



**HOUSTON POLICE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
HPROA
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2020**



Board Meeting Called to Order: 9:20 a.m.

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance: Henry Chavez

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

Absent: Aldridge, Zoch

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 Walschburger to approve the Minutes and the Treasurer's Report as printed. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

President – Bob Barnard

- November Business Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19.
- Presentation of a tribute folder, plaque and gift card to Jim and Dorothy Ashby:

Over the years Jim Ashby served the HPROA in many capacities – Board Member, PAC Chairman, Website Chairman and ultimately as the Webmaster.

The HPROA Website was first started in 2000. In 2002, \$10,000 was finally budgeted to get the HPROA website operating on a solid basis with about 1,200 visits per month. In 2003 Jim was serving on the Website Committee and as PAC Chairman. In 2004 he was elected to the HPROA Board of Directors.

In 2005, Jim voluntarily assumed primary responsibility and expense of the website. In 2006, Jim was paid \$150 monthly expense money to manage the website. Jim was hired as Webmaster on December 13, 2007. Prior to that time all the work, expense and time Jim spent on the website had been a voluntary labor of love. It should be noted that over the many years Jim always monitored the website 24/7, even while on vacation, paying for Internet time when necessary and while traveling in different time zones.

After many years of dedicated service to the HPROA and its members, Jim decided it was time to relax and enjoy life. Finding a replacement was a long, hard and challenging endeavor, which ultimately resulted in Mike Gee being selected as Jim's replacement. Jim has been working closely with Mike to ensure the transition to Webmaster is as smooth and seamless as possible.

On August 13, 2020 Ashby resigned his position as Webmaster and did not seek reelection to the Board of Directors. Thank you Jim for your jokes, reports, football pots, annual Christmas candy, Valentine's Day flowers, and years of dedicated service to the HPROA and its members.

Pat Franey – HPOPS Executive Director

- Make sure your contact information is up to date – address, phone, email, etc.
- Go to HPOPS website for accurate and timely information. All policies and the last ten-year financial statements are available online.

Terry Bratton - HPOPS Chairman

- Bratton appreciated HPROA endorsement.
- Pension is doing well. HPOPS has met with Mayor Turner.
- Due to the Coronavirus, the best way to contact HPOPS is by email at info@hpops.org.

President – Bob Barnard

- HPROA received two complaints regarding Chief Acevedo's using questionable and inaccurate language on television.
- HPOU:
 - Ray Hunt has been appointed HPOU's new Executive Director.
 - Requested Chief Acevedo remove the last name from officers' uniform name tags as a security measure, and replace with only the officer's first name and badge number.
 - Illegal immigrants are responsible for 4 of the last 10 HPD officers killed in the line of duty.
 - Every single national referendum calling for increasing oversight of police passed.
- 15 New Regular Member application were received:
 - David Abercia
 - Mario Barrera
 - Harold Childers
 - Alfonso Giraldo
 - David Gott
 - Cindy L. Humphrey
 - Phillip Jackson
 - Kathleen Jaynes
 - Scott Laird
 - Albert J. Mihalco
 - Jerry Montgomery
 - Mark Scales
 - Robert Tellez
 - William Thrailkill
 - Jeff Vershave
- ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Beale to approve the 15 New Regular Member applications. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- 2 Associate Member Application were approved:
 - John Lodge sponsored by Brad Piel
 - Dale Bond sponsored b Ron Headley

❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Beale to approve the 2 New Associate Member applications. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*

- 1 New Associate Member application received:
David Trey Coleman sponsored by Anthony Kivela.

Executive Director – Anthony Kivela

- Pension Update – HPOPS Financial Report:
 - Balance as of 11-9-2020: \$6.008 billion up from \$5.830 billion in October.
 - Retirements:
 - Fiscal Year to date 2020-2021: 91 (+18)
 - Fiscal Year to date 2019-2020: 73
 - Cumulative Year to date 2020: 182 (+28)
 - Cumulative Year to date 2019: 154
 - Pensions continue to be HPROA's number one priority.
 - HPOPS and HPOU provide new retirees with HPROA information and pamphlets.
- Medicare:
 - City of Houston's Medicare Plan Providers will be KelseyCare Advantage and Aetna Health Care Premium/Steerage PPO.
 - All 10,000 retirees with the City's Medicare coverage MUST re-enroll before December 11, 2020. Robo calls started Tuesday, November 10 and Booklets mailed out November 11, 2020.
 - Telephonic appointments may be scheduled with KelseyCare Advantage at 713-442-2264 or Aetna Health Care at 1-800-307-4830.
 - Call [800-743-4304](tel:800-743-4304) to access Telephone Town Hall Events scheduled each Monday-Friday, November 18, 2020 thru December 11, 2020. Events will be held daily at 8:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
 - City's Medicare Webinars may be accessed at cityofhoustonbenefits.org.
 - Limited In-Person appointments may be scheduled by registering at cityofhoustonbenefits.org. Appointments will be located at E.B. Cape Center, 4501 Leeland Street, Houston 77023.
 - Discussion regarding placing a Medicare video on the HPROA website
- City's Human Resources is auditing 30,000 employees and retirees to update their insurance information. Must provide correct insurance information for insurance coverage.
- Due to savings incurred as a result of COVID-19 cancelled events it is recommended purchasing a laptop for the office, a laptop and projector for website, HPROA scratch pads to welcome new members and paying for one year storage unit rent for family assistance medical equipment.
 - ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Beale to purchase the non-budgeted office and website laptops, projector, HPROA scratch pads and FAC storage unit rent for one year. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- Discussion regarding postponing 2021 Budget deadline from December 2020 to January 2021 so all 2020 expenses may be entered.
 - ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Rayne to postpone the 2021 Budget until the January 14, 2021 Board of Directors meeting. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*

- Discussion regarding various types of donations.

Old Business:

- Tim McNamara, Financial Planning, was unable to attend the meeting due to death in family.
- Toth stated the Internet scrubbing Privacy Insurance poll indicated 436 members were interested and 195 members were not. More follow-up is needed with vendor and our database.
- St.John stated we still have approximately 2,000 PPE facemasks for our members.
- Evans suggested tabling the nametag discussion.
- Discussion regarding scheduling a General Membership Meeting in December.

New Business:

- Toth discussed sending Medicare information letters to our members without computer access. City will send out Medicare letters and packets.

Committee Reports:

- **Treasurer Report – Ed Aldridge**
 - \$261,358.20 in the bank.
- **Website Report – Mike Gee**
 - Working daily with the Server to migrate to the new HPROA website which is a lengthy process.
 - Mike may be contacted at mike.gee@att.net or cell 832-287-7375.
- **PAC Report– Bob Barnard**
 - **Total PAC Fund:**
 - ✓ Assets: \$79,068.49
 - ✓ Contributions Received: \$3,005
 - ✓ Political Contributions: \$30,250
 - ✓ Administration Expense: \$200
 - ✓ Checks: \$248.54
 - Thank you letters received from 21 politicians for donations.
- **Entertainment Committee – Matt Potell**
 - 101 attended the Fredericksburg Reunion on October 17, 2020. To comply with the Governor’s mandate, temperatures were taken at the door, hand sanitizer provided, face masks were available and social distancing guidelines followed. The Silent Auction provided \$992. The reunion came in \$550 under budget.
 - Some of the HPROA and HPOPS logo items were taken to the Fredericksburg Reunion. Some of the items were saved and will be available at the General Membership meetings.
 - 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 – Roy McDonald and Shelly Scheibe**
 - 1,944 members as of November 10, 2020. 15 new regular members approved today. 2 associate membership approved and 1 new associate membership received. 7 members re-instated.

- Contacted recent retirees' who provided contact information.

- **Retired Badge – Nelson Zoch**

Articles for the December-January issue are due by November 20, 2020.

- **Legislative Committee – Bill Elkin**

- After the Texas elections on November 3rd, it appears Texas will remain a RED State for the Republicans even though the Democratic Party funneled tons of money into many of the races trying to “flip” the contested seats. It was futile for them in the long run.
- Texas Senator John Cornyn fought off MJ Hager’s efforts to unseat him.
- Republican candidates for both the Texas Supreme Court and Texas Court of Criminal Appeals defeated their Democratic opponents.
- Texas Senate races tied at 8 Republicans and 8 Democrats after Senator Flores lost his bid for re-election.
- Texas House of Representatives ended up with 83 Republicans and 67 Democrats.
- Texas Representative Sara Davis, representing Harris County, lost her seat to Democrat Amy John, and Republican Mike Schofield defeated Gina Calanni to regain the Republican seat he lost 2 years ago.
- It will be an interesting 87th Session for the Texas Legislature.

- **Family Assistance Committee - Henry Chavez**

- The FAC received a lot of good medical equipment donations. FAC storage unit will be moving into a larger climate control warehouse.
- A lift chair, walker and toilet seat were donated to Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministry due to the worn conditions of the items and replaced the lift chair with a good one. A curb ramp and door threshold was delivered and a bathroom chair and knee scooter was loaned out.
- HPROA Board Member M. D. Beale and Executive Director Anthony Kivela presented a Memorial Plaque to John Pohlman’s widow, Lenora. FAC member Mattie Provost and Anthony Kivela presented a Memorial Plaque to Ernie Mireles’ wife, Christine.
- Friends we lost in October were John G. Pohlman, Ernie Mireles, Jerry Flores and Richard V. Coleman. Active Sergeant Harold Preston was killed in the line of duty.
- We also lost Nicolasa Becerra Mireles, stepmother of Richard Mireles, Sebastian D. Mireles and Ernest M. Mireles. Nicolasa Becerra Mireles, stepmother of Richard J., Sebastian D. and Ernest M. Mireles. Charles Kennedy’s wife, Lisa also passed away as did Matt Raney, son of Bonnie Montero (deceased), Jim Montero, brother of Janice Raney Hawke and Shelley Scheibe, brother-in-law of Gary Scheibe and J. D. Hawke.

Adjournment:

Motion by Toth, 2nd by Beale to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

Sue Gaines
Board Secretary