VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES
Annual General Meeting
March 21, 2018, 2:00 p.m.

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

1. Call to Order

President Rene Rodriguez called the 24th Annual Meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Rene also thanked everyone for attending and stated that it was good to see so many in attendance despite the rain storm that was hitting the area today.

2. Welcoming Remarks

a. Preliminaries: Signup Sheet, Visitors, Agenda

Rene 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 guest, Steve Blum, Board of Trustee member. Mr. Blum said a few words of thanks for being invited to the Annual Meeting and to the Retiree Association for continuing to share their knowledge, expertise and historical information with the Board of Trustees. Also introduced was Dr. Greg Gillespie, the new District Chancellor. Rene then introduced the current members of the Executive Board, Gary Johnson, chair of the Benefits committee with 16 years of service, Don Medley, founder of the Association and chair of the Membership committee with 24 years of service, Harry Culotta, immediate past president/newsletter editor with 12 years of service, Larry Manson, chair of the Educational Issues committee with 6 years of service, Pat Gage, treasurer with 8 years of service and Marie Soo Hoo, secretary with 8 years of service. Rene also noted that he had 12 years of service with 8 of those years as president. In addition, Rene stated that Lester Tong, new Webmaster has 1 year of service, but was not able to be in attendance today.

3. Approval of Minutes and Treasurer's Report

a. Approval of Minutes, General Meeting April 12, 2017

The Minutes from the Annual General Meeting of 2017, prepared by Marie Soo Hoo, Secretary, were reviewed by the members. It was moved by David Kay and seconded by Lynn Fauth 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 April 3, 2017 – March 21, 2018. In the General Fund, her report reflected a balance on hand as of April 3, 2017 of $13,254.75. The report reflected expenses for the year in the amount of $1,499.64. Those expenses included printing/copies, post office box fee, labels, and social event expenses. The report also reflected income of $2,385 for the year. This left a total balance on hand of $14,140.11 as of March 21, 2018. In the Legal Fund, the balance on hand was $24,000. The report also reflected current assets in the form of 26 rolls of USPS Forever stamps at a current value of $1,300.

4. Welcome and District Update by Chancellor Greg Gillespie

Chancellor Greg Gillespie stated that he was happy to welcome the retirees to the College District's new District Administration Center. District Office staff had been moved into the building in April of 2017 he stated. Chancellor Gillespie distributed two sheets of information. The first focused on VCCCD Fast Facts. It provided statistics broken down by campus on current student enrollment, age, ethnicity, degrees/certificates awarded and transfer data. For the spring of 2017, student enrollment was reflected at over 30,000 district-wide. The second was a publication from the Community College League of California entitled "Student Focused for a Better California, January 2018". Chancellor Gillespie noted that the revenue picture for the District is positive and that plans for the best use of allocation of funds is being considered for the future. He also noted that an on-line only college is being considered for the state. This would bring the total community colleges state-wide to 115. Further he stated that negotiations have been completed with AFT and that an agreement could possibly be approved by the Board at their meeting in April. He invited the retirees to tour the new District Office, time permitting, after the meeting.

5. Keynote Speaker: Michael Shanahan, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources

President Rene Rodriguez began the introduction of keynote speaker Michael Shanahan, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, by briefly describing his education and experience prior to coming to the VCCCD in 2013. Mr. Shanahan's presentation was entitled "Exploring Possible Health Benefit Options". Mr. Shanahan stated that the first quotes received for insurance premiums reflected a 25% increase for the next year. He stated, however, that he expects that it will drop to half or less than half for both the AFT & ASCC groups. Several factors influence increases he indicated. One of those being high-cost claims for subscribers having serious or long-term illnesses. With a smaller pool of subscribers (e.g., 1000 people) expensive claims can cause large fluctuations in premiums. A larger pool will have less fluctuation. It is important, he stated, for us to understand how to get the most out of our benefits. For example, use of urgent care facilities should be considered first versus going to an emergency room. Emergency Room visits are costlier. The District's Benefits Committee is in the process of searching for a new broker and they have received proposals from several companies. Mr. Shanahan stated that RFP's were requested from JPA's as they are more apt to be able to spread the risk among multiple entities. However, no local JPA's responded favorably due to the demographics of our group (high average age). CalPERS was interested, but there were potential issues. Some of those being 1) would they take part of us or all of us, 2) a two-year commitment required, 3) multiple rate tiers (single, single+1, family), 4) rates could be slightly lower than ours overall, 5) must give advanced notice to leave CalPERS, 6) Anthem has six different plans for CalPERS. A retirement consultant has a blended plan for retirees that offers a single point of contact. The PPO carrier is Humana, the HMO carrier is Kaiser. Companies are as good or better than Anthem, with a premium only about one-third the cost. The District wants something that is cost effective and offers simplification of customer service. Of course, he stated, any choice that is made will require some compromise. After several requests for proposals from brokers and JPA's, the Benefits Committee interviewed four (4) brokers. Those brokers were Mercer Health, Poms & Associates, Burnham Benefits Insurance Services, and Keenan & Associates. Mr. Shanahan stated that the Benefits Committee has forwarded a unanimous recommendation to the Board of Trustees for approval. Mr. Shanahan responded to several questions from the audience before he had to conclude his presentation due to time constraint.

6. Business

a. Report from Nominating Committee: Nominating Committee Chair, Larry Manson reported that there were only two positions for which elections would be held at this meeting. Those positions being Secretary and Treasurer. Larry noted that Marie Soo Hoo and Pat Gage had expressed their desire to continue in their respective offices for another two-year term. Larry asked if there were any other members from the audience interested in being considered for either of these offices. No other members expressed interest in being considered. Larry then turned the election over to Bill Robinson, Vice President.

b. Presiding over Election of Officers: Bill Robinson, Vice President

1. Secretary – Bill Robinson asked for all those in favor of Marie Soo Hoo for Secretary of the Association to respond with aye. The response was unanimous for approval. None opposed.

2. Treasurer - Bill Robinson asked for all those in favor of Pat Gage for Treasurer of the Association to respond with aye. The response was unanimous for approval. None opposed.

7. Reports from the Committee Chairs

Benefits Committee: Gary Johnson reviewed the work of the Committee and requested that retirees from Tier 2 to step up and join the Committee to learn for the future what needs to be done to maintain the benefits of those employees and retirees coming up. Most current members he stated are Tier 1 and based upon their age, health, etc., will not be able or willing to continue to provide assistance.

Educational Issues Committee: Larry Manson reported that this Committee continues to meet monthly with members of the Board of Trustees, Steve Blum, Dianne McKay, and Bernardo Perez.

Membership Committee: Don Medley reported that the Association now has a total of 775 active members and that 308 members are deceased. Don reported that a new Directory will be prepared soon and for everyone to please update and return the form that had been included in the most recent issue of the Monitor to make sure their information is correct. Copies of the Directory will be sold for $5 each. Don appealed to those members who are not Lifetime Members to please pay their annual dues of $10 or to become Lifetime Members by paying the $100.

Social Committee: Marie Soo Hoo reported that most of the members who served on the Social Committee this past year have agreed to continue serving. The Committee will begin meeting soon to plan for this years' Social Event in the Fall. Anyone interested in serving on the committee was asked to fill out and return the signup sheet attached to the Agenda for the meeting to her.

Newsletter Editor report: Harry Culotta appealed to anyone who was interested in writing an article for the newsletter to send them directly to him.

Webmaster: Lester Tong was unable to attend this meeting.

8. Comments and Questions on Any Topic from the Audience

Ana Maria Valle Villa congratulated the Association for continuing to work on behalf of the retirees and keeping abreast of issues of concern to the membership. She also wondered if any information was available yet regarding the health program "Silver Sneakers" that many retirees are interested in and the possibility of its availability with our health plans. This was an issue that had been raised at last year's meeting. She also wondered if there was any information on the standing of the Emeritus Program. There was a question as to whether there was website information specifically for retirees.

9. Announcements

There were no announcements

10. 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 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Soo Hoo
Secretary
4/11/18;5/9/18