

CITY OF SAN DIEGO RETIRED EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Meeting of June10, 2009, Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park

**Board Members Present:** President, Nancy Acevedo, Joe Flynn, Burnie Gipson, Ruth Ann Hageman, Bob Korch, Ty Rogers, Maggie Smith, Lynn Swanson, Sylvia Tatum, John Tsiknas and Bob West. Absent: Terry Flynn, Alyse Ford, Dave Hall, Patti Karnes, Jean Struiksma.

**MINUTES:** Minutes for the May Board meeting were approved. MSA Ty Rogers/Burnie Gipson

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Nancy described two letters she had written. The first to MEA notified them that our liaison position is temporarily vacant.

The second letter from David Wescoe described their reasons for no longer including communication from the Association. There was some discussion of this letter, including the idea that SDCERS could find other ways to afford the newsletter.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Sylvia's report was approved to file for audit. MSA Bob West/Ruth Ann Hageman

**ACTION ITEMS:**

*New Member Contacts* (Ruth Ann will call these people): Mary Larson, Arthur Brown, Karen Butler.

*Helping Hands proposed By Laws revision* was approved unanimously as follows:

Helping Hands Committee, outreach bereavement support for the City of San Diego Retired Employees' Association members.

*Proposed CERS Board Rule/Disability Affidvits-Medical Exams:* Nancy had reviewed this rule and had found a number of improvements that could be made, and this was going to be forwarded to CERS. Her concern included the wording, "recommended termination of benefits," rather than whether or not to terminate benefits, "reinstatement with the City" [which is not in the purview of SDCERS], using the word 'position' rather than 'classification.' Finally there was no copy of the affidavit form that disability retirees must submit.

**INFORMATION - DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*Health Benefit Information Paper Update* - Bob West said the paper has been updated. Regarding the *maximum* "allowable amount;" that would be reimbursed by SDCERS, as shown in the Health Insurance booklet, there was a question about the inclusion of the higher amounts charged due to high income. (The higher amounts are covered). Lynn Swanson said there is an escalator on health care premium ceiling in the Municipal Code, and that this is the "allowable amount" that was meant.

**INFORMATION - DISCUSSION ITEMS, continued**

*Initiative relating to the taxation of pensions and health care* that is being forwarded by a Los Angeles CPA was reported on by Nancy. Under this proposal, there would be a special tax on any person getting a pension of more than \$40 K per year, and another tax on pensions of \$75 to \$100 K per year. Also, the proposal would tax health care premiums.

*Retiree Issues Task Force Meeting:* at the last meeting, Nancy had 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 will be reminded to review the outline.

## **RETIREMENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Since Dave Hall was not present at this meeting, his report will have to be given at the next meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*Helping Hands:* Ruth Ann reported that the committee is receiving interesting material all of the time, and that the committee is in the research phase. Joe Flynn recalled the booklet that Bob and Linda Caine put together, and Ruth Ann said that they have already been contacted and agree that their booklet should be updated. Helping Hands is frequently receiving new resources, one recent one being a list of things that need to be done when moving from the family home.

*Advocacy Committee:* Ty Rogers will review the new initiatives that are being proposed by SDCERS.

*Audit Committee:* Maggie suggested that the audit will be completed by the next meeting.

*Newsletter:* Jean Struiksma was not present.

*Membership:* Joe Flynn reported that there are no schedules for seminars.

*Programs:* Patti Karnes was not present.

*Revitalization Ad Hoc Committee:* Maggie had Ruth Ann present the results of the questionnaire, which were passed out to each Board member. [Copies were given or are to be mailed to those that were not present.] Ruth Ann reported that so far, 205 questionnaires have been returned out of the 250 that were sent out. This is an 82% return. The questionnaire showed that members are very enthusiastic about the newsletter, and about the work that each member of the board is doing. There are some good suggestions that can be acted upon. The greatest number of approvals was for the work that Nancy, Joe, Patti, Virginia and Ty have been doing in presenting our interests to SDCERS and the City Council. There was discussion that a good effort needs to be put into bringing the new members into active roles in the Association, as they are younger and have more energy to contribute. In other Revitalization business, Maggie suggested that the coffee and tea service be continued, and \$50 per month was approved for this. In addition, the Board approved the concept Board meetings will end at 10:45 and that Board members will mingle with attendees to make a friendlier, more welcome atmosphere. Maggie also suggested that the work that Joe and Lin Schoenberg have done regarding other meeting venues can be folded into the Revitalization Committee's work.

**PROGRAMS SCHEDULED:**

Members are urged to pay for the two luncheons that are coming up: in July, at the Mission Bay Yacht Club (\$21), and in August at the Police Pistol Range. Special presentations will include Lifeguard Fire Fighting Demonstration at Mission Bay and the Police Canine Detection Demonstration at the Police Pistol Range. A September program is yet to be firmed up.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Ann Hageman, Board Secretary