



**HOUSTON POLICE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
HPROA
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**



JANUARY 14, 2021

Board Meeting Called to Order: 9:00 a.m.

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance: Shelly Scheibe

Present: Aldridge, Barnard, Beale, Chavez, Evans, Gaines, Kivela, Potell, Rayne, Scheibe, St. John, Toth, Walschburger, Zoch

Absent: None

Parliamentarian: Bill Elkin

Sergeant at Arms: Robert Crane

Determination of Quorum: A quorum was present.

Treasurer's Report and Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Motion by Potell, 2nd by Aldridge to approve the December 10, 2020 Board Minutes and the Treasurer's Report with the following correction: *"Board approved Bob Barnard's resignation as Political Action Committee Chairman and approved the appointment of HPROA member James Bollig as the Political Action Committee Chairman."* Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

President – Bob Barnard

- HPROA Board of Directors met at 9:00 a.m. via telephone conference call due to COVID-19.
- January Business Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19.
- HPOU purchased 5,200 I-Phones, one for each officer.
- Discussion regarding 2021 budget. A Budget Committee will work with the Executive Director preparing budgets, reconciliation of expenditures and audits.
 - ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Rayne to delay 2021 Budget discussion until the February 11, 2021 Board meeting. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- Thanked James Bollig for the excellent Christmas video on the website.
- Houston Police Credit Union is working to resolve the issues resulting from the computer upgrades. Over 50 individual complaints have been cataloged. Brenda Alcorta will be working directly with HPROA members.
- 17 New Regular Member applications received:
 - Billy M. Aldrich
 - Steve Barnett
 - Charles Crawford
 - Francisco Elizondo
 - Henry Gaw
 - Michael Bryan Gregory
 - Julie Hardin

- Elijah Johnson
- Mark Kitty
- Reinhold Kunz
- Kevin M. McCoy
- Charles Overstreet
- Jesus Rodriguez
- Denise Smith
- Carnell Speck
- John Williams
- Chase Comier
- ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Beale to approve the 17 new regular member applications. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- 2 New Associate Member applications approved:
 - David Easley – Sponsored by Bob Barnard
 - Brenda Toney – Sponsored by M D. Beale
 - ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Beale to approve the 2 new associate member applications. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- 1 New Associate Member application received:
 - Greg Smith – Sponsored by Anthony Kivela

Executive Director – Anthony Kivela

- Pension Update – HPOPS Financial Report:
 - Balance as of 1-13-2021: \$6.406 billion, up from \$6.261 billion in December.
 - Retirements trending upward but not alarming:
 - Fiscal Year to date 2020-2021: 107
 - Fiscal Year to date 2019-2020: 73
 - Cumulative Year to date 2020: 198
 - Cumulative Year to date 2019: 154
 - HPOPS will write an article for each Retired Badge edition.
 - Required Minimum Distributions (RMD's) - HPOPS cannot give detailed and specific individual guidance regarding RMD's, as it would be too similar to tax advice. Nevertheless, HPOPS Certified Financial Planner (CFP) Richard Gable can give general guidance on an individual basis.
 - Pensions continue to be HPROA's number one priority.
- Medicare:
 - The Medicare Open Enrollment has had massive problems with some retirees having no insurance and some with insurance other than what they selected. The HPROA is working with retirees and referring members to Aetna and City Directors who have the authority to resolve issues employing top-down solutions.
 - City Human Resources worked thru the Christmas and New Years weekend.
 - City of Houston's Medicare Plan Providers will be **KelseyCare Advantage**, phone 713-442-2264, and **Aetna Health Care Premium/Steerage PPO**, phone 1-800-307-4830.
 - The City of Houston Portal is the best way to submit documents to the City.
- IRS standard mileage allowance for 2021 will be \$0.56 per mile, effective January 1, 2021.

- With the end of the 116th Federal Legislative session, the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset Bills are dead. The 117th Congress began on January 3, 2021.
- Budget:
 - As a result of unforeseen savings incurred as a result of COVID-19 cancelled events, several computer routers, pro-wireless microphones and a projector with related items were purchased. An inventory list is kept on each piece of HPROA equipment.
 - Discussion regarding an outside audit, which could cost \$10K or more.
 - Several HPROA members have accounting experience/degrees as well as fraud examiner licenses. A Budget Committee was formed and will work with the executive director preparing budgets, reconciliation of expenditures, audits and fraud review.
- Any member may refer someone facing difficult times to Houston Officer Peer Assistance (HOPA). They are a well-trained group of active and retired Houston Police Officers who are available to listen and provide support for fellow officers. Telephone #832-200-3499
- Donations were received from:
 - Shelly Scheibe
 - Sandy Lee in memory of her husband Retired Captain Richard W. Lee.

Old Business:

- HPROA Logo Items - St.John received two bids for HPROA logo items. Discussion.
 - ❖ **Motion by Rayne, 2nd by Zoch to table discussion of the HPROA Logo items until the February Board Meeting. Called Vote. Motion Carried.**
 - **Yes Vote: Aldridge, Chavez, Evans, Potell, Rayne, Toth, Zoch**
 - **No Vote: Beale, Gaines, Scheibe, Walschburger**
 - **Abstain: St.John**
- Internet Scrubbing Privacy Insurance - Toth stated more follow-up is needed with vendor and our database.
- Name Tags - Evans recommended discussion on complimentary HPROA nametags be tabled.
- Discussion regarding Rick Ashwood's Colorado property.

New Business:

- Full discussion on the procedure for appointing a new board member upon the mid-term resignation of a current board member was postponed until the February board meeting.

Committee Reports:

- **Treasurer Report – Ed Aldridge**
 - \$ 246,290.28 the bank.
- **Legislative Report – Bill Elkin**
 - The 87th session of the Texas Legislature began on January 12, 2021. Rep. Dade Phelan (R) was sworn in as Speaker of the House.
 - There are currently 1,101 House Bills and 339 Senate Bills filed, not to mention many Resolutions.
 - Some of the Bills affect active law enforcement. Senate Bill 198 by Jane Nelson would affect retired officers' ability to carry firearms.

- Most pension legislation is directed at the Teachers Retirement System and the Texas Employee Retirement System.
- It will be 2-3 weeks before committee chairs are appointed.
- **Website Report – Mike Gee**
 - Working on the on-line renewals. Each renewal generates 2 emails resulting in the HPROA office and executive director receiving approximately 4,000 e-mails annually.
 - Working daily with the Server to migrate to the new HPROA website where non-members would have limited access and members would have more access.
 - E-blast notifications are sent when a new edition of the Retired Badge publication comes out.
 - Mike may be contacted at info@hproa.com or cell 832-287-7375.
- **Political Action Committee (PAC) Report– Jim Bollig**
 - Total PAC Fund:
 - ✓ Assets: \$ 78,855.99
 - ✓ Contributions Received: \$ 2,675.00
 - ✓ Political Contributions: \$ 0
 - ✓ Administration Expense: \$ 200.00
 - ✓ Atchley & Associates: \$ 1,752.00
 - Received numerous Christmas cards from political officials.
 - Each PAC contribution over \$25 receives a HPROA thank you note.
- **Entertainment Committee – Matt Potell**
 - Houston Reunion very uncertain at this time.
 - The next Fredericksburg Reunion will be held Saturday, October 16, 2021, at the Lady Bird Park Pavilion.
 - **Host is needed** for the Fredericksburg Reunion to assist the Entertainment Committee.
- **Membership Committee – Shelly Scheibe**
 - 1,973 members as of January 13, 2021. 17 new regular members approved today. 2 associate members approved and 1 new associate membership application received.
 - Discussion regarding placing articles in the Badge and Gun and the Retired Badge detailing benefits of membership, from Firearm Insurance to FAC assistance to our members. A retiree joined because of FAC's involvement. Beale will write the article.
 - Discussion regarding the retiree in-service classes for active officers considering retirement. Possibility of having a HPROA video or representative at the class.
- **Retired Badge – Nelson Zoch**
 - Articles for the February-March issue are due by January 20, 2021.
 - Revision of the insurance information in the paper.
 - Discussion on cross-training someone for editor of the paper.
- **Family Assistance Committee (FAC) - Henry Chavez**
 - 7 FAC members moved all the medical equipment into a new larger climate controlled storage unit.
 - Tim Dillon and Jim Kravetz delivered a hospital bed and tray table to Bobby Foster.

- Memorial Plaque Presentations:
 - Anthony Kivela presented a Memorial Plaque and pin to Dee Leal, widow of active Officer Ernest Leal who died of COVID-19 and was classified as Killed In The Line Of Duty.
 - Associate Member Rick Hartley presented a Memorial Plaque and pin to Rokie Furstenfeld, widow of Danny Furstenfeld.
 - Ray Smith presented a Memorial Plaque to Pamela Reed, oldest daughter of A. B. (Lightning) Lewis.
- Friends we lost in December were:
 - HPROA members: Alfred B. (Lightning) Lewis, Mart C. Hanna, Kenneth R. Brumley, Wilton J. Fish and Craig Newman.
 - HPD Retirees: Mark Leija
 - We also lost: Terry McClanahan's mother Lynn McClanahan and David Johnson's mother Joyce Johnson. Anthony Vento's wife Antoinette Vento passed away. Antoinette was the aunt of Bruce Baker and Paul Weido and great-aunt of Brandon Baker, Abigail Weido and Zane Weido.
- Due to increased COVID-19 awareness, it has been decided to not receive equipment or attend funeral services, on a case-by-case basis. FAC will continue to deliver equipment to retirees in need.

Adjournment:

Motion by Potell, 2nd by Aldridge to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m. Voice Vote.
Motion Carried.

Sue Gaines
Board Secretary