

# RETIREE SUPPORT GROUP OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

## MINUTES

August 2, 2018

### Pacheco Community Center, Pacheco, CA

1. Opening

At 10:10 a.m. Chair Pat Patterson called the meeting to order and we recited the Pledge of Allegiance. One new member attended today's meeting. A quorum was not present.

2. Minutes

A quorum was reached. It was mentioned that Steve Ojena's last name was misspelled on Page 2, Item 6, second paragraph. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the June 7, 2018 meeting minutes with this correction.

3. Treasurer's Report

Terry Mann gave the Treasurer's Report. All submitted bills have been paid. Terry reported the balances in our General and Legal Funds and indicated the balance goal for the Legal Fund.

4. Status Reports

Louie Kroll told us that at our October meeting there will be a guest speaker from Benefits to discuss open enrollment.

Steve Ojena was absent. Jack Funk had nothing to report.

Pat Patterson discussed upcoming opening: Chair, Vice Chair, and Director at Large Seat #1. Jack Funk threw his hat in the ring for the position of Vice Chair. An Election Committee will be formed to determine candidates for these positions.

Pat read an open letter from Elaine Grothmann, who is resigning from her position as Secretary due to health issues.

Elaine's resignation has created another opening on the Board. The Board can appoint someone to this position only if less than one year is left in the term. Pat explained the duties of the Secretary, which are outlined in our Bylaws.

5. CalPers LTC Class Action Lawsuit

Mike Sloan gave us a May 2018 litigation update. Judge Ann Jones agreed with the plaintiffs and denied CalPers' motion for class decertification. This is an important decision since it means the class action may go to trial. A Case Management Conference has been set for September 4, 2018 in Los Angeles. A tentative trial date of May 13, 2019 has been scheduled, but the Court indicated that it is possible the trial might begin in June 2019. Court documents will be put online for your reference.

6. Guest Speaker – Eliza Dugan, Staff Attorney at Contra Costa Senior Legal Services

Ms. Dugan presented information about Contra Costa Senior Legal Services (CCSLs), a nonprofit organization since 1976 with offices on Clayton Road in Concord. It is funded by State and Federal grants, private donations, and foundation funds. Free legal services are available to individuals age 65 plus who are residents of Contra Costa County. The organization's focus is in areas where seniors require the most help and need to know their rights. Spanish-speaking staff members are available to assist when needed. Information shared by clients is considered confidential unless information release is approved by the client.

Ms. Dugan is a member of the multi-functional, multi-organizational Contra Costa Elder Abuse Project. Her specialty is elder abuse services (physical, emotional, and financial).

Other services available at Senior Legal Services include:

Rental issues and evictions,

Defense against creditor issues, Small Claims Court issues, restraining orders,

Power of Attorney, Advance Health Care Directives, simple wills, trusts, planning for incapacity,

Clinics on the above subjects are offered to seniors wanting to help themselves,

Short consultations on other legal issues,

About 1,100 seniors have been assisted at the office and another 1,100 seniors at clinics.

Pat Patterson thanked Ms. Dugan for her excellent presentation. He offered a \$100.00 donation to the Contra Costa County Senior Legal Services and let Ms. Dugan know that we would like to ask her back to a meeting in the future.

#### 7. Group Information Sharing

Thelma spoke about Social Security.

Terry Mann said that the Bureau of Labor Statistics came out with a 3.9% CPI through June 2018

Everyone is encouraged to attend our membership meeting in October which will include a guest speaker from County Benefits Division speaking on Medical Open Enrollment.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wallgren,  
Assistant Secretary