

Minutes of Board of Director's Meeting (delivered via email)

Meeting Date *April 12, 2011*

Attendees: Bill Aitken, Bob Bacon, Steve Berry, Walt Byron, Beverly Carothers, Jim Grunst, Doris Harriman, Al Hyland, Edyie Johnson, Florence Jones, Lucille Kelley, Bill Rosen, Richard Rosenblatt, and Eric Thorgerson,

Also present: Mary Ann Hall who is newly and ably assisting Bill Rosen with the Newsletter

Absent: Roger Clapp, Dick Gellis, Touie Jackson and Bob Ruckstuhl,

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Jim Grunst called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Walter Byron reported that the Minutes of the March 8, 2011, monthly Board meeting had been taken and were published via email (with copies mailed to Lucille). A motion was made, seconded and unanimously supported to accept the Minutes as published.

3. MEMBERSHIP:

Steve Berry reported for Bob Ruckstuhl that we have added 34 new members thus far this year and our membership number stands at 1668 as of this meeting.

At our November meeting, Bob agreed to do a long range membership forecast at the first spring meeting he is able to attend upon his return from Florida.

4. NEWSLETTER:

Bill Rosen said that the April Newsletter is in the mail to members.

Bill thanked his new assistant, Mary Ann Hall, who has made a big contribution to this issue which is much appreciated.

The next issue will be released to the printer in June for a July distribution and will contain a report and pictures from the May luncheon, as well as news of the Fall luncheon.

5. EXPENSES:

a) Web Site Hosting:

1) Steve Berry reported that Dan Cence has been paying \$19.99 per month for the cost of hosting the PRA web site. His costs have accumulated to the total of \$278.86. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to reimburse Dan for his efforts on our behalf.

2) Steve has transferred this monthly bill to his credit card, will investigate if this charge can be paid annually in the future, and will bring the issue back to the Board.

b) Newsletter Costs:

Steve reported that his investigation of three year of costs for printing and distributing the Newsletter reveals that the costs per issue have been fairly flat, from \$1.23 for the January 2008 issue to \$1.27 for the January 2011 issue.

Steve said that he was impressed that the suppliers have held these costs over three years. The general feeling among the Board was that the fairly flat costs are acceptable as is. Recently, Dick Gellis, who purchased media for Polaroid, volunteered to explore other providers for the printing and distribution of the Newsletter. *But, even though costs have been flat, since they do represent our second largest expense, Jim Grunst said that he would ask Dick to investigate and bring any recommendations back to the Board for discussion.*

The idea of discontinuing or reducing the number of copies printed and sent by US Mail and substituting email delivery was raised. *It was agreed that since this would involve effort on Bob Ruckstuhl's part to sort the roster into lists for those who have or do not have an email address, the topic would be addressed next month when Bob returns.*

6. SPRING LUNCHEON:

Walter Byron reported that we have 230 signed up as of this meeting.

Our speaker, Tim Mahoney will need to connect his laptop to a projector and to have a screen for the presentation. Jim will talk with Nancy Mahoney of Lantana's about the cable, projector and screen and have her equipment provider contact Walter.

Tim, archivist from the Baker Library at the Harvard Business School, is completing his presentation about the history of the Polaroid business archives collection, what it contains, how it has been processed and catalogued, and how scholars are using it.

There are 137 Scratch Tickets left over from previous luncheons. After some discussion, and given from previous cost savings decisions that we will not be using them again in registration envelopes, it was agreed that half, in batches of 10, would be used at each of the next two luncheons as raffle prizes until they are gone.

Steve Berry will send out an email to the full PRA membership as a reminder to register for the luncheon.

7. FUTURE LUNCHEONS:

a) Fall Luncheon:

Eric Thorgerson and Jim Grunst reported that, with the assistance of Dan Cence, Dr. Florian Kaps, leader of the Impossible Project, has agreed to speak at the fall luncheon. They have closed on the final arrangements with Dr. Kaps.

It may be possible to link up Dr. Kaps in the near future with some ex - Polaroid employees who would be willing to volunteer to provide answers to a few of his technical questions. Eric is pursuing this idea.

Eric and Jim want to make sure that we acknowledge the contribution that Dan Cence has made in facilitating the introductions and communications between the PRA and Dr. Kaps. Dan and David Bias, who also assisted while working on the Impossible Project from New York, will be invited to the fall luncheon.

Eric will work on an appropriate product from the old Polaroid as an honorarium for Dr. Kaps.

b) Other Speakers:

The desire is to have at least a speaker booked ahead for the coming luncheon and be working on a speaker for the luncheon beyond that.

Edyie and Bev will investigate having a SHINE representative as a speaker to discuss changes in retirement laws and benefits.

Bill Aitken will investigate the possibility of a speaker from the National Retirees Legislative Network to discuss pending retirement law changes.

Edyie will explore the possibility of inviting a speaker from a company in New Bedford who advise on estate and Medicare planning.

Also, although not a speaker, ***Sid Whiting will be asked to be present at the fall luncheon*** to again offer his services as PRA members deal with the annual choices offered by various insurance companies for Medicare D plans for 2012.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Condolences Committee

Doris Harriman and Lucille Kelley reported that there have been 7 ex - Polaroid members, including 4 PRA members, who have died since our March meeting.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

a) Replacement for Board Members Retiring in May:

Four Board members (Bob Ruckstuhl, Bob Bacon, Beverly Caruthers and Bill Rosen) whose three - year terms are up in May, but who have not served three three - year terms allowed by the PRA Constitution, have indicated a willingness to run again.

Two members' (Bill Aitken and Al Hyland) nine year eligibility on the Board will be up in May and thus there is a need for two candidates to replace them. A short list of former Polaroid employees who had expressed interest in joining the Board was followed up between meetings and two people, John Alden Hall and Susan McCusker, agreed to run for the two open seats. The Board separately

approved the candidacy of each. The roster of candidates was approved and will be in the April Newsletter, then will be prepared for the vote by the PRA members at the May Annual Meeting.

As Bill Aitken will be leaving the Board after the May meeting, there is a need to replace him as Chair of the Nominating Committee. *This will be addressed at the May Board meeting.*

b) Web Site Log In:

It has been noted that people who log in to the PRA web site may be ex - Polaroid employees who are not PRA members and thus offer us an opportunity for their recruitment. There is a Guest Book where they add their email address and about 70 to 80 addresses have been accumulated. Touie Jackson volunteered to review this list and send a note to all who are not PRA members encouraging them to join the PRA with a link the PRA web site where the Membership Application can be located. *This will be addressed at the May Board meeting.*

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Beverly asked if anyone could help her answer the questions she often receives, "Does Polaroid still exist?" After some discussion, Steve Berry agreed to update and reissue his August email on "Who's What in Polaroid Worlds". This should help Bev, and all Board members, answer those questions. *It is also planned to insert some form of this information into the July Newsletter* prior to Dr. Kaps speaking on "The Impossible Project" at the fall luncheon.

11. FUTURE MEETINGS:

2011 Meeting Calendar:

The 2011 Board meetings, held on Tuesdays at the Chateau in Norwod, are as follows

June 7, September 13, **Wednesday, October 12**, November 8 and December 6. Luncheon dates will be on Wednesdays: May 18 and October 19.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to adjourn, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Our next monthly Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 12, 2011. Doors open at 9:30 and the meeting will be called to order at 10:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Byron, Secretary