

CITY OF SAN DIEGO RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting of April 13, 2010

Santa Fe Room, Balboa Park

attendance

REA Board Officers Present: President Jim Baross; Vice President for Advocacy Patti Karnes; Vice President for Programs Dave Twomey; Secretary Ruth Ann Hageman; and Treasurer Gary Hess.

Members of the Board of Directors Present: Director and Web Master Art Brown; Director Bob Korch; Director Terry Flynn and Director Dick Wilken.

Appointed Members of the Board Present: Membership Sylvia Tatum; Newsletter Janet Wood; and Parliamentarian Robert West.

Others Present: Retiree Issues Task Force Member Joe Flynn, MEA Representative and Special Events Chair Helen Phillips, and Retiree Jon Dunchack.

Absent: Director Ty Rogers, Director and Revitalization Chair Maggie Smith, and Elected Representative to the SDCERS Board Dave Hall.

call to order

President Jim Baross called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

approval of minutes and treasurer's report

The Board Meeting minutes for March 9, 2010 were approved unanimously.

communications

1. Resignations tendered: Secretary Ruth Ann Hageman and Director Maggie Smith. Discussion regarding process for replacing them. Helen Phillips agreed to step in as Secretary until a new person is recruited. Jim Baross said that the Revitalization Program, which was under Director Maggie Smith, will be moved to the Advocacy Program Vice President. Bob West suggested using the "blast" for recruitment for the two vacant positions; also, President Jim Baross will make an announcement asking for recruits from among the General Meeting attendees.

2. Discussion of the Retired Employees Task Force. There will be a meeting of RETF on May 6. Parliamentarian Bob West provided some background, that it began as a meeting with Fire and Police. Nancy, Joe and Bob West have been attending the meetings of RETF. One of the accomplishments of RETF was to influence the increase of benefits for pre--1981 retirees from \$600 to \$1200. Another accomplishment was the inclusion of the REA's Helping Hands Checklist for Survivors to be included in the packet sent to survivors. President Jim Baross appointed a standing committee of Joe Flynn, Bob West, Nancy Acevedo and Dick Wilken who will decide what issues will be discussed and who will attend.

3. Cynthia Queen, Member Services Director for the San Diego City Employees'

Retirement System email, March 29th, "I wanted to let you know that we have

received two Public Records Act (PRA) requests related to retiree pension amounts. One is from the Union Tribune and the other is from The Watchdog Institute at San Diego State University. Both organizations will be receiving data files from SDCERS this week, which include the annual pensions paid to all retirees. It includes all retiree names and pension information, but no other personal information. SDCERS policy is to inform members, when administratively possible, when their information is being released via PRA requests. Due to the large number of members included in this request, I am notifying you so that you can either send out a group email or post this information on your web page. This is similar to information the UT requested and published last year. Let me know if you have any questions."

4. Connie Hernandez of SDCERS emailed REA webmaster April 1 stating,

"This organization is always at our Board meetings and are really involved. Then they try to get the information our right away to the members. Thank you."

5. President Baross provided a short message via Helen for the SDMEA newsletter.

treasurer's report

Treasurer Gary Hess's Report for month ending March 31, 2010 was approved unanimously.

action items

1. Retiree Issues Task Force Member Joe Flynn proposed REA provide a communication to SDCERS at the Business & Governance Committee and at the SDCERS Board meeting on Friday, April 16, highlighting and objecting to the proposed eliminated of position of Chief Compliance Officer, Roxanne Story Parks. They proposed to move her duties to an Internal Auditor. Our reasoning:

A. Roxanne is the only one left at SDCERS with experience in the City

Attorney's Office and SDCERS; the only one with corporate memory of the difficult years we went through; her work with Navigant and Kroll investigations and the VCP program and securing SDCERS IRS tax exempt Status

B. It makes no sense for a "temporary" acting administrator to make permanent changes in high level staff just a month or two before the Board hires a new "permanent" Administrator who will be in immediate need of background and corporate memory.

The Board approved item A, but deleted item B from REA's communication.. President Jim Baross appointed Joe Flynn and Ruth Ann Hageman to finalize the letter for Jim's signature.

3. Program Vice President Dave Twomey proposed and received Board approval (with one abstention) of the following:

A. Adjusting the budget to provide a funding source for program support items such as audio visual equipment to improve our programs by having the ability to rent audio/visual equipment essential for certain programs such as our round table and the candidate

forum. An adjusted budget showing this proposal had been prepared by Treasurer Gary Hess. Director Art Brown moved and the Board approved \$1000 be taken from the Operating Budget Contingency Fund not only to secure the equipment but also to provide professionals to operate it during the programs. The May Board meeting will be from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. to accommodate the continental breakfast which will be from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00. The program, beginning at 10:30 a.m. will consist of a panel discussion of Proposition 9, the strong-Mayor proposal to be on the ballot in June.

B. For 2010 the May, September and October general meetings would be a continental breakfast setting. June, July, August and November will remain luncheons. The continental breakfast (fruit bowl, juice, muffins, bagels and various pastries, with coffee be available beginning at 9AM. The general meeting would be convened at 10AM and the program at 10:30AM. All meetings will be in the Balboa Park Club ballroom except for the August BBQ at the Pistol Range and June and November when the ballroom is not available. Ranch Catering can provide the menu at \$5.95 + tax. We would charge

\$5. for the rest of 2010 to make the change as user friendly as possible. In 2011, the proposal would be to charge \$6 to essentially eliminate the subsidy.

information - discussion items

1. Secretary Ruth Ann provided an interesting retiree communication that the Western Union Retirement System sends to every member each year showing the status of the fund and the places where the fund is invested.
2. Sylvia provided a document describing Treasurer and Membership responsibilities to President Jim Baross and others present.
3. Advocacy and Revitalization Joint Committee (Maggie, Patti, Ty, Virginia, Dick, and Jon) presented the DRAFT recommendations for the brochure and membership outreach. It was moved and seconded (Hageman/Flynn) to approve the text, with the caveat that a committee of Patti, Jon, Dick and Jim will work out the "Legal Challenges" paragraph.
4. Active Employee Assoc. Rep. - Helen Phillips reported that she (and a committee) will send a communication to the list of MEA members that was entrusted to her. Helen offered that she will record the minutes of the meetings until a new secretary has been recruited.

5. Recommendations for use of Constant Comment were developed:

Responsibility for newsletter and monthly meeting bulletins will be

Janet backed up by Lynn and Jean; responsibility for special/urgent bulletins will be Art backed up by John and Dick. President Jim Baross authorizes special bulletins.

There was no time left for the following reports:

Membership Committee - Sylvia, Joe, Alyse

Newsletter Editor – Janet, Lynn

Program and Recreation/Special Events Committees – Helen, Dave

Public Communication Coordination (ad hoc meeting) – Jim, Lynn, Art, Dick

Web Site - Art, John

Adjournment The Board adjourned to the General Meeting at 10:45 a.m.