

## **RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF VENTURA COUNTY (REAVC)**

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting for

April 5, 2022 at 11:30 a.m.

Meeting Location, 1976 Lathan Avenue, Camarillo, CA

- ***Call to Order and Roll Call***

President Reddy Pakala called the meeting to order at 11:52 a.m.

*Present*

Board Members: Maryellen Benedetto, Butch Britt, Colleen Bruns, Ken Cozzens, Anne Dana, Art Goulet, Roberta Griego, Will Hoag, Colleen House, Reddy Pakala, Jacquie Richardson, Kelly Shirk, Cindy Schneider, and Nancy Settle

*Absent*

Tom McEachern and Paul Callaway

- **Approval of Minutes from February 1, 2022 Meeting**

February 1, 2022, minutes were approved with a minor revision.  
Moved/Seconded/Carried (MSC) (Reddy/Art)

### **Old/New Business**

#### **1) Financial Reports – Butch**

Butch shared that both expenditures and income are on track. The CD accounts were closed and transferred. The market is uncertain, so it was suggested that further investments wait until the next Board meeting. Butch discussed balancing the See's inventory to account for sales cost losses. Butch recommended that the financial report be received and filed. Reddy made a motion to receive and file the financial report. Art seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **2) June Luncheon Status - Anne**

Anne and the Board discussed speakers for June and other upcoming meetings. Anne suggested inviting a speaker on climate change and Ken suggested that Four Generations Foundations is another possibility. Scholarships will be the topic for June, the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) for September, and the Holiday Program in December. Ken also said Food Share buckets are usually at the June meeting and volunteered to secure them. He also suggested that a reminder about the Food Share buckets should be added to the newsletter. Reddy asked about luncheon costs. Anne responded they are approximately \$32.00. Reddy would like to send reminders to those who miss a couple of luncheons. This topic will be placed on the upcoming agenda. Roberta asked about door prizes.

Anne responded that lottery tickets and gift cards are budgeted items, while gift baskets are donated.

**3) Revisit Board Meeting Venue and Starting Time – Reddy**

Reddy asked about the restaurant research conducted by Cindy and Nancy. Cindy said one possibility is Rumfish in Ventura. Austin's and a couple of others are no longer available. Panera has no doors. Ken indicated that the venue used by the Lions at the location previously known as the Hong Kong Inn (Vaquero y Mar) is another option he can check on. Zoom meetings and hybrid Zoom/onsite meetings were also suggested. Ken suggested we could meet before or after the membership luncheon at Sterling Hills. Four Board members volunteered to have meetings at their homes: Kelly on June 14, Ken on August 2, Roberta on October 4, and Reddy on December 13. A motion was made to approve the meeting locations at the Board Members' homes. (MSC) (Nancy/Ken)

**4) Review, Comment/Approve the Notice to Discontinue Mailing (see attached) by US Mail Effective January 2023 - Reddy**

Reddy expressed that publication of distribution by email only language in the newsletter should be postponed one more time. Reddy read the attached notice to the Board. Nancy made a motion to reopen the discussion and Maryellen seconded. Members agreed to reopen discussion. It was suggested that language be added and that members should let Dee know if they still need a hard copy.

Butch said 70% open their email and between January and March, 45 people opted to receive newsletters by email. Reddy indicated he supports the current language about emailing newsletters but wants to review responses in November and possibly revisit the language at that time.

Anne said that dues cover the newsletter so we should continue to mail it out. She pointed out that luncheon attendees use up their dues by attending only one luncheon and the Board continues to subsidize lunches. Colleen House suggested costs should be addressed in the announcement and that we are asking members to accept individual responsibility for their preferences.

Art shared that everyone has a computer or a friend with one. He also indicated that everyone has phones nowadays. Cindy said hardcopies don't cost more than dues so we should still send them. Art said that there is actually more cost than dues because of distribution costs. Jacquie expressed that it is important to give members an option. Art indicated that the newsletter should include language indicating that if a member needs a special consideration, they should contact Dee or Will by email.

Ken suggested we could consider using language by saying we encourage members to use computers to help save costs versus mandating. Kelly was concerned about the carbon footprint for sending 6 to 10 page newsletters to 2000 members. Anne was concerned that non-computer users would lose touch with REAVC and leave the organization. Nancy

made a motion that we use the language, and automatically transfer as many members as possible to email in November unless they let us know they need the hard copy. Art clarified that he suggested a phone number be included to allow for accommodation. Kelly seconded the motion which passed with 12 Yeas, 1 Nay from Butch, and an abstention from Anne. Reddy agreed with Roberta that we might consider returned mail for removal of members from the mailing list. Colleen Bruns suggested inclusion of the link to the newsletter in the newsletter notification.

## **5) Discuss Hosting the 2024 CRCEA Conference with Santa Barbara County**

Reddy opened discussion about the CRCEA Conference. Art indicated that the Board should wait until after the virtual conference by Orange County on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> to determine cost setting and contact the host about what it took to conduct the conference. Reminders about Orange County's CRCEA have been sent out and registration packets are anticipated soon.

Nancy reported that Santa Barbara is eager to share responsibility with us. She spoke with Mark Brickley and Annette Paladino about CRCEA and they think it will be cheaper to locate the conference in Ventura County.

Also, a one-day conference might be better than having a two to three day one. Reddy asked for volunteers to work on details for the 2024 CRCEA conference in Ventura and come up with recommendations for Board consideration. Will, Jacquie, Kelly, Roberta, and Nancy agreed to serve on the committee.

## **6) Committee Reports**

Audit Committee – Butch, Ken, Paul, Cindy, and Reddy. The meeting will be held at 9:00 on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Retirement Board/Legislation (Art)

- There are currently two bills, one is an omnibus bill with a long list of items for technical cleanup. Committee staff determined some items were not just clean up items, so AB 1971 was created.
- One controversial item is that current law requires approval by the County Board of Supervisors. AB 1971 would eliminate that approval.
- The Board of Retirement is very busy and currently short-staffed due to the Administrator being out to care for a family member.
- In person meetings may reconvene
- AB 826 is in inactive status. VCERA staff, the attorney, and administration are proposing language changes to return AB 826 to active status.

### Newsletter (Butch)

- The deadline for submission of items for the first draft of the June/July newsletter is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Articles need to be sent to Dee. Butch will continue

to help with the email address updates for a little longer. The flyer for the June luncheon needs to be created.

Associate Members (Maryellen)

- Maryellen indicated a need to verify how many Associate Members we currently have.

Nominations/Elections (Nancy)

- No news currently available.

Benefits (Kelly)

- The leadership for Benefits recently changed. Patty Dowdy is the new manager. Meetings were canceled, in the meanwhile.

Communications (Will)

- Communication is light at this time.

Program/Social (Anne)

- Covered the next four luncheons in previous discussion.

Scholarship (Colleen)

- 15 scholarship applications were received and are awaiting further review.

Membership/Courtesy (Nancy)

- The County's quarterly workshops are venues for distribution of REAVC applications. Hopefully, a workshop will be held again in the near future.

CRCEA (Will/Jacquie) – Some areas covered in previous agenda items.

- CRCEA usually charges \$75 for County and \$25 for all others.
- Several good speakers such as Tom Sullivan, Neil Sahota, and Sara Mednick (author of Take a Nap Change Your Life) might also be used as luncheon speakers for REAVC.

**7) Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

The next REAVC Board meeting will be held at 11:30 on June 14, 2022, at Kelly Shirk's house.

Respectfully submitted,



Dee Emami  
REAVC Executive Assistant