



HOUSTON POLICE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION HPROA BOARD MEETING MINUTES



DECEMBER 10, 2020

Board Meeting Called to Order: 9:05 a.m.

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance: Chaplain Monty Montgomery

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

Absent: Chavez, Rayne

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 Beale 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.

HPOPS Executive Director Pat Franey

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

HPOPS Chairman Terry Bratton

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

HPOPS Trustee Dwayne Ready

- Elected as the new HPOPS Chairman effective January 1, 2021
- Ready served as a HPOPS Trustee for seven years and will work to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the Chairmanship.

****Board Went Into Executive Session 9:30 AM****

****Board Returned From Executive Session 10:00 AM****

President – Bob Barnard

- HPOU:
 - Doug Griffith confirmed as HPOU Board President
 - Ray Hunt has been appointed HPOU's new Executive Director.
- Fred Walschburger appointed as Security Committee Chairman.
 - ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Beale to approve Fred Walschburger as Security Committee Chairman. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- Non-member request to help another non-member with major health issues. FAC deals with our members. Kivela will contact the non-member to determine if or how HPROA may assist him.
- 10 New Regular Member applications received:
 - William Atwood
 - David Guillen
 - John Hurt
 - David Johnson
 - Phillip Kung
 - Elizabeth G. Mihalco
 - Luke Ngo
 - Melvin Peaco
 - David Slade
 - Jude Vigil
 - ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Beale to approve the 10 New Regular Member applications. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- 1 New Associate Member application approved:
 - David Trey Coleman sponsored by Anthony Kivela
 - ❖ *Motion by Potell, 2nd by Beale to approve the 1 New Associate Member applications. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- 2 New Associate Member Applications received:
 - David Easley – Sponsored by Bob Barnard
 - Brenda Toney – Sponsored by M D. Beale

Executive Director – Anthony Kivela

- Pension Update – HPOPS Financial Report:
 - Balance as of 12-9-2020: \$6.261 billion, up from \$6.008 billion in November.
 - Retirements:
 - Fiscal Year to date 2020-2021: 104
 - Fiscal Year to date 2019-2020: 89
 - Cumulative Year to date 2020: 194
 - Cumulative Year to date 2019: 154
 - Pensions continue to be HPROA's number one priority.
- Medicare:
 - City of Houston's Medicare Plan Providers will be KelseyCare Advantage and Aetna Health Care Premium/Steerage PPO. Last day for City Open Enrollment is Friday, December 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 thru Friday, November 18 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.
- City's Human Resources is auditing 30,000 employees and retirees to update their insurance information. Must provide correct insurance information for insurance coverage.
- The City of Houston Portal is the best way to submit documents the City.
- As a result of unforeseen savings incurred as a result of COVID-19 cancelled events, it is recommended purchasing several Routers, Pro-Wireless Microphones and a Projector with related items.
 - ❖ *Motion by Toth, 2nd by Beale to purchase the non-budgeted Routers, Pro-Wireless Microphones and a Projector with related items. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*
- Committee Chairmen need to submit their 2021 budgeted items by December 18, 2020.
- As a result of savings incurred due to COVID-19 cancelled events, consultation with tax experts on how to manage cash reserves is underway. HPROA is a 501C organization.
- Discussion regarding Rick Ashwood's Colorado property.
- Donations were received from:
 - Lori Dawydiuk in memory of Robert Linder
 - Elizabeth Bowman in memory of Tommy Lero
 - Pam Miller in memory of Jack Miller.
 - Rosa Zaragoza in memory of Daniel Furstenfeld
 - Michele Hollar in memory of Daniel Furstenfeld
 - Taylor Moody in memory of Daniel Furstenfeld
 - Audrey Caron in memory of Daniel Furstenfeld
 - Carei Bobbitt in memory of Daniel Furstenfeld
 - Lora Becker Cook in memory of Daniel Furstenfeld
 - Jennifer Began in memory of Daniel Furstenfeld
 - Anna Marie Weidemiller in memory of Daniel Furstenfeld
- Thank you letter was received from the family of Tommy Lero.

Old Business:

- 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. Received one request for facemasks last month.
- Evans discussed complimentary HPROA nametags. The artwork should be redone and additional research is needed.
 - ❖ *Motion by Evans, 2nd by Beale to discontinue old identification cards and mail out new complimentary HPROA Nametags to the new and renewing members. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.*

New Business:

- Zoch received information that a widow wanted to donate a burial notch in a wall valued at \$2,000. It is to be used by a police officer in need. The cost to transfer the title would be \$110. Recommended Burial Fund be contacted.

Committee Reports:

- **Treasurer Report – Ed Aldridge**
 - \$246,855.55 in the bank.
- **Website Report – Mike Gee**
 - 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 mike.gee@att.net or cell [832-287-7375](tel:832-287-7375).
- **PAC Report– Bob Barnard**
 - Total PAC Fund:
 - ✓ Assets: \$75,757.99
 - ✓ Contributions Received: \$2,470
 - ✓ Political Contributions: \$0
 - ✓ Administration Expense: \$200
 - ✓ Atchley & Associates: \$580.50
 - Each PAC contribution over \$25 receives a HPROA thank you note.
- **Entertainment Committee – Matt Potell**
 - 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**
 - 1,959 members as of December 9, 2020. 10 new regular members approved today. 1 associate membership approved and 2 new associate memberships received.
 - Roy McDonald is moving and resigned as Membership Chairman.
- **Retired Badge – Nelson Zoch**
 - Articles for the February-March issue are due by January 20, 2021.
 - Working with Cathy and Mike on identifying those wanting the Retired Badge publication mailed and those wanting it electronically.
 - Discussion on cross training someone for editor of the paper.
- **Legislative Committee – Bill Elkin**
 - Due to the unknown status of COVID-19, we do not know if the Legislature will admit the public into the Capitol Building. It is difficult for the Legislative Committee to accurately make a budget request at this time. \$15,000 to \$20,000 had been requested in previous budgets.
 - There have been 790 bills pre-filed in the House and 236 bills pre-filed in the Senate. This seems to be a banner year for filed legislation.
 - At this time, a few bills have been filed affecting pensions. Most addressing Teachers and DPS pensions. None affecting our pensions.

- Many of the bills will affect police departments and active officers. All of them designed to reduce authority and powers of arrest.
- Democratic Rep. Terry Meza filed HB196 amending the “Castle Doctrine”. This bill would restrict homeowner’s from using lethal force or shooting a criminal who broke into their home and instead require the homeowner to retreat from their home to avoid confrontation. Consequences for failing to do so would be homeowner liability for any injuries the criminal incurs. Justification for this bill would be for the criminal to safely accomplish their goal, thus ‘spreading the wealth.’
- **Family Assistance Committee - Henry Chavez**
 - The FAC received and picked up 2-hospital beds, 3 hospital bed mattresses, a hospital bed air mattress, an electric scooter, 2 lift chairs, 1 transport chair, 2 potty chairs and 1 shower chair.
 - Delivered an electric scooter to a retiree and a transport chair to another.
 - 7 FAC members moved all the medical equipment into a new larger climate controlled storage unit.
 - Memorial Plaque Presentations:
 - Pat Kainer and Nelson Zoch presented a Memorial Plaque to Susan Schinke, widow of Jim Pierce.
 - Mattie Provost presented a Memorial Plaque to Linda Smith, widow of Gene Smith.
 - Tim Dillon presented a Memorial Plaque to Cheryl Miksch, daughter of Tommy Lero.
 - Pat Kainer presented a Memorial Plaque to Irma Alaniz, widow of Robert Alaniz.
 - Barbara Cotton mailed a written presentation to Dan Cook, friend of Robert Rambie.
 - Friends we lost in November were:
 - HPROA members: James A. Pierce, Robert Alaniz, Thomas Lero, Gene A. Smith, Robert M. Rambie and Daniel Furstenfeld. Active Officer and Member Ernest Leal’s COVID-19 death was carried as Line of Duty.
 - HPD Retirees: Raymond D. Perry, Richard G. Pederson, Robert W. Linder, Larry W. Bryant and Albert R. Westfall.
 - Active Sergeants: Sean S. Rios and Thomas E. Young.
 - We also lost: Doug Bostock’s brother George and Alfredo DeLa Cruz’s son Fred.

Good and Welfare:

- Toth stated TSA is requesting volunteers at Hobby Airport to act as suspicious passengers in order to maintain the training of their K-9s. Contact Steve Toth for more information.

Adjournment:

Motion by St. John, 2nd by Walschburger to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

Sue Gaines
Board Secretary