

Board of Directors Meeting
February 20, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am, by Mike Lee, President.

Board members present: Mike Lee, Richard McBryde, Tim Cook, John Johnson, Jim Nichols, Francis Bradley, Bob McCulley, Dan Melancon, Donne Walden, Darryl White, Frank Hester, Earl Wainscott, and Gary James.

Vice President Report, Richard McBryde.

Richard informed the board that representatives from "Hospital Wing" will present a membership program especially designed for ACRE members at the general membership meeting at 12 noon.

Treasurers Report, Jim Nichols.

Item 1. Jim presented the treasurer's report. A copy of his report will become a part of the ACRE records.

Tim Cook made a motion to approve the report, seconded by Frank Hester. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 2. Jim Nichols reported that he and Tim Cook will be unavailable for ACRE business between March 5th and March 12th. The office phone will be forwarded to Richard McBryde during their absence.

Secretary's Report, John Johnson.

Item 1. The minutes of the Board of Director's meeting of January 16th was presented for approval.

Tim Cook made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Bob McCulley. The minutes were approved without objection.

Item 2. The minutes of the General Membership Meeting of January 16th was presented for approval.

Bob McCulley made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Donne Walden. The minutes were approved without objection.

Item 3. The minutes of a "special" Board of Director's meeting of January 28th was presented by Jim Nichols, who took the minutes in the absence of the secretary.

Donnie Walden made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Richard McBryde. The minutes were approved without objection.

Public Relations Report, Tim Cook.

Item 1. Tim asked for a motion to approve a \$200.00 expense to hardwire the internet in the ACRE office on Jefferson. ACRE was sharing a server and router with the MPA, which was unreliable. The cost to complete the project was \$200.00.

A motion to approve the expenditure was made by Bob McCulley, seconded by Richard McBryde. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 2. Reminded the officers that he needs their articles for the newsletter ASAP. The newsletter will not go out until sometime next week, after the healthcare oversight committee meeting at city hall this coming Tuesday, February 26th.

Item 3. Tim and another member of ACRE are working on a postcard design for retiree's that are not members of ACRE asking them to join us.

Item 4. Tim advised that the ACRE website has been updated with new information on the Pension page, and may set up a page dedicated to disability issues.

Item 5. Furnished the board members with information concerning email addresses for ACRE officers and what will happen if you have email from ACRE forwarded to your private email address. There is no problem until you reply. When you reply it will give your private email address to the person you are replying to.

Item 6. Paying Dues On Line. There has been some inquiries regarding members being able to pay their dues on line. Tim advises that it can be done but it is expensive. Pay Pal is the cheapest, with a cost to the organization of 3% of the total collected.

Legal Advisor's Report, Clyde Keenan.

Item 1. The litigation on the disability pensions are on hold until further notice. They are trying to work out some compromises on both sides as it pertains to widows, older retirees, and other cases that were suggested months ago. All calls from members regarding this should be referred to either the fire or police unions, and not to Clyde. ACRE is not a part of the litigation, only the fire and police unions.

Pension Report, Dan Melancon.

Item 1. The pension board meets on the last Thursday of the month, and the last meeting was January 31st. As of December 31, 2012, there was \$1.994 billion in the pension fund.

Item 2. The finance committee is working to protect the pension fund.

Item 3. The next pension board meeting is February 28th at 9 am. A report on this meeting will be discussed at the March board meeting.

Membership Committee Report, Darryl White.

Item 1. Dues are coming in pretty steady. Darryl was assisted by Doug Sanders in helping to make the calls to members who have not paid their dues.

Item 2. Darryl suggested that those who have not paid their dues since 2010 should be purged from the system. He further suggest that if the member has not paid for 3 years, should not be given any information or assistance with any problem.

Item 3. Mike Lee pointed out that the board already voted to suspend sending out newsletters and other correspondence to any member who is more than a year behind on their dues.

Healthcare Report, Francis Bradley

Item 1. Francis reminded the board that they city benefits office were suppose to come up with a website to help to improve the communication between the benefits office and ACRE retirees. In addition retirees were to be able correspond with the benefits office via email with problems. Francis reports that this has not been done.

Item 2. Francis received an email from Gertie Ryan regarding complaints that retirees cannot get in touch with or receive phone calls back from the staff at the benefits office. The phone number for retirees to call is 901-636-6800. This is the only number that is to be used when communicating with the benefits office. If the caller has to leave a message they should always leave their name and a telephone number.

Item 3. Francis discuss some examples of problems that individuals had with healthcare issues that have been resolved.

President's Report, Mike Lee.

Item 1. Mike Lee asked for a motion to add Frank Hester as chairman of the holiday planning committee.

A motion was made by Jim Nichols, seconded by Darryl White. The motion was approved without objection.

Other business

Item 1. Mike Lee asked that at some point in time we need to consider having a secure login for information on the webpage, especially when it pertains to personal information on members. This will be brought up at a later date when there is more time to discuss. It should be similar to FOP website.

Item 2. Bob McCulley wanted to know about the possibility of have dues come due at the first of the year instead of being due on the month a member joins. Mike Lee asked Bob to work on this possibility and report back to the board at the next regular monthly meeting.

Having no further business the board meeting was adjourned.

John M. Johnson

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ACRE, Secretary