

This Was a Virtual Meeting Held Via Zoom

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Retired Public Employees Association - Chapter 077
Wednesday, July 26, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Norman Stump.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Norman Stump, President (*left meeting during Health Benefits Report); Betsy Kruger, Vice President; Barbara Evans, Secretary (via telephone); Joan Palmer, Treasurer; Sharon Salcido, Newsletter Editor & Web Master; Al Raitt, Health Benefits Chair; Mary Kowta, Legislative Chair.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Cassetta, Membership Chair; Lawrie Salvestrin, Sunshine Chair; Judy Winter, Member at Large.

MINUTES: There being no corrections to the minutes of the 6/28/23 meeting they were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The report showed a balance of \$4,237.58 as of 7/26/23. There being no questions, the report will be filed as submitted.

NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE REPORT: Salcido gave an update on the preparation and distribution of the August newsletter. She noted that there was another increase in bulk-mailing costs as of July 1, so our mailing cost increased slightly. The newsletter printing cost was higher this month since 100 extra copies were ordered for Mike Cassetta to include with his welcome letter to the 100 new members transferred from Chapter 074 to Chapter 077. The website is in the process of being updated.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Kowta referred members to her report in the newsletter regarding: the cyber hacking of private information of members' CalPERS accounts which occurred through a subcontractor called PBI; the status of various bills in the Legislature; and signing of the State budget by the Governor.

HEALTH BENEFITS REPORT: Raitt reported on the state-wide meeting of stake holders: CalPERS has informed members of a breach in its system through a contractor PBI and an offer to sign up with Experian. Members can sign in on the CalPERS web site for new health insurance premium rates. Staffing for nursing homes is a real problem as it affects long-term care for patients and each nursing home is required to have an ombudsman available.

**President Stump left the meeting at this time and Vice President Kruger presided over the remainder.*

Raitt further noted that a Federal regulatory change in Medicare would provide 80% reimbursement to nursing homes for patient care only, and not for administrative costs.

MEETING VENUE: Before leaving the meeting, the President asked for a report from Kruger and Salcido on membership meeting arrangements with the Double Tree at the next Board meeting.

RECESS FOR MEETING INTERRUPTION BY ZOOM: Access to Zoom was interrupted at 9:35 a.m. and resumed at 9:55 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Cassetta sent an email to all Board members which contained the following membership information: May - 490 members, up from 312 in April, due to 96 new members from the Paradise chapter. June - 406 members, down from 409, due to loss of 3 members, 2 cancellations and one death. He has prepared a new member welcome letter that will be sent to new members along with a newsletter.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: In response to Kruger, Raitt indicated that he would check with the President on the need to appoint a Nominating Committee since he thought that the State RPEA headquarters reported that it was not necessary. He will report at the next Board meeting.

MICROPHONES: Salcido gave a status report on securing microphones for the chapter. She had ordered two microphones from Amazon for \$99, which should arrive today, and she outlined the features they would have. She will bring them to the next Board meeting.

ZOOM MEETINGS: Due to the interruption during today's Zoom meeting, Raitt will contact Zoom to determine if the chapter can continue with free meetings or will have to sign up for a commercial/business account. He will report at the next Board meeting.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Members accepted Kowta's invitation to hold the next Board meeting at her home at 10:00 a.m. on 8/30/23. Kruger will send a notice to all members along with Kowta's home address.

(NOTE: Subsequent to today's meeting, Raitt contacted Zoom concerning the interruption in today's meeting and was advised of the option of staying with the current arrangement of 40-minute segments with an 8-minute recess in between the initial and second segments. Via email, Board members agreed to proceed with a Zoom for the 8/30/23 meeting. Members should sign on to the meeting as close to 9:00 a.m. as possible in order not to start the Zoom session too early.)

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Barbara A. Evans, Secretary