



HOUSTON POLICE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
HPROA
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2020



Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance: Ed Aldridge

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

Absent: Evans

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

- August Business Meeting cancelled due to COVID19.
- The HPROA CDs are currently earning 2.2% and will have to be renewed soon. Discussion regarding the new renewal interest rates.
- Discussion regarding the ease of signing up new members using the mobile app and the necessity of contacting our Associate Members.
- Discussion regarding the Family Assistance Committee.
- ❖ **Motion by Potell, 2nd by Rayne to appoint Henry Chavez as Family Assistance Committee Chairman. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**
- ❖ **Motion by Potell, 2nd by Rayne to make Forrest Turbeville the Family Assistance Committee’s Honorary Lifetime Chairman in recognition of his years of service. Voice Vote. Motion Carried**
- ❖ **Motion by Chavez, 2nd by Rayne to continue to provide Forrest Turbeville with a HPROA telephone and to present him with a plaque to honor his years as Chairman of the Family Assistance Committee. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**
- 8 New Regular Member Applications were approved:
 - Armando Alaniz
 - Diana Bocanegra
 - John Dziedzic
 - James D. Green
 - Charlotte Howard
 - Raynaldo Ignacio
 - Tammie Pace-Aaron
 - Matthew Stein
- ❖ **Motion by Potell, 2nd by Aldridge to approve the eight new Regular Members. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**

HPOPS Chairman – Terry Bratton

- HPOPS is recovering the financial losses due to coronavirus.
- HPOPS is in good shape. The changes made in 2017 have served us well and kept us in the corridor. Pensions and accounts are secure.
- COLAs will return in 2021.
- Hope to have a Meet and Confer appointment with Mayor Turner.
- 31% of HPD officers are eligible for retirement. HPD is understaffed by approximately 1,600 officers. Rumor has it that HPD will lose a lot of officers next year.
- Reviewing the insurance stipend.
- HPOPS has maintained a good relationship with the Mayor, City Council and State Legislature. Keeping watch on what happens in Austin.
- HPOPS recommends HPROA to new retirees.
- Due to the Coronavirus, the best way to contact HPOPS is by email at info@hpops.org.
- Dwayne Ready and Terry Bratton are up for election and would appreciate any and all support.

Executive Director – Anthony Kivela

- Pension Update:
 - HPOPS Financial Report:
 - Balance as of 9-8-20 is \$5.787 billion up from \$5.751 billion in August.
 - Retirements:
 - Fiscal Year to date 2020: 53
 - Fiscal Year to date 2019: 40
 - Cumulative Year to date 2020: 144
 - Cumulative Year to date 2019: 121
 - Pensions continue to be HPROA's Number One Priority.
 - Two issues from one member discussed with HPOPS. One issue was HPOPS deducting the HPROA membership dues and the second was processing time to get members online with HPOPS website. Process time for retiree paperwork is about two months. Currently both HPOPS and HPOU provide those retiring with HPROA information and pamphlets.
 - Researching “Privacy Insurance” which would scrub personal Internet history at a nominal rate as another HPROA benefit for members. After a lengthily discussion with the company owner, HPROA members will be polled to see how many are interested. HPROA members would get a greatly reduced rate if enough express an interest. The contract would be between the member and the company.
 - Due to the coronavirus the HPROA has had fewer expenditures including reunions, surviving spouse luncheon, election luncheon, legislative expense, prize money, etc. for an approximate total of \$18,554.00. Board voted last month to purchase 2021 standard supplies in 2020 following guidelines and budgeted cap approved 2019/2020 expenditures.
 - Toth recommended purchasing laptops or ipads for the office, membership and family assistance.
 - Rayne recommended starting the first business meeting off with a bang after COVID19 restrictions are lifted. Discussion.

- HPOU Update:
 - President Joe Gamaldi will be leaving December 2021.
 - Most of the 25 demands from 5 council members are not feasible and do not consider the police oversight measures already in place.
- Burial Fund Update:
 - Burial Fund Benefit was reduced to \$2,500. “Secure Your Legacy” was contacted and the HPROA Funeral benefit will still be offered at the original and reasonable \$4,250.00 cost, with decedent’s family paying the difference.
- Denied a Medicare Vendor’s request for HPROA membership census and mailing list.
- Donations were received from:
 - Allison Dobecka in memory of Mark Glentzer.
 - Beth Chambers in memory of Mark Glentzer.
 - Connie Douglass in memory of Donnie Bird, “My thoughts and prayers are with Donnie’s family, especially my sweet friend Amanda Bird Smith. Rest In Peace.”
 - Jo Anne H. Singer wanting to help the HPROA in memory of Donnie Bird, “One of the finest men to walk this earth.”
 - Gail L. Bradie Frazier, Tape Products company, in memory of Donnie Bird, “A true friend and co-worker and a life well lived.”
 - Alan First, First Packaging Systems, in memory of Don Bird.
 - Sandra Lee in memory of R. W. Lee.

Old Business:

- St. John and Scheibe have about 500 masks left. Requests are down to a trickle. Mailed over 2,500 masks to our members.
- Complimentary nametags for all members tabled until next month.
- Zoch’s signed book, Fallen Heroes of the Bayou City was donated to the Assist The Officer benefit and sold for \$150 at their auction. Discussion on how to auction the book with the proceeds going to the HPROA and/or future Assist The Officer auctions.

New Business:

- Zoch - Discussion for future elections. When do we allow election flyers to be mailed out with ballots? Recommendation that each candidates limit the wording on their flyer to half a page. The half pages could be copied onto front and back of one sheet to be inserted into the ballot envelope, thus eliminating the cost of extra postage. Tabled for further study.

Committee Reports:

- **Treasurer Report – Ed Aldridge**
 - \$257,184.14 in the bank.
- **Website Report – Anthony Kivela**
 - Mike Gee combined membership application and benefits under “Membership Applications & Information” via the “Join/Renew” home page link.
 - Modified or Revised the pages for Monthly Meeting, Contact HPROA, About Us, Memorial Plaque, Health Benefits, Upcoming Events, Family Assistance, Mail Bag, Board Members, Texas Senate and House, Donation Button and standardized the fonts.

- Discontinuing Sunday E-Blast because information is updated immediately.
- Mike may be contacted at webmaster@hproa.com or cell 832-287-7375.
- **PAC Report– Bob Barnard**
 - Total PAC Fund Assets \$104,811.53. Contributions Received \$3,960. Administration Expense \$200. Atchley & Associates for Ethics Reporting \$549.50.
 - There has been a significant increase in PAC donations from our members.
- **Entertainment Committee – Matt Potell**
 - Fredericksburg Reunion will be held Saturday, October 17, 2020 from 10:00am-2:00pm at the Pavilion in Lady Bird Park. To comply with the Governor’s mandate, temperatures will be taken at the door, hand sanitizer will be provided, face masks available and social distancing regulations followed. This will be Trade Days Weekend in Fredericksburg.
 - The Pavilion will no longer set up and take down the tables and chairs so we must do it. Board approved Thursday night in a hotel for Matt Potell and E.J. Smith so they will be able to get the facility ready for the reunion.
 - Recommended a complementary meal at the December Business Meeting if we are allowed to have a meeting.
 - Host is needed for the Fredericksburg Reunion to assist the Entertainment Committee.
- **Membership Committee – Roy McDonald**
 - 1,905 members as of September 9th. 8 new regular members approved today. 29 members reinstated and 13 dropped.
 - Discussion on sending the Retired Badge and a letter outlining HPROA benefits to non-members.
 - ❖ **Motion by Beale, 2nd by Rayne to table the issue. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**
- **Retired Badge – Nelson Zoch**
 - Articles should be submitted by September 20th. Anyone may submit an article and new contributors are welcome.
 - Received the returned questionnaires regarding members wanting to receive the Retired Badge in the mail or on-line. 27% voted to receive the paper on-line. Each Retired Badge cost \$1.06 to print and mail. The 247 members requesting on-line papers save the association \$261.82 on each edition. There are 6 editions each year.
 - Will be working with Cathy to remove those members wanting the Retired Badge on-line from the mailing list.
 - **Family Assistance Committee - Henry Chavez and Forrest Turbeville**
 - FAC contacted members Bennie Green, Tommy Lero, Guy McMenemy, Jesse Baker, Arthur Price, Charles Crum, Lorena Johnson and Irene Mouser. We also contacted non-member Luis Reyna.
 - Delivered 3 wheelchairs, 2 bath chairs, 1 cane 3-footed, 1 hospital mattress and 1 lift chair recliner.
 - Memorial Plaques were presented to David J. Scott’s wife, Sybil by Pat Kainer and Tim Dillon will present the Plaque to Raymond J. Simper’s wife, Cynthia.

- Friends we lost in August were Jimmie J. Schielack, Donald G. Smith, David A. Cameron Sr., and Raymond J. Simper.
- We also lost Bobby Newton Clark, Father of Mark Clark and Sergeant Matthew R. Clark and Grandfather of Officer Katie L. Clark.
- **Legislative Committee – Bill Elkin**
 - It is about 7 weeks before November General Elections. The demographic population has changed since Hurricane Katrina and the political face of Harris County and other parts of Texas has changed.
 - The number of candidates for most of the respective office has increased. Democrats as well as Libertarians are challenging Republican held offices. Democratic Party is trying to “flip” Texas to a more liberal State.
 - The upcoming election in Harris County:
 - President: Donald Trump and Mike Pence – Republican
Joseph Biden and Kamala Harris - Democratic
Jo Jorgensen and Jeremy Cohen - Libertarian
Howie Hawkins and Angela Walker – Green
 - U.S. Senate: John Cornyn – Republican
Mary (MJ) Hegar - Democratic
Kerry McKennon – Libertarian
 - U.S. Representative: The 9 candidates are Republican, Democrat, Libertarian, Green and Independent.
 - Texas Senate: 5 offices up for election, with each incumbent having 1 or 2 challengers.
 - Texas House of Representatives: 24 offices up for election. 3 open seats. 5 seats held by Democrats have no opponent. Republicans hold 8 of the remaining 17 seats all with opponents. The 8 seats held by Democrats have opponents.
 - The 2021 Legislative Session may effect law enforcement.

Good and Welfare:

- Discussion regarding outgoing Board Members

Adjournment:

Motion by Beale, 2nd by Rayne to adjourn the meeting at 11:30am. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

Sue Gaines
Board Secretary