

## **RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF VENTURA COUNTY**

P. O. Box 7231, Ventura CA 93006

**“Dedicated to those who have already served”**

Board Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2010

Four Points Sheraton, Ventura Harbor

**Board Members Present:** Art Goulet, Ron Janes, Will Hoag, Ray Holzer, Lauraine Effress, Betty McCollum, Maria Older Kapp, Sandy Sanders, Don Wright, Maryellen Benedetto, Tom Convery, Jim Crow, Bob Riggs, Judy Nash-Wade, Luisa Haskell (new board member effective January 1, 2011)

**Board Members Absent:** Susan Lacey, Jan Standing-Roberts (new board member effective January 1, 2011)

President, Art Goulet, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Art swore in the following board members, effective January 2011, for a two year term: Jim Crow, Ray Holzer, Bob Riggs, Ron Janes, and Luisa Haskell. Don Wright was also sworn in for the one year remainder of Will Hoag’s elective term, from which Will resigned. Jan Standing-Roberts and Susan Lacey were not present and will be sworn in at the January 2011 board meeting. Maria, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented a slate of officers for 2011: Art Goulet, President; Bob Riggs, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Ron Janes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Will Hoag, Secretary; and Ray Holzer, Treasurer. Motions were made and passed to close nominations and to approve the slate presented. Art thanked Sandy Sanders for her service these past two years.

### **Minutes of the October 5, 2010 Meeting**

Approval of minutes was postponed until the next board meeting, to be held January 4, 2011.

### **Treasurer’s Report – Maria Older Kapp**

Our assets total \$79,276.50. Maria presented the proposed budget for 2011 noting the VC Credit Union continued their yearly contribution of \$1750 to co-sponsor a luncheon, also noting the caterer’s prices will increase 5% and that the Poinsettia Pavilion cost will not increase for 2011. A motion was made and passed to approve it. A subsequent motion was made and passed to not have a separate money market account for the See’s Candy sales. Those funds will be added to the regular money market account, but accounted for separately. Maria also distributed a revised Policy on Reimbursement of Expenses effective January 2011; the only change being that the mileage rate was raised to \$.51 per mile, per IRS regulations.

### **Old/New Business**

Approval of the new Scholarship Forms was postponed until this meeting. The board agreed not to include nephew and nieces as eligible recipients, and the new forms were approved. Art thanked the Scholarship Committee for selecting two outstanding recipients of scholarships for the Spring Semester,. A vote was taken, pro-forma,

approving the two individuals, David Calkins and Rachel Mitchell, for receipt of the \$1000 scholarship awards. The results of the earlier e-mail canvass were ratified.

Tom reported video taping the December luncheon and brought a laptop to show the video to the board. The results were quite good. It was decided to attach a link to our November/December 2010 Newsletter for viewing and to also have the link installed on our website. Tom suggested that the video be placed on YouTube, which he agreed to do. Lauraine said she would call the scholarship recipients to let them know the video would be on YouTube, so they could view it. Lauraine made a suggestion of having a release form available for guest speakers to sign.

Art discussed the possibility of a contribution to the REAOC Amicus and a motion was made and passed to make a donation not to exceed \$1000, if requested. Also, Marin County has suggested contributions be made to them to assist with their recent conference expenses. After discussion it was moved and passed to decline making a contribution, if requested.

Art reported that the Board of Retirement decided to continue the STAR COLA benefit through July 2011, when the current reserve is expected to be exhausted. The STAR COLA payroll is approximately \$120,000 per month. As of September 2010, there were 393 recipients with an average pension amount of \$1190 per month, not including the STAR COLA benefit. The average STAR COLA benefit is \$308 per month. The average age of the STAR COLA recipients is 81½. In Art's opinion, the only solution to extend the benefit past next July would be to borrow money from the \$27.50 reserve. Art noted that he had addressed the issue(s) in the November/December 2010 Newsletter. Maryellen Benedetto suggested that the STAR COLA issue be addressed at the next luncheon. Art agreed to write a short article for the newsletter on the same issue.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Associate Members – Maryellen Benedetto**

No new associate members.

### **Audit – Bob Riggs**

No report

### **Benefits – Ron Janes**

Ron reported that the Ventura County Health Care Plan has been opened up to Medicare eligible retirees who have remained in a county-sponsored insurance plan. He reported there would be a fee increase for retirees in county-sponsored insurance plans. Ron stated that benefits for retirees were in a rather "unsettled state" in reference to unbundling the health insurance risk pool.

### **Communications – Will Hoag**

Will reported receiving three letters inquiring as to Star Cola status.

**Membership/Courtesy – Tom Convery**

Tom reported we have 16 new members and that VCERA reported 16 deceased retirees/members. We have a total active membership of 2,798. VCERA reported to Tom that they had a total of 5,400 retirees. Tom reported that San Bernardino County Retirement Association reported having a membership increase of 400. Tom noted that in the last meeting he had said we had 58% members of the total number of retirees. The correct percentage is 52.

**CRCEA – Betty McCollum**

Betty noted how exceptional the speakers were at the Marin County CRCEA conference. She also noted how great the legislative portion of the conference was and the fact that the committee was headed up by Art Goulet. Betty noted she had copies of the presentations if anyone wanted to review. Art also noted that he also had copies of the Power Point presentations. Art noted that Ron Janes is the new CRCEA Communications Chair, bringing the number of committees chaired by a REAVC member to four. CRCEA President Skip Murphy thanked REAVC for their involvement and continued participation.

**Legislative – Susan Lacey**

No report.

**Newsletter – Lauraine Effres**

Lauraine noted that we don't get feedback from our members and we don't get volunteers for our guest column.

**Scholarship Committee – Lauraine Effress**

Lauraine discussed the changes with the information on the website. As noted above, the new forms were approved.

**Nominations – Maria Kapp**

No additional report.

**Program/Social – Judy Nash-Wade**

No report.

**Retirement Board – Art Goulet**

No additional report.

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wyatt Jorgenson  
Executive Assistant

January 16, 2011