

CITY OF SAN DIEGO RETIRED EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES, May 12, 2009, War Memorial Building, Balboa Park

Board Members Present: President, Nancy Acevedo, Terry Flynn, Alyse Ford, Burnie Gipson, Ruth Ann Hageman, Bob Korch, Maggie Smith, Sylvia Tatum, John Tsiknas and Bob West. Absent: Joe Flynn, Ty Rogers. Visitor: Bob Headland

New Member Contacts (Maggie will call these people): Roland Comacho, Charles Edwards, Carol Hein, Michelle Nickold and Jimmy Valle.

MINUTES: Minutes for both the April and May board and general meetings were approved.

COMMUNICATIONS: Nancy spoke with Dave Hall about the article he wrote in Free Spirit, and he said that he did not mean that retirees "should be spending a majority of your time planning to enjoy your the next vacation rather than the next Board meeting, and be comfortable in knowing that the decisions being made at these meetings are in the best interest of all members." Some board members pointed out that with previous boards, retirees were not paying close attention to what was transpiring, and decisions were made which may have been better made had retirees been there to ask questions and make comments in public. This is even more important considering that retirees' interests are no longer being expressed through the CSDREA President's article.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sylvia's report was approved. MSA Burnie Gipson/John Tsiknas

ACTION ITEMS:

Association Revitalization Ad Hoc Committee: Committee Chair Maggie Smith reported on the activities of the Revitalization Committee. Beginning at this meeting, coffee and tea service will be offered. [Nancy brought three dozen cookies to go with the coffee.] Bob Korch again brought his CD player, and music appropriate to members' good-old-days will be played. Also, CSDREA business (sign-ups, etc.) will be conducted inside the room in order to draw people into the room. The tables and chairs are being arranged in order to encourage conversation and contact among those attending.

Ruth Ann Hageman gave a report on the preliminary results of the questionnaire sent to 250 members, as follows: "The work that all of you [Board Members] have done for the Revitalization effort has been very gratifying. There were 220 questionnaires sent out, that is 88% of the total of 250. Of the 220 sent out, we have received so far 177 of them back, many of them with commentaries. That is a return of 80%. Since I receive a few in my mailbox every day, and I expect we will be sending out a few more, we will have a higher return at the end.

"Many of the Association members give high praise for the work of this Retirement Association Board. When the Revitalization Committee has finished the work of looking at the raw data and analyzing the commentaries, we will have recommendations back to

this board. It is our hope that the end result of this effort on the part of every board member will truly be a revitalization of the Association.

“A side benefit for a lot of us has been talking to many people that we used to work with, learning where they are now in their lives, and realizing what a good work force this city has had: people who have been skilled in their work and dedicated to doing a good job for the public. In the light of some of the negative comments dedication to serving the members of our Association that we sometimes hear from the media, or even acquaintances, we may find renewed dedication to serving the members of our Association.”

June Meeting Date: The Health Care Panel is being held on Wednesday, June 10th at the Balboa Park Club. The Wednesday date was chosen by CERS. An effort will be made to inform our members of the date and the place, emphasizing the unusual “Wednesday” time of the meeting. The Board meeting will be in a place to be determined in or near the Balboa Park Club.

September Meeting Dates: The monthly CSDREA Board meeting and the General Meeting will be Tuesday, September 8th. CSDREA Board’s *annual meeting* will be Tuesday, September 22nd.

CSDREA/MEA Relationship: Lynn Swanson talked about the lawsuit impacts on MEA. Lynn is not going to MEA anymore. She will back off from MEA. She is concerned about protecting the CSDREA board from a potential lawsuit involving her MEA connection. Lynn will continue to be on the board but will not be representing MEA. MSA Tsiknas/West.

INFORMATION - DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Helping Hands (Hand-in-Hand) Ad Committee: An outgrowth of the presentation made by the Hand-in-Hand chairs Cherie Olaveson and Sarah Contreras, there is an exploratory committee to establish a permanent committee of CSDREA for the purpose of reaching-out contacts to members who have lost a love-one. The people served will be retirees who are not represented by Hand-in-Hand, that is, civilian retirees of the Police and Fire Departments and retirees from all other departments in the City. (Fire and police department clerical, dispatch and analyst positions are not included in the Hand in Hand organization.)

Board Members Terry Flynn, Ruth Ann Hageman, Ty Rogers and Sylvia Tatum are members of what we are calling Helping Hands (name is Ty Rogers’ idea), which also includes Janet Burgess, Mary Bush, Dora Garcia, Larry Gardner, Mary Lynn Hyde (off-committee), Carmen Lutes, Paulette Mormino and Salani Faiilvae Harrison.

This second “Helping Hands” meeting included a presentation by Janet Burgess on her experiences with helping family or friends with the loss of a loved one. Janet has developed her own itemized list of duties that a family needs to undertake at the time of a death.

Janet believes that once we have completed our research, the effort can be put on automatic and will not involve a mammoth on-going effort. However the benefit of such a service can be very great for those retirees we serve and for ourselves.

Meanwhile Helping Hands is in the research phase. Our Helping Hands Committee has a lot of material to go through. We can use the Survivor Benefit Information booklet that Bob and Linda Cain developed five years ago as a base. There is a wealth of information available, and we have a dedicated committee.”

The Committee wants to be assured that Helping Hands will be under the authority and the auspices of the Retirement Association Board and included in the By-laws, Article VII, Committees. The Board agreed to the idea that Helping Hands is an ad hoc committee, and Ruth Ann agreed to bring back draft wording for the inclusion of the committee in the By-laws.

RETREE ISSUES TASK FORCE MEETING:

Nancy attached information about both the continuing and new items and discussion of this attachment may need to take place at the next board meeting when members have had time to read the outline. Also, Nancy may have results of some of those inquiries to CSDREA staff at that time.

May meeting attendees to the SDCERS board will be Ty Rogers, Pattie Karnes and Joe Flynn.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no reports from the Advocacy Committee, the Audit Committee, the Membership Committee, the Program Committee the Web Site or the Treasurer/Membership Functions Ad Hoc Committee.

The Newsletter Editor agreed to put in a “Save the Date” article for the June Health Care Panel, emphasizing the change in date and location. Also, members will be urged to make reservations for the August 11th picnic at the Police Pistol Range.

Lynn Swanson offered that her husband John and Bob Korch will work the Bar-B-Que for the August 11th picnic at the Police Pistol Range. The Board decided that the fee for the lunch should be \$5 per person. People who want to attend should RSVP by July 31st.

The Board meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Ann Hageman