VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES
Annual General Meeting
March 20, 2019, 2:00 p.m.

VCCCD District Administration Center Board Room
761 E. Daily Drive, Camarillo

1. Call to Order

Preliminaries: Signup Sheet, Visitors, Agenda

President Rene Rodriguez called the 25th Annual Meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Rene thanked everyone for attending and asked everyone to be sure they had signed the sign-up sheet and picked up copies of the Agenda for today's meeting. René acknowledged guests, Chancellor Dr. Greg Gillespie, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources Michael Shanahan, Katy Lyon, Human Resources Benefits Analyst and Jerry Morris from CalRTA.

2. Welcoming Remarks

Rene thanked the Chancellor for allowing the Association to use the District Office Board Room for this meeting. Rene introduced the members of the Executive Board in attendance at the meeting, Gary Johnson, chair of the Benefits committee with 17 years of service, Joy Kobayashi, chair of the Membership committee in her first year of service, Harry Culotta, immediate past president/newsletter editor with 13 years of service, Larry Manson, chair of the Educational Issues committee with 7 years of service, Pat Gage, treasurer with 9 years of service and Marie Soo Hoo, secretary with 9 years of service. Rene also noted that he had 13 years of service with 9 of those years as president. In addition, Rene introduced Carmen Guerrero and stated that she had recently volunteered to take over as the new Blogmaster. Rene further commented on the recent passing of Bill Robinson on March 12, noting that Bill had served as Vice President of the Association since July 2017. Rene informed the audience that since Bill had indicated several months ago that he was no longer going to be able to serve as Vice President, John Woolley had volunteered to serve the remainder of Bill's term in office.

3. Approval of Minutes and Treasurer's Report

a. Approval of Minutes, General Meeting March 21, 2018

The Minutes from the Annual General Meeting of 2018 prepared by Marie Soo Hoo, Secretary, were reviewed by the members. It was moved by Harry Culotta and seconded by Lester Tong, that the Minutes be approved as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by those in attendance.

b. Treasurer's Report

Pat Gage reviewed the Treasurer's report for the period March 21, 2018 – March 20, 2019. In the General Fund, her report reflected a balance on hand as of March 21, 2018 of $14,140.11. The report reflected expenses for the year in the amount of $6,427.05. Pat explained

that those expenses included the recent purchase of 10,000 Forever Stamps, totaling $4,975, prior to the price increase by the Post Office in January of 2019, as well as printing/copies, post office box fee, mailing labels, toner/ink, paper, bank checks, and social event expenses. The report also reflected income of $3,428 for the year. This left a total balance on hand of $11,141.06 as of March 20, 2019. In the Legal Fund, the balance on hand was $24,000. The report also reflected current assets in the form of 12,000 USPS Forever stamps. The Treasurer's Report also noted that 20 rolls (2,000 stamps) had been used between March 2018 and March 2019.

4. Welcome and District Update by Chancellor Greg Gillespie

Chancellor Greg Gillespie thanked all the retirees for their service to the District. Chancellor Gillespie stated that the Student-Centered Funding Formula is now tied to FTES, the type of student being served (i.e., low income, underrepresented), those completing certificates in specific programs and overall student success. He further stated that planning has begun to establish a District Foundation to work specifically with groups that prefer to work with one central contact person and to have the ability to provide service to students at all three campuses. Dr. Gillespie responded to a question asked by Ana Maria Valle Villa regarding counselor support for students at Oxnard College. Dr. Gillespie stated that he has met with Dr. Azari at Oxnard College and is hopeful that funding will be found to provide for the hiring of more full-time counselors.

5. Update on District Medicare Supplemental Insurance: Michael Shanahan, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources

Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, Michael Shanahan, spoke to the audience regarding the issue of a Medical Supplement. He reported that the news was not good. Due to VCCCD's demographics and poor subscriber records, there were no bids from providers other than CalPERS. Most providers required all retirees to be on Medicare Part A & B whether they were eligible or not. CalPERS was the only provider willing to take all or part of our group at any time. If we come in with retirees, they will not require that everyone be on Medicare Part A & B. They will require that everyone eligible be on Medicare Part A & B, but they will give us a year to get this done. This would cut the premium in half. CalPERS has tiered rates, not a composite such as ours. There are different plans and that is the biggest hurdle at this time he stated. Each plan has different co-pays and out-of-pocket requirements. Mr. Shanahan stated further that the District's broker, Burnham Benefits, estimated that if we were to all sign up for the most expensive Anthem plan offered by CalPERS it would save the District at least $10 million; and up to $20 million per year on their cheapest plan offered.

He said that Burnham representatives have been excellent to work with and responsive to questions raised. They have been working with the District on cleaning up the records of current employees and retirees covered on the District's plans so that accurate information is provided as to who is covered by Medicare Parts A & B. Once all the records are cleaned up, Burnham anticipates that the District may be in a better position to talk with other providers and JPAs (Joint Powers Agencies) regarding supplemental plans. Mr. Shanahan went on to state that Anthem Blue Cross had brought in their plan for renewal at a 6% increase, if that rate is not accepted or we negotiate, that offer comes off the table. It was agreed to renew at this rate. If the District decides to go with CalPERS, we would have someone watching out for our benefits so

that they do not make arbitrary changes without notifying the District beforehand, such has happened in the past with Anthem.

CalPERS has professional analysts to advise us before changes are made. Mr. Shanahan stated they are a "class act", however we have less control over the plan, what they have is what we get. He indicated there are ways to have input to CalPERS through working with coalitions of other Community Colleges in CalPERS and have more power to influence decisions. Mr. Shanahan indicated that he felt encouraged with the progress so far and hopes to have more news next year. At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr. Shanahan announced that he would be leaving the District within the next week and would be going on to take a new position with a private agency.

6. Keynote Speaker: Richard G. Hanson on "Mitigating the Costs of Long-Term Care"

On behalf of the Foundation for Economic Education (F3E) keynote Speaker Richard G. Hanson, gave a presentation entitled "Mitigating the Costs of Long-Term Care." He prefaced his remarks by stating he has been with F3E for 10 years and has 37 years' experience as a financial planner.

Mr. Hanson noted that the average 65 year-old couple will need as much as $400,000 for health care costs in retirement, but this does not include long term care. Fewer than 10% of Americans have long term care, due to its high cost, but 70% of those over 65 will need long term care.

The need for long term care is defined as a person's inability to perform at least two of the six activities of daily living (ADLs) or the need for memory care. The ADLs are defined as eating, bathing, dressing, toileting, transferring (walking), and continence.

Mr. Hanson then described traditional means of meeting long term care needs, including:

--Unpaid caregivers, usually family members, of whom there have been over 43 million in the last 12 months, and ¾ of these are women;

--Self-insurance, in which LTC costs are paid out of pocket;

--Medicaid (i.e. MediCal), which requires impoverishment in order to qualify;

--Medicare, but it only provides up to 100 days, with major co-pays for days 21-100;

--Federal LTC program, a poverty-level program that provides limited benefits in marginal nursing home or assisted living facilities;

--Veterans Aid & Attendance Program, which provides rental assistance in assisted living facilities to eligible veterans.

Mr. Hanson then described the various insurance options, including:

--Traditional commercial long-term care (LTC) only insurance, which is the most customizable. Policy advantages are: they can be based on indemnity or reimbursement, allow for cost-of-living adjustments, adjust the duration of benefits. Their disadvantages:

their rates constantly increase, premiums must be paid for life, and the premiums are lost if the policy is not used.

--CalPERS Long-Term Care Program – Run by CalPERS, it has the same advantages and disadvantages as commercial insurance policies, and it is the subject of ongoing litigation.

-- Life insurance with LTC rider – This is a whole life insurance policy that has an LTC rider that may provide three times or more of its face value in LTC benefits, should the need arise for long term care. Its advantages: premiums and benefits are guaranteed and there is a minimum death benefit guarantee (i.e. the family receives money not used for LTC coverage). Its disadvantages: it is the least customizable and it may have the least LTC coverage.

Mr. Hanson suggested, in his opinion, that the best companies offering this type of policy are Allianz, Minnesota Life, and Securian Financial. He then concluded the presentation.

7. Reports from the Committee Chairs

Due to time constraints there were no reports from the Chairs of the following Committees:

Benefits Committee (Gary Johnson), Educational Issues Committee (Larry Manson), Membership Committee (Joy Kobayashi), Social Committee (Marie Soo Hoo), Newsletter Editor (Harry Culotta), Webmaster (Rene Rodriguez), Blogmaster (Carmen Guerrero)

8. Business Action Items

a. Report by Nominating Committee Chair: Larry Manson reported that there were no candidates being presented for election as President, but that John Woolley was interested in continuing as Vice President. Therefore, he asked for nominations from the floor for the office of President.

1. President: John Woolley nominated Rene Rodriguez for the office of President, Pat Gage seconded the nomination and Rene indicated he would accept. Larry called for the vote and the nomination was unanimously approved by the members present.

2. Vice President: Stan Bowers moved approval of John Woolley as Vice President and Carmen Guerrero seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the members present.

b. Dues Proposal: $20 in 2020

Harry Culotta presented a Proposal to raise Association dues to $20 per year or $200 lifetime in 2020, effective July 1, 2020. It was moved by Marta Freixas and seconded by Sid Adler that the Proposal for $20 in 2020 be approved as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by the members present.

c. Proposal to Sponsor a Don B. Medley Scholarship

Rene informed the audience that several months ago a Board member brought the idea of sponsoring a scholarship on behalf of our founder, Don Medley. Rene commented that the idea was discussed at two separate meetings and the Board is proposing that the Retirees' Association explore with the membership the idea of sponsoring a scholarship on behalf of Don Medley. The main concern is funding the scholarship, stated Rene. He noted that it would take about half the membership to make a one-time $25 contribution to establish a permanently endowed $500 scholarship. There are other questions that need to be resolved also, he stated, but the funding for the scholarship is the main concern. Several members in the audience commented on the proposal of the scholarship. It was moved by Marta Freixas and seconded by Sid Adler that the idea of an endowed $500 annual scholarship on behalf of Don Medley be explored by the Association. The motion was unanimously approved by the members present

9. Comments and Questions on Any Topic from the Audience

No comments and/or questions were raised by anyone in the audience.

10. Announcements

There was a request to the audience to remember to return the benefits questionnaire that had been sent out recently to retirees regarding any issues with current health coverage.

11. Adjournment

René thanked everyone for attending today's meeting and especially the speakers for sharing their time and providing valuable information to the Association. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Soo Hoo
Secretary
5/28/19;8/25/19