

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT
Meeting of October 22, 2014**

MINUTES

On October 22, 2014, 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
William Rubin
Brian Albert
Patricia Fitzgerald
Carol Stukes-Baylor
Ronald Stagliano
Andrew Thomas
Veronica Pankey
James Leonard

Also Attending: Francis Bielli - Board of Pensions
Shamika Taliaferro – Board of Pensions
Mark Murphy - Board of Pensions
Sumit Handa, Christopher DiFusco, Brad Woolworth - Investment Unit
Jo Rosenberger Altman, Ellen Berkowitz, Katherine Janoski – Law Dept.
Chris Rice–Shepherd – Cliffwater
Steve Nesbitt – Cliffwater
Mark Johnson – Cliffwater
Charles Jones – Sinking Fund Commission
Pam McCue – Financial Investment News

Ms. Weiss stated that the first order of business was the consideration of the Minutes of September 30, 2014. Corrected Minutes which included additions to the attendance list and some changes regarding the Fairmount Park Trust employees were in the folders.

Brian Albert made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 30, 2014. Ronald Stagliano seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0.

CONSIDERATION OF (119) PENSION APPLICATIONS AND (68) WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS

Brian Albert made a motion to approve. William Rubin seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0.

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY BENEFITS

Case of Kevin J. McNamara, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan “B”

This is an application submitted by Kevin McNamara, former police-officer, for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Mr. McNamara on May 10, 2010 he was involved in an automobile accident in which he sustained injuries causing chronic pain in his lower back and hips. His other complaints address limited range of motion and pain in the neck and shoulder area.

In 2009, while directing traffic he was struck by an automobile causing injury to his leg and lower back and in July of 2000 he sustained multiple blunt force injuries from the assault of a hostile crowd.

Brian Albert made a motion to deny. Patricia Fitzgerald seconded the motion.

The motion to deny carried 5-0-3.

Case of Barry F. McGrorty, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan “B”

This is an application submitted by Barry F. McGrorty, former police officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Mr. McGrorty he was involved in two work-related motor vehicle accidents which occurred on November 15, 2007 and November 28, 2007. During both accidents Mr. McGrorty was a uniformed passenger. He reports that he sustained injuries to his head, neck, lower back, shoulders, and nerves in his arm.

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve. Andrew Thomas seconded the motion.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE PENSION CREDIT FOR A PERSONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY WHICH EXTENDED BEYOND NINETY (90) DAYS

Case of Jeffrey Clark, Request to Purchase Pension Credit for his Personal Leave of Absence without Pay Which Extended Beyond Ninety (90) Days

On 8/14/14, we received from the Philadelphia Parking Authority (PPA), Mr. Clark's request to purchase pension credit for his personal leave of absence without pay from 11/1/13 through 2/28/14.

In a letter dated 8/19/14, Mr. Clark's request was administratively denied because there is no provision in the Code to allow a member to purchase pension credit for a personal leave greater than ninety (90) days.

His timely appeal of the above denial was received on 9/22/14.

William Rubin made a motion to send to a hearing panel. Ronald Stagliano seconded the motion.

The motion to send to a hearing panel carried unanimously 8-0.

REQUEST TO BE RE-BILLED, WITHOUT INTEREST, FOR A PRIOR MILITARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY

Case of Jerry Chandler; Request to be Re-billed, Without Interest, for his Prior Military Leave of Absence Without Pay from 3/1/03 Through 4/4/04

Mr. Chandler was granted a military leave of absence from 3/1/03 through 4/4/04.

On 9/9/04, a bill for his pension contributions due for the above leave was forwarded to his address of record, was not returned by the postal service and expired 12/20/07. We did not receive Mr. Chandler's response to that bill.

On 9/23/14, Mr. Chandler requested to be re-billed for the above period, without interest. On 9/29/14, his request was administratively denied. On 10/14/14, we received his timely appeal.

Carol Stukes-Baylor made a motion to deny. Brian Albert seconded the motion.

The motion to deny carried unanimously 8-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Bielli updated the Board on the following subjects:

- One Philly Project – Mr. Bielli met with Judi Cassell and members of One Philly to discuss the progress of the project and costs to the Board. The capabilities of the project are very promising. Ms. Cassell may be attending the December 4, 2014 Board meeting to fully brief the Board so they can officially move forward with the project.
- Annual Audit – The audit is underway by Clifton Larson Gunderson, who has been onsite for a few days. Everything is in order on the Benefits side and they are currently working with the City's accountants.
- State Audit – The State Audit takes place every three years and will begin with a kick off meeting on November 12, 2014 with State Auditor, Ken Lundstrom.

Ms. Stukes-Baylor inquired about the status of hearing panels for applicants. A discussion and update on the disability application process ensued.

FYI

Litigation Summary – Ms. Rosenberger Altman stated that the Wiggins Pension Disqualification case vs. Board of Pensions argument has been rescheduled for December 8, 2014 in Harrisburg.

William Rubin made a motion to adjourn. Brian Albert seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 a.m.