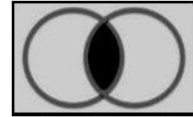




## Polaroid Retirees Association

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Mary McCann, Secretary

### ***Minutes of Board of Directors' Zoom Meeting, September 8, 2020***

**Attendees:** Arthur Aznavorian, David Bayer, Nino DiIanni, John Flynn, Elizabeth Foote, Mary Ann Hall, Eva Karger, Erika Kliem, Mary McCann, Jim Micheson, George Murray, Bill Rosen, and Eric Thorgerson

**Absent:** Robert Ruckstuhl, Ed Wade.

Larry Chelmow, has resigned from the BOD, due to demands for his clock repair expertise.

**Zoom Experience:** Bill Rosen set the meeting up on Zoom. Both sound and video signal were an improvement over Skype. All participants could be seen on participants' screens, and there was no unwanted audio feedback. Bill has signed up for a year's participation at a cost of \$~\$150. This means (I think) unlimited meeting length. (Free meetings end after 40 minutes)

**Call to Order:** Ed Wade, the newly elected president, was unable to connect to the meeting through Zoom. In his absence, the meeting was called to order by Elizabeth Foote at 10:05 AM. Elizabeth led the first part of the meeting, from Rolling Calendar through the Membership Committee report. She then turned the meeting over to first VP John Flynn.

**Rolling Calendar:** John Flynn had presented the rolling calendar to the board by email, and it was accepted by the board. Treasurer Nino DiIanni noted that he would submit a financial report to the State by October first.

**Secretary's Report** The secretary's report had been circulated by email, and was accepted by the board.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Nino Dilanni reports that, as was announced at the last board meeting by Bob, the dues amount collected in August would be high. The amount received was \$1,527. If dues continue to come in at this rate we will exceed Budget. The only expense for the month was \$134 to cover the P.O. Box rental. There is \$33,000 cash available in our accounts.

The board accepted the Treasurer's report.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Condolences;** Maryann Hall reported that the names added to the condolences list this month were Joe McLaughlin, Albert "Al" Muren, Anthony T, Morechi, and George P. Reinmann, Jr. All three were PRA members.

**Membership:** There was no significant membership activity in the month of August. Membership numbers were unchanged throughout the month. As was reported earlier, the membership dues receipts for August were significantly above

budget. No explanation for the increase is available at this time.

Unless things change between now and the date that the Q4 newsletter goes to the printer, 53 members of the PRA will receive letters indicating that their memberships in the PRA will be terminated at the end of the year unless they bring their dues up to date.

**New Business:** George Murray brought up the proposition that the PRA should follow the example of a number of other voluntary, or not-for-profit organizations, and declare a moratorium for dues for a year because of the disruption caused by Covid-19 and because of our considerable (\$33,000) balance at the credit union.

There followed a series of questions raised by various members on the board:

- the ongoing costs this year, even without BOD meetings or Members Luncheons
- the costs of publishing the Newsletter and other incidental costs
- the number of members who pay annually, or a few years in a row,
- how the moratorium would be implemented in the membership roster
- alternatively, it would be more worthwhile to make a contribution to a charitable organization, such as we did a few years ago. While this had been suggested as an opportunity for the PRA anniversary celebration, it was decided against, as the DFCU has volunteered to pay for the PRA event, and it seemed inappropriate to turn around and send our monies elsewhere.

If such a step (the moratorium) were to happen, it should be announced in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter newsletter. Elizabeth agreed to hold up publishing for a few days, allowing time to get facts straight and then have a special Zoom session of the whole board as early as possible.

Discussion of this step and getting underlying numbers, should happen between George, the initiator, Nino treasurer, Bob as membership chair, Elizabeth as Newsletter Editor, and Ed Wade a president. A special Zoom session of the whole board would follow to vote on the change.

*(note: has such a conversation taken place already?)*

**Old Business:**

**Mailing for Lost Members:**

Erica reported that about 200 cards would be sent out to lost members. The cards would have a single question about why they have chosen not to renew their membership. She suggested that they might have a higher return ratio if they contained some handwritten message. However, this would be much more difficult to accomplish when the printer is set up to print both the message and addresses, and send them out. She was encouraged to design a bifold card with the note and question(s), and the return card. Bob had suggested that the return address be the PRA membership mailbox.

**May 2021 Speaker:**

Bob Perry, director of the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation, had been suggested as the October 2020 speaker. (The 1265 Main St committee had met him when they visited the museum in the spring of 2019, and found him a very interesting speaker.) Waltham industries have been the focus of the museum and their Polaroid exhibit needs work. However, the museum is currently closed and we have had no contact with him.

**35<sup>th</sup> Celebration Update**

The uncertainty of the Covid-19 situation by the spring of 2021 has made planning very difficult. Elizabeth mentioned that the Singapore Media group that is producing a video on Polavision might have it available for us to use by the time.

Both Elizabeth and Mary promised some information about previous anniversaries.

**Prospective BOD Candidates:**

Elizabeth will be in touch with Peggy Prebensen, who was unavailable through the summer but had evinced interest in joining the board later in the year.

Elizabeth has also reached out to Bill Gray, who would bring some diversity to the board.

Ken and Carole McCarthy were mentioned as possible addition(s). Board members were encouraged to think of new candidates, particularly ones who would increase diversity.

**Newsletter:**

Newsletter is almost ready to go to printer. The addition of notices from the board may be the only additions still necessary.

**Adjournment** A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to adjourn at 11:15 AM. Respectfully submitted by Mary McCann

**Future Meeting Dates**

**DIRECTORS: ALL ON SKYPE 10:00AM – 11:30AM 6/9/20**

**MEMBERS LUNCHEON : *October 21, 2020 Cancelled***