

CITY OF SAN DIEGO RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING ON MAY 12, 2010  
RECITAL HALL, BALBOA PARK

Attending: Jim , Nancy, Joe, Terry, Jon, Dick, Sylvia, Gary, Ty, Art, Janet, Dave Twomey, Dave Hall, Patti.

Not attending: Bob West, Bob Korch, Helen, Sharon.Beach, John Tsiknas

Resigning: Ruth Ann Hageman, Maggie Smith, Janet Burgess and Mary Lynn.

Note: John Tsiknas has handed over the web site to Art Brown.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Board approved Ruth Ann's REA Board minutes of April 13m 2010. Terry Flynn's motion.

As few Board members were available at this 8:00 AM meeting, Patti is taking notes.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Jim Baross noted that SDCERS Chief Compliance Officer Roxanne Parks will be transferring to the City Attorney's office so her expertise of SDCERS' history will not be lost to retirees. REA recognized her efforts on behalf of SDCERS members at the last SDCERS Board meeting and gave her REA's annual award in 2008.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Report approved. Terry Flynn moved and Nancy Acevedo seconded. Audit Report approved with recommendation to change one CD to six month term, so CDs will rotate every six months in case cash is needed. Terry moved and Art Brown seconded.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) Fill vacant positions: As Maggie Smith, Chair of the Revitalization Committee, resigned, President Jim Baross appointed Jon Dunchack to take that Board position. Board approved. Terry Flynn moved, Janet Wood seconded.

As Ruth Ann resigned, the Board position of Secretary will remain open until a new Secretary volunteers.

Mary Lynn Hyde and Janet Burgess are resigning from the Hospitality Committee. They are thanked for their excellent efforts helping Dave Twomey with meals. We are looking for reliable, outgoing, friendly people who also would include taking reservations for food. The recommendation was made to rotate Hospitality responsibilities monthly to teams of two.

2) Continue Free Membership for those over 80 years of age?: Currently members have the option of calling Sylvia to drop their \$2 monthly dues to REA when they reach 80, and Sylvia, in turn, sends a change in deduction form to SDCERS.

Next month REA Board to discuss should this age go up to 85, how many people are over 80, will we discontinue this for those already receiving free membership (as well as birthday cards) and if this impacts REA?

For the moment REA plans to keep the 80 option and notify member via newsletter to contact Sylvia for birthday cards when they are over 80.

## INFORMATION-DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1) Should we continue with a Members Only section to our web site?

Deferred to June's REA Board to research information and input from John Tsiknas, former REA Web master.

Questions of balancing concerns:

- Incentive to join closed web sites vs. "off-putting"?

Liability and legal protections, especially due to past "SLAPP" lawsuits (strategic lawsuit against public participation (SLAPP) which resulted in being sued into silence.

Here is a link to SLAPP lawsuits.)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strategic\\_lawsuit\\_against\\_public\\_participation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strategic_lawsuit_against_public_participation)

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- Copyright vs private use.

- Use of "log-on" to see who is looking at site.

- Attracting retirees to join REA for information on lawsuits involving pensions.

2) Recruiting Brochure

- Jon Dunchack was impressed with Phoenix' cooperation on the first printing of the revised brochure. Jon recommended photos of our members for the brochure in the future so they will reflect our diverse community. Additional printing approved up to annual budgeted amount of \$3000.

- SDCERS has a contract mailing company. REA will be contacting them regarding costs of mailing brochures, first, to those retiring since 2005.

- Dick Wilken and Jim will go to SDCERS retirement seminars to pass out brochures and recruit retirees to REA.

- Link REA brochure on SDCERS website.

- Longer version of recruitment letter to be on REA web site.

- Send brochures to SDCERS' Membership Services Cynthia Queen for distribution to SDCERS retirement counselors.

RETIREMENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT- Dave Hall reported that SDCERS is being sued for something they have not done yet: "substantially equal" split of investment losses between City and active employees as requested by current City Attorney Goldsmith.

Hall expects interview on a new SDCERS Administrator/CEO on June 9th.

Health Fair for SDCERS retirees to select their 2010-2011 health benefits on June 15th from 10AM to noon at Balboa Park Club.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Retiree Issues Task Force Committee- Nancy Acevedo, Chair, Jon, Jim, Dick and Dave Hall.

Task Force asked SDCERS for a copy of the Muni Code pertaining to the description of a "permanent" position as this continues to be a problem preventing SDCERS Board approvals of some disability applicants.

Task Force also discussed funding of Supplemental COLA for pre-1981 retirees that may run out as soon as 2013. When the funding is gone, this group would see their pensions cut in half.

Task Force noted SDCERS is not cooperating on Helping Hands: neither notifying Helping Hands on deaths, nor distributing information to surviving spouses/families.

Nancy noted traditionally the Chair of the Task Force alternates between REA and Retired Fire and Police.

The next meeting is in September.

Advocacy & Revitalization Joint Committee- Patti Karnes, Chair, Ty, Dick, Jon, Janet

Next open Advocacy Committee meeting is May 21, 9:45 AM to 11:00 AM at Mission Valley Library's small Conference Room. (Discuss agenda and issues so no confusion at June 11th event.)

Advocacy Issues Update/Discussion/Coffee for everyone and guests is Friday, June 11 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at College Heights-Rolando Library at 6600 Montezuma Road, (corner of Reservoir and Montezuma, east of College Ave.).

Programs and Recreation/Special Events Committees- Dave Twomey

- PA equipment and expertise for today's forum on Strong Mayor, provided by City's Bill Dunable at Communication Division.
- July- Ruben Navarrette, syndicated columnist and member of SDUT's editorial board, will speak on the immigration issue.
- August- Looking for caterer as there is a problem with difficult equipment at Police Pistol Range.
- December 9, 2010 is date for Holiday Party at Tom Ham's.

Pk 5/20/10