

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT
Meeting of May 24, 2012**

MINUTES

On May 24, 2012, Paula Weiss called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Pensions and Retirement to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Board's Conference Room.

Present: Paula Weiss
Harvey Rice
Brian Albert
Celia O'Leary
Carol Stukes
Anne Kelly King
Ronald Stagliano
John Reilly
Veronica Pankey
James Leonard

Also Attending: Francis Bielli – Board of Pensions
Mark Murphy, Shamika Taliaferro – Board of Pensions
Christopher DiFusco - Law Department
Katherine Mastrobuoni – Law Department
Sumit Handa, John Foulkes - Board of Pensions, Investment Unit
Andrew Thomas – Fire Department
Chester Skaziak – Retired firefighter
Wayne Pollack - Citizen

Paula Weiss stated that the first order of business was the consideration of the Minutes of April 26, 2012.

John Reilly made a motion to approve the Minutes of April 26, 2012. Ronald Stagliano seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the Minutes of April 24, 2012 carried unanimously 7-0.

CONSIDERATION OF (108) PENSION APPLICATIONS AND (72) WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS

Veronica Pankey made a motion to approve. John Reilly seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 7-0.

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY BENEFITS

Case of Michael Hyson, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan “B”

This is an application by Michael Hyson, former Police Officer, Police Department, for Service-Connected Disability Benefits in Plan “B”.

Mr. Hyson sustained the injury while working when he was attempting to subdue a prisoner and injured his hand and wrist. His date of injury is June 5, 2009.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve. John Reilly seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 7-0.

Brian Albert and Anne Kelly King joined the meeting.

REQUEST TO APPEAL COST OF PENSION CREDIT FOR PRIOR EMPLOYMENT

Case of Mark Fabbi, Request to appeal the cost to purchase pension credit for his prior employment under the C.E.T.A.

Mark Fabbi was originally hired, effective 7/11/77, under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 (CETA). Since he was hired under the CETA after 6/27/77, he was not permitted to become a member of the retirement system. As a result, he requested and received a refund of the \$92.13 he contributed from 7/11/77 through 10/9/77. He transferred directly to permanent City employment 11/10/80.

There is an undated request, from Mr. Fabbi, to purchase pension credit for his CETA employment. There is also a note, dated 7/3/79, to hold his request “in abeyance for ordinance to be passed by City Council” per former Executive Director Peter Crescitelli.

Members hired under the CETA on or after 6/27/77 were not permitted to purchase pension credit for their prior employment under the CETA until 7/1/97.

Mr. Fabbi’s application to purchase pension credit for his prior employment under the CETA was received 2/21/12. In a letter dated 4/12/12 we advised him of his total cost in the amount of \$29,037.21, \$26,497.56 of which was interest.

In a letter received 5/3/12, he appealed the cost. In a letter dated 5/4/12, his appeal was administratively denied. In a letter received 5/15/12, he appealed the administrative denial.

Celia O’Leary made a motion to deny. Brian Albert seconded the motion.

The motion to deny carried 7-0-1.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Bielli stated that he will be meeting with the Department of Revenue regarding the tax delinquent offset issue. The final list should be available by the end of next week. Once he receives the list he will work with each of the trustees to ensure that their members are given an opportunity to come into compliance before any offsets are issued.

Ms. Weiss stated there are three members from her office who have received the letter from the Revenue Department and appealed to the Tax Review Board. Any offsets will be held until they have hearings with the Board, sometime in June or July.

Ms. Stukes asked for the status of what the City is doing about businesses that owe back taxes and also own vacant buildings in the City of Philadelphia. In light of the incident that happened recently in the City of Philadelphia, she questioned why the City isn't going after these companies instead of the retirees who make far less money.

A discussion ensued and Mr. Rice stated that one of the things the City does with the vendors they have a contract with and also owe taxes, is either withhold payment or deduct the taxes from their pay until they come into compliance with their taxes.

a. Business and Education Travel Requests

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve Ms. Stukes and Ms. Pankey to attend the Mid Atlantic Plans Sponsors (MAPS) conference in Baltimore, MD from June 6-8, 2012. John Reilly seconded the motion.

The motion to approve Carol Stukes and Veronica Pankey to attend the MAPS Conference in Baltimore, MD June 6-8, 2012 carried 7-0-1.

Mr. DiFusco introduced Katherine Mastrobuoni, who is the newest attorney in the Law Department. Ms. Mastrobuoni has been here for about a month and has worked at the Law Department previously, as well as Goldman Sachs. She has experience and a good background. She was welcomed by all.

Veronica Pankey made a motion to approve Katherine Mastrobuoni's request to attend the NAPPA Conference in Philadelphia from June 26-29, 2012. Ronald Stagliano seconded the motion.

The motion to approve Katherine Mastrobuoni's Education Travel Request from June 26-29, 2012 in Philadelphia PA carried unanimously 8-0.

FYI

Litigation Summary – Mr. DiFusco stated there aren't any new cases to report. He will be sending a brief write up on a new investment litigation case against BP that was filed in conjunction with outside council. He had a copy available if any of the Board wished to see it.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to adjourn. Brian Albert seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 a.m.