



San Diego Chatter

Volume 2011, Issue 4

CALIFORNIA STATE RETIREES -
CHAPTER 17 - SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES
District G

Sept/October, 2011

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President

Pearl Pacheco
(619) 296-0673
Email: sppsandiego1@hotmail.com

Vice President

Ken Bealo, Sr.
(760) 743-3695
Email: kenandjoy1@cov.ne

Secretary

Marva Roddy
(619) 561-1123
Email: marva.rodny@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Mark Flahan
(619) 977-6275
Email: firemark@san.rr.com

Interim Secretary/ Membership/Newsletter Editor

Diane Whorton
(619) 264-6280
Email: dlw_union@yahoo.com

District G Representative (Board of Directors)

Gene Waggoner
(760) 868-0968
Email: sagwaggs@aol.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS (have your SS# ready)

CSEA Retirees, Inc.

888 808-7197
Fax: 916 326-4364
Website: www.calcsea.org/retirees

CSEA Member Benefits

800 952-5283
CSEA 916 444-8134

PERS Headquarters

Lincoln Plaza
400 "Q" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

PERS-CARE

800 444-2595

PERS-CARE Health Benefits

916 326-3970
800 237-3345

PERS Retired Members

800 352-2238

PERS Beneficiary

916 326-3848
800 352-2238

Social Security

800 772-1213

Internal Revenue Service

800 829-4477

Medicare

800 633-4227

DELEGATES FRUSTRATED WITH DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

CSEA Retirees held Delegate Assembly at the Doubletree Hotel in Orange County beginning Wednesday August 17th. There was much discussion during the event, as well as after, about the lack of organization and opportunities to discuss the business they were there for. Discussion is continuing up and down the state with letters being written and opportunities to express concerns being taken. Members truly discovered they were not given the right to speak. **Some Chapter 17 delegates have chosen to speak through this newsletter.**

To start things off: as in the past, and brought up by many people, shirts and bags were NOT made in the USA, they were made in India. Just because a tag is included saying "Made exclusively for CSEA Retirees, Inc" does not excuse the fact that they were made out of the USA. We need to support our own country and people who need our help at home!

ALL materials received at registration already had the name change on them as well as all communication received by the delegates prior to the event. The name change was coming up in Resolution 01/11. See results of that vote below.

Some Concerns:

1. Money Wasted

- Staff - There seemed to be an over-abundance of staff present.
- There has been much discussion of "wasted money" to fund delegates but this did not seem to be a problem with the amount of staff in attendance
- Staff typically comes in for an event several days early to "set-up" – more than what delegates are funded for
- Was it really necessary??

2. Receptions – were held on Wednesday and Thursday evenings

- Paid for reception food and still paid for dinner
- Wednesday dessert reception. This was a check in day – what was the purpose?
- Thursday Luau reception. Passed food trays instead of having a sit-down dinner with buffet or planned meal
- People "attacked" the servers on the floor preventing food from making to where the rest of the people were sitting.
- People did not stay because there was not enough seating, did not get food and could not enjoy the event.
- If the idea was to have a luau then there should have been a sit down dinner so everyone could have enjoyed.
- Cost of a luau dinner would have probably been the same as the cost of the 2 receptions and meals would not have been expensed for two nights.

3. Wasted Days

- The way the days were scheduled we accomplished no business or appropriate training towards improvement of membership or defense of retirees in the public.

4. **Wednesday** – day of arrival –
 - a. Lei making, bowling and bingo with a dessert reception. WHY??? There was a cost associated with each of these activities – what did they accomplish?
 - b. Arrivals for meetings historically are check-in and getting rested up for the next day of business. People typically arrive when they know they can get a room. In this case everyone was getting there early, could NOT check in early without paying an extra \$25.00 and rooms were NOT available at 3:00 as indicated, some did not get rooms until later in the evening.
 - c. Dessert Reception – as discussed above
5. **Thursday** – Committee meetings were NOT held for every committee.
 - a. There was plenty of time for ALL committees to have met. Delegates did not get an opportunity to participate in committees –
 - b. Our committees meet at various times and places throughout the state and our members are not able to be involved. This was the perfect opportunity for members to participate.
 - c. Finance was **held on TUESDAY** evening. Chapter officers and delegates were NOT notified of this meeting and were NOT authorized to attend. WHAT WAS THE SECRET??
 - d. There were only two committees scheduled: Membership at 10:00 and Grants at 1:00
 - e. Finance, Legislative/PAC, Health Benefits, Bylaws was not scheduled.
 - f. Workshops – some of these were for the glory of some to brag or whatever. No education involved.
 - g. Nothing was targeted at improving public perception of state retirees and how to change that opinion or PAC/Legislation which will affect retirees and what we need to do.
 - h. Feelings were that retiree leadership and administration (planners of the event) did not deem this as important.
6. **FRIDAY** – Bylaws Committee and Delegate Assembly
 - a. Bylaws met on Friday morning prior to Delegate Assembly which DID NOT allow enough time to discuss resolutions in question.
7. **DELEGATE ASSEMBLY** –
 - a. Leadership – The President DID NOT run the meeting appropriately. There seemed to be NO control of the meeting or the presenters. People were being disrespectful to him as well as him being disrespectful to the delegates.
 - b. Directions for voting was not presented or clarified to delegates
 - c. Votes took place when delegates were unaware of what was happening
 - d. The Budget report was called for, unknown by delegates a vote was taken on a 3 year budget when delegates thought they were accepting a report.
 - e. LUNCH – was box lunches served at the tables. As box lunches were being cleared from the tables the Bylaws Committee was asked to give a report of committee – NO report was presented but went directly to the resolutions for a vote.
 - f. Delegates were not prepared as lunches were still on the tables, binders were not in front of them and delegates could not hear because of the noise and confusion.
8. **VOTES on Resolutions:** No explanation of how votes would be done was given nor the requirement of a 2/3 vote to pass explained. This became a continuous discussion because delegates knew what the procedures should have been and they were not being followed. Members attempted to point out irregularities of procedures and they were ignored. Requests for hand counts were made and ignored. Chair of Bylaws Committee interfered with the President even to point of a tug-o-war with the microphone and breaking it. This was a demonstration of disorganization, immature and unprofessional behavior.

Below are the results of the votes as declared by the President. These results ARE NOT accurate by delegate opinion – these results as reported are the way they were declared by the President only.

BGR 1/11

RESOLVED: (a) That Bylaws Article I Section 1 Name be amended as follows:

Section 1. Name

The name of this Corporation is (**CSEA Retirees, Inc.**) California State Retirees (CSR) (hereafter referred to as the "Corporation").

PASSED – This was passed with no discussion on the motion and no 2/3 vote received. Lunches were being cleared from the tables. Most delegates did not know there was a resolution or vote on the floor. When President was questioned after the result was declared delegates were informed (by Bylaws committee chair) that it was too late because they had not gotten to the microphone sooner.

BGR 2/11

RESOLVED: (a) That Bylaws Article III Section 2B and C be amended as follows:

Section 2. Qualification for Membership

(B) C. Associate Members

Associate members are those persons who are dedicated to the purposes of the Corporation but not qualified for active membership, and who are either: (1) spouses, significant others or domestic partners of the active members; or (2) persons who have separated from state service, were members while in state service, and who are recommended by a chapter for membership.

(C.) B. Beneficiary Members

PASSED

BGR 3/11

RESOLVED: (a) That Bylaws Article IX Section 2, be amended as follows:

Section 2 Eligibility

Any active member in good standing of a Chapter who is eligible for membership in the Corporation may be nominated for, and elected as a Delegate or Alternate from the Chapter. A duly elected Delegate who takes office as a Director of the Corporation will continue to serve as a Chapter Delegate until new delegates are elected.

THIS WAS COMBINED WITH A NEW 5/11. This was readdressed later because 5/11 did not pass. - PASSED

BGR 4/11

RESOLVED: (a) That Bylaws Article IX Section 3 be amended as follows:

Section 3 Membership Roll

A Delegates and alternates elected by chapters

Each chapter shall be entitled to elect **(one delegate for each 100 members then belonging to such chapter or major fraction thereof) 7 delegates.** A chapter may designate that the person elected as President shall also be elected to the Delegate Assembly and the general Council. In such case, the candidate consent statement and the election ballots shall indicate that the person elected will serve in all three capacities.

PULLED - THIS WAS NOT BROUGHT TO THE FLOOR

BGR 5/11

RESOLVED: (a) That Bylaws Article IX Section 2 & 3 be amended as follows:

Section 2 Eligibility

Any active member in good standing of a Chapter who is eligible for membership in the Corporation may be nominated for, and elected as a Delegate or Alternate from the Chapter. A duly elected Delegate who takes office as a Director of the Corporation will continue to serve as a Chapter Delegate until new delegates are elected.

A Delegates and Alternates elected by chapters

Each chapter shall be entitled to elect one delegate for each **(100) 200** members then belonging to such chapter or major fraction thereof. A chapter may designate that the person elected as President shall also be elected to the Delegate Assembly and the general Council. In such case, the candidate consent statement and the election ballots shall indicate that the person elected will serve in all three capacities. Notwithstanding the above, each chapter shall be entitled to a minimum of three delegates.

THIS HAD ADDITION OF 3/11 AND 4/11 - THIS FAILED – NO 2/3 VOTE = Y-121, N- 141

BGR 6/11

RESOLVED: (a) That Article XIII Meeting, Section 3 & 4 be amended as follows:

Section 3. Conference Call Meetings

(In a situation deemed to be an emergency by the President, t) The Board of Directors may meet by, telephone or similar communication equipment, as long as all board members participating in the meeting can hear one another. Action by telephonic meetings shall meet the requirements set forth in applicable law. Only items listed in the printed agenda shall be considered and voted upon. Actions taken by the Board shall be reported to the membership at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 4. Executive Sessions

An executive session held for the purpose of personnel matters, dealing with the purchase or sale of real property, granting of contracts and determining contributions to political candidates, shall include members of the Board and such other **(constituent)** persons as may be designated by the President. Executive sessions, when held as a part

of a regular meeting, should be held prior to the time and place of the scheduled meeting, at the close of routine business on the last day of the regular meeting or scheduled for an announced time certain.

PASSED – Questioned as to whether this was a 2/3 vote. Did not do hand count as requested. Declared by President

BGR 7/11

RESOLVED: (a) That Bylaws Article XXI, Section 2 Parliamentary Authority be amended as follows:

Section 2 Parliamentary Authority

The Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Governing Rules and Roberts' Rules of Order, latest edition, in that order is the authority governing proceedings in the meetings and conferences of the Corporation (**Board of Directors**), so far as they are not in conflict with corporate law, these Bylaws and the Governing Rules.

PASSED – No Hand count as requested by delegates

FIS 1/11

RESOLVED: (a) That Bylaws Article X Finance Section 5 be amended to read as follows:

Section 5 Investment of Corporate Funds

Corporate funds in excess of those needed for current expenses shall be deposited in one or more accounts insured by the U.S. Government in depository institutions chartered by the U.S. Government or by the State of California, (**or invested in securities issued by, and back by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government or the State of California**) or invested by rules established by the Board.

If as you read these resolutions if you have any concerns to be addressed please contact your delegates so they can bring those concerns to the floor for discussion.

FAILED

SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - BUILDING PURCHASE – DID YOU KNOW????

WHAT BUILDING??? How long have “they”, the Board of Directors, been looking for a building to be California State Retirees Headquarters and why hasn't the membership been told about it? A Delegate Assembly was just held, why was there **NO** discussion with the delegates so they could have input into the idea?

Why is a SPECIAL board meeting being held on October 14th when we have a regularly scheduled Board Meeting in San Diego in November? ALL of the chapter officers and some members will already be there alleviating additional expenses. Notices have been sent out to Chapter officers informing them that chapters would have to fund the expense if they wanted to attend the Special Board Meeting.

It is always good to make wise investments to continue to grow our money. Is it wise for these decisions to be made behind people's backs? Purchase of real estate is probably one of the safest investments out there right now if it is done right. Question is – who's leading the charge and what is in it for them? What is in it for us? Who will have the opportunity to SEE this building so they can make an informed decision? Rumor has it that some Board members have been left out of the tour invitation. Is it only the Finance committee, CFO, Administrator and a special few scheduled for the tour? The Finance committee DOES NOT VOTE!

Some things need to be considered:

- How many “members” knew a search for a building was taking place? Members in this chapter had not heard anything about it from anyone!!!!
- Why were the membership not informed that a search was going on?
- Should this have been brought up at Delegate Assembly so members would have an opportunity to express their ideas and ask questions?
- Who should see the property – maybe those who make the decision?
- Location? Where is it? What makes it so special?
- What is the cost? Does it also need construction costs?
- Where is the line item in the BUDGET showing money for the purchase of real estate?
- Is it currently occupied?
- Who will be occupying in the future?
- What will be the cost for management and maintenance of the building?
- If Retirees move out of CSEA Building what will this cost us?
 - Current space will continue to have to be paid for
 - If empty - At a higher cost than what we pay now

There are many more questions but who is going to have the opportunity to ask them? Does anyone in this top down organization even care????

POWER OF THE AFFILIATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Something to think about:

- The make-up of the Affiliate Board of Directors is 7 District Representatives, the CFO and the Immediate Past President.
- Statewide officers can only be elected from the 7 representatives sitting on the Board of Directors.
- Chapter Presidents only vote in the Statewide officer elections, no other opportunities.
- Chapter Presidents have NO say in decisions made for the affiliate.
- Presidents Forum is set up so Presidents can present items to the Board of Directors to be considered.
- Recommendations from the Presidents Forum go to the statewide President for consideration to the BOD.
- President decides to present or ignore Forum recommendations. Ignore has been choice most recently.
- Passage of resolution 6/11 Board of Directors means they can now have "closed door" meetings/conference calls and make decisions without members knowing about it.
- Current project of spending member's money – purchase of a commercial building to become Retiree Headquarters. Only 8 people get to vote!!! Not many members even know about it!!!

Question: Will members ever REALLY be represented appropriately? What can be done to change it?

CHAPTER 17 MEETNG – October 26, 2011 – TIME CHANGE – 11:00 am

Jeff Isaac, "Lawyer in Blue Jeans", has been scheduled as our guest speaker. This is a time certain event. He will be speaking at 1:15 pm on the topic: Issues for Retirees, Trusts, Wills, etc. Lunch orders will be taken by 11:15 to enable time for eating and conducting chapter business prior to the speaker. Please be there on time.

Don't forget to sign in at the table when you come in and pay your \$10.00.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING is at 10:15 am, PRIOR to Member meeting. **OFFICERS & DELEGATES to be present.**

NOMINATIONS for Chapter Officers and Delegates: Nomination forms will be available for those interested in running for these positions. The term begins July 2012 through June 2015. Elections will be held in March 2012.

MEMBER EMAIL MAILING LIST

To save chapter costs on mailing the newsletter and other chapter notices we are trying to gather as many email addresses as possible. These addresses will stay in the chapter unless you indicate to update your records with Headquarters. A Chapter database is being created. If you are interested in receiving the Chapter Newsletter and further communications electronically please send me an email with your information. **dlw_union@yahoo.com**
Thanks, Diane

HOLIDAY MEETING PLANS IN FULL SWING

The Holiday flyer will be coming out shortly. Please make sure you send in your reservation and check to Mark Flahan, Chapter Treasurer as soon as you get it. This is necessary to have an accurate count for meals.

1. **DATE:** Thursday, December 15, 2011
2. **LOCATION:** **Mission Valley Resort** 875 Hotel Circle South, San Diego, CA 92108, (619) 819-1002 located on Interstate 8 at 163. The chapter has held events at this hotel in past. The flyer will be coming out soon and will include a map on the back.
3. **RESERVATIONS:** Important that reservations be sent in on time so proper arrangements can be made for food. There will be a reservation slip on the bottom of the flyer with the address where to mail it.
4. **COST:** Member and 1 guest (spouse, driver, etc) will be \$15.00 each (chapter subsidizes the balance). All other non-member guests will be \$30.00 each.
5. **DONATIONS:** This year we are asking that members bring a wrapped white elephant gift for donation to a raffle for the CSEA Foundation Scholarship Fund. We will be selling raffle tickets at the event for those gifts and some very special ones. All donations will go to the Scholarship Fund.
6. **ENTERTAINMENT:** The committee is planning a special entertainment surprise. Put your party hats on, come prepared to have some fun.



CSEA Retirees Inc
CHAPTER 17 - SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES

Bi-monthly Meetings
February, April, June, August, October, December
Minutes

August 24, 2011

- Call to Order** Meeting was called to order at 12:45 pm by President, Pearl Pacheco. Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence lead by Ken Bealo, Sr.
- Roll Call of Officers** President Pearl Pacheco, Vice President Ken Bealo, Sr., Secretary Marva Roddy, Interim Secretary Diane Whorton and Treasurer Mark Flahan.
- Delegates:** Pearl Pacheco, Marva Roddy, Kenneth Bealo, Sr., Mark Flahan, Diane Whorton, Audrey Garner, Steve Haley. Excused: Sharon Hatch, Nellie Sayer, Luis Velasquez, Gloria Koch, Jennie Wolk.
- Guests** Gene Waggoner, District G Representative.
- Approval of Minutes** Minutes of the June 22, 2011 meeting were approved as written. Motion by Mark Flahan, 2nd by Marva Roddy. Correction of Gardner to Garner. Passed
- Treasurer Report** Financial report presented by Mark Flahan. As of 8/24/2011 bank balance \$10,606.95. Details from June 22, 2011 - Deposits \$1,640.88,. Expenses \$2,438.21. Motion to accept by Patricia O'Neil 2nd Patty Peterson, passed.
- One computer and printer purchased by Pearl Pacheco. Motion by Mark Flahan, 2nd by Ken Bealo to pay \$809.98, Motion passed.
- Committee Reports** **Membership** – Diane reported that we have approximately 1300 members. Chapter newsletter is being sent to new members as their information is received.
- Holiday Committee:** Nellie Sayer, Chair, excused. Report given by Diane Whorton. Plans are moving forward. Notice was included in the July-August newsletter so people have the information early. The flyer will come out in the next newsletter with reservation slip and detailed directions. Members were reminded to bring White Elephants for the scholarship foundation raffle. White elephants explained as not over \$10.00 in value. Can be what you have on hand and never used before, must be new.
- Speakers** Gene Waggoner, District G Representative Report
1. Name Change passed. Now known as California State Retirees. It is felt this will make it easier to recruit from other State employee organizations to join.
 2. September 27, 2011 CalPERS is sponsoring an Ambassador program at 2800 Studebaker Road, Long Beach. Contact CalPERS through email – calpers.com or 916 795-9101. An Ambassador is someone who speaks to neighbors and others around you regarding State Retiree issues, Retirees are covered under Defined Benefits, the public needs to know the what is this and what it means to us. Take an active role.

3. Passed out information sheet “Top Five Facts You Should Know About CalPERS ad Public Pensions”.
4. Membership – Encourage recruitment from other State Employee organizations.
5. Legislative contacts – be in touch with your legislators regarding issues detrimental to state retirees. 95% of seniors vote. Keep reminding them of this and how important we are. Make sure we have a good contact with their office staff, they will pass on our information to the Legislator. Make office visits, write letters, etc.
6. AB52 – Disclosure Act. Disclosing who sponsors propositions, candidates, etc.
SB1148 – Single payer health care for California - Social Security is in good shape if they would leave it alone.
7. Delegate Assembly – money spent could have been utilized more efficiently. There was some wasted time. Would have allowed members to be exposed to the inter-workings of the affiliate.

Also suggested to hold a caucus of the districts for further discussion of propositions to be voted on.

Unfinished Business

Delegate Assembly report. All delegates attended the 3 day assembly. In general delegates felt that 3 days was a waste of time and money. Most workshops were not relevant to State Retirees and affiliate business. Delegate Assembly was not well organized and leadership was poor. Information and instructions were not clear and votes were not done appropriately.

Workshops were available for all to attend.

Ken attended Legislative workshop – giving ideas of how to lobby in person and letter writing in your own words. Know what you’re talking about. Contact local offices.

Mark attended Communication via electronics, internet, Facebook, Twitter, etc. How we can change to meet the modern modes via social media.

Marva attended Wills, IRAs, etc. How important to have wills done to cover your property and assets so it will not go to probate. Do this through an attorney. Make sure they are good. Pearl is planning on contacting the “Attorney in Blue Jeans”. Keep all of your personal documents where people can find them. Living Trust is important also.

Audrey – workshop in now to work with disgruntled clients – “raging bull” syndrome. Listen and walk away. Come back and talk to them once they have calmed down. Harassment is a felony.

New Business

None

Information Items

None

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn 1:25 pm

Submitted By

Diane Whorton
Interim Secretary

CHAPTER 17 MEETINGS

Meetings are held 6 times a year – on the 4th Wednesday of the following months: February, April, June, August, October and December – Holiday gathering (this date is flexible to accommodate location). December meeting location and information will be announced separately.

PLACE: Sizzler Restaurant – 1030 Fletcher Parkway, El Cajon
TIME: 11:00 am – lunch before meeting
MENU: Choice of chicken or steak with soup or salad or unlimited salad bar
COST: \$10.00 per member, chapter subsidizing the rest of the cost

NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2011

11:00 AM

**Interstate 8 east to Johnson Ave
Left on Johnson to Fletcher Parkway
Left on Fletcher Parkway – about 1 block on right
Sizzler and Smart and Final in same parking lot**

SEE YOU THERE

California State Retirees
Chapter 17
c/o Diane Whorton
4814 Hart Drive
San Diego, CA 92116