



Association of Retired Employees of Orange County
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation
Meetings Held at OCERS, 2223 Wellington Avenue, Santa Ana CA
Minutes of the AREOC Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

I. The AREOC Board meeting was called to order at 1:09 PM by the President, Sara Ruckle Harms

Present: Sara Ruckle Harms, Larry Leaman, Jan Stephenson, Linda Robinson, John LaRoche, Lou Scarpino, Gaylan Harris and Bob Griffith. Also present was Bill Castro and Ilene Bárcenas, Office Manager.

Absent: None

II. Approval of Minutes February 13, 2013

A motion was made by Larry Leaman and seconded by Lou Scarpino to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2013 as amended. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

A. Jan Stephenson presented the February 2013 Treasurer's Report.

Motion made by Larry Leaman and seconded by Linda Robinson to approve the February 2013 Treasurer's Report with the deletion of "Litigation" in the title and "zeros" in each column as appropriate. Motion carried.

B. Update on tax preparation

Sara Ruckle Harms reported that she now has all the items for tax preparation for AREOC. She will call the tax preparer to have the items picked up.

IV. Legislative Report

No additional comments.

V. Update on liaison with Voice of OC Editorial Board

Sara Ruckle Harms spoke to Rebecca Guider and she has not yet heard from the Voice of OC. Sara Ruckle Harms sent a text to Norberto Santana and he will post a bio of Rebecca Guider's. They are very pleased with Rebecca Guider as a resource.

VI. Final Review of "Understanding OCERS Retirement Basics"

Larry Leaman presented the latest version of the document. He would like to present this to OCERS (Julie Wyne) for comments. Linda Robinson made a suggestion that the definition

of Defined Benefit be clarified that the benefit is a vested, life-time benefit (add to the second sentence).

Motion made by Larry Leaman to modify the document with Linda Robinson's comment and authorize our president to send the document to OCERS for their review; motion seconded by Linda Robinson. Motion carried.

VII. Taking the next steps in our Communication Strategy

Sara Ruckle Harms discussed the ongoing education and ideas such as utilizing the "Understanding OCERS Retirement Basics" as a tool once it is approved by OCERS. Larry Leaman and Lou Scarpino met with Tom Coad and suggested that Larry Leaman and Lou Scarpino meet with the CEO of Tom Coad's company. The discussion was regarding 401Ks versus defined benefit retirement plans. The future meeting would be to discuss 401Ks, the train wreck issue and security for retirees.

A motion was made by Linda Robinson and seconded by John LaRoche to recommend that Larry Leaman and Lou Scarpino meet with Tom Coad's business partner. Motion carried.

VIII. Foothill Community Association Meeting – March 4, 2013

Supervisor Spitzer was the keynote speaker at a meeting of the Foothill Community Association at Hewes Middle School in North Tustin. Mr. Spitzer stated that the County needs to move its employees into a 401K system to deal with the escalating retirement costs. There was a discussion regarding the new retirement rates. Mr. Spitzer stated that the new hires have to take a much lower retirement pension rate yet will have to pay increased rate to pay for the obligation of the retirees who are eligible to the older retirement rates. Mr. Spitzer or his Executive Assistants may be individuals to meet with to share the information we have such as the train wreck document and/or the "Understanding OCERS Retirement Basics". Sara Ruckle Harms also shared that she had a casual conversation with John Moorlach and shared some of the information regarding retirement issues and defined benefits.

IX. Meet and Greet with OCERS Board – May 20, 2013

Action Item: At the meet and greet, we will share the Train Wreck material with the OCERS Board. Linda Robinson and Doug Storm will draft a cover letter to go with the material. Lou Scarpino has some extra copies of the train wreck documents that he will make available.

X. OC Business Council and Jordan Brandman – Update

There is an investigation into a contract that Mr. Brandman has with the County. Due to this, we may not have a meeting with him as he is very busy dealing with this investigation.

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by John LaRoche and seconded Linda Robinson to adjourn the meeting at 2:04 PM. Motion carried.