

CITY OF SAN DIEGO RETIRED EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting of February 9, 2010
Balboa Park Club

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Baross at 11:15 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE

COMMUNICATION

Non-Member Ruth Donovan introduced herself, informing the members that, as a widow, she cannot receive her late husband's full social security because her City pension is based on non-Social Security benefits. Ms Donovan suggested we contact legislators w/regards to this matter. Ms Donovan was referred to Patti Karnes for additional information.

Birthdays: Bill Lingo, 77 years old; winner of luncheon: Bill Lingo

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jim Baross welcomed general members and guests. New members and first time attendees introduced themselves.

2010 Retired Employees' Association (REA) Retreat was last month.

Directors reviewed 2010 goals:

Preserve Current Benefits

Continue Pro-active Advocacy Committee

Increase Membership

Monitor CERS Complete Review of Information Papers (Health insurance. et al.)

Work to have Corbett Reinstated for Non Service Eligible Disability Retirees

Monitor Earnings in CD's, Obtain Demographic Statistics via Actuarial Report

Continue Helping Hands Program

Survey Membership as needed

February Board of Directors' meeting was held upstairs @ 9:30am.

PROGRAM VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Vice President of Programming Dave Twomey reported: The survey has been prepared to understand what our members who attend the luncheons want. Please take a few minutes to fill it out and turn in. This gives us a better feeling how we can improve our meeting attendance. Our new venue and return to serving lunch seems to be popular. In order to keep the cost down as much as possible, please "donate to the tip jar". This provides our "Thank you" to the servers!

RETIREMENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Representative Dave Hall cannot be here today. He is working! Retiree Issues Task Force Member Joe Flynn reported for Dave as follows: the next SDCERS meeting is Friday, March 5, 2010. The SDCERS Committees meet the day before the SDCERS board meeting: Thursday, March 4. Disability Application Process is March 16, 2010. Committee members Patti Karnes, Nancy Acevedo, Joe Flynn & Bill Farrar (of Retired Fire and Police) plan to attend. Please contact Dave Hall w/additional concerns.

ADVOCACY VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Advocacy Vice President Patti Karnes asked members to inform their colleagues to join our association. Director Sylvia Tatum is 2010 Membership Chair. Please view City Channel TV March 8, 2010 during Committee meeting.

Director Joe Flynn reminded members to review his editorial w/regards to DROP in the UT and views w/regard to pig farmer ordinance @ Voice of San Diego.

Director Dick Wilken is continuing to report information w/ongoing litigation involving concerns to retirees. The current dispute between CERS & City is a three month trial before Judge Barton. Next trial date is in March.

Director Wilken is studying the City of Vallejo bankruptcy case to best represent ourselves if/when that time comes for the City of San Diego. To date, no cuts to pension, however, the retiree health benefit is being reviewed in Vallejo.

PROGRAM VICE PRESIDENT: Dave Twomey introduced guest speaker Dr. John Warren, Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper Publisher and President of Warren Communications.

Dr. Warren spoke on the functioning of the federal government historically versus today and the pervading philosophies of the two major political parties. He touched on the tendency of today's politicians to make decisions based on expediency rather than acting as statesmen. He also commented on the first year of the Obama administration and the problems that carried over from the prior administration. In addition, Dr. Warren made mention of the pension fund problems and his dismay that City employees, active and retired, are taking the rap for a political decision to under fund the system (in order to fund the baseball stadium and the Republican National Convention). He urged us to do more to push our agenda with elected officials and in the press.

President Baross presented Dr. Warren an REA coffee cup and pen in appreciation for his visit.

Luncheon provided @ \$8 [subsidized by REA].

ADJOURNMENT

President Jim Baross adjourned the meeting @ 12:05pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen Phillips, Acting Recording Secretary for Ruth Ann Hageman