight PRO's identity. Ann agreed to give Linda the name of a Union shop located in Berkeley where that kind of paraphernalia can be ordered.

SERVICE

Sondra reported that she had just deposited \$365.00 with Socorro Taylor. Sondra reported that the current balance in PRO's scholarship account is in excess of \$4500.00.

MEMBERSHIP

Jay reported that she is continuing to identify new members from among Peralta's recent retirees and she is writing to current members of PRO to remind them of dues owed. Jay needs to obtain feedback when folks she has contacted actually send in their renewals.

Bruce suggested that PRO might think about an Oral History project for the following application: given the experience Bezemek is encountering with Fresno retirees, it becomes clear that written records may well be combined with recorded memories as useful. If one is videotaped speaking about agreements established at some earlier time and/or identifying who said what to whom during negotiations--- these kinds of spoken and photographed details may aid a Defense's position where legal challenges are involved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10PM

AW