

Patrick Dello Russo
Richard Pitts

John O'Brien
JP O'Neil

Michael Lyle 64

**Melrose Retirement Board Meeting
March 24, 2009**

The Regular Meeting of the Melrose Retirement Board duly posted to be held in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall, Melrose, MA on the above date was called to order at 9.02 a.m. by Chairman Dello Russo with members O'Brien; Lyle; Pitts and O'Neil in attendance. Also in attendance are Rob Van Campen and Walter Foster, legal counsels for the Board; Ed Collina, Eric Christopher; Robert Kirby; Dan O'Neill; Robert Forsey; Paul LeBlanc; James Meehan; Phil Petrino; Erik Ulwick; Mary Beth Harrington; Robert Spindler and Paul Grover

New Business

Chairman Dello Russo is pleased to welcome Dan Sullivan and Stacie Ward from Sullivan, Rogers & Company LLC. The Melrose Retirement Board retained the services of Sullivan, Rogers & Company on January 13, 2009 to evaluate the Retirement Board office and make recommendations and streamline and improve the function of the Retirement Board office. Chairman Dello Russo stated that it would be a breach of his fiduciary responsibility not to undertake this study. Dan Sullivan gave a brief overview stating that he and Ms. Ward were brought in to provide an independent evaluation to achieve maximum cost efficiency. They interviewed the Chairman, the Retirement Administrator and the Assistant Administrator. Each Board Member was given a booklet prior to the meeting listing all points where action should be taken in the Retirement Office. There were several key findings.

Board Member Pitts thanked Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Ward for all their hard work. He stated that this was definitely something that needed to be done. It was an eye opener for him and he said it was money well spent. This is now in the lap of the Board to straighten this situation out. Policies will need to be written by the Board. This is not something that will happen quickly and he believes meetings will need to happen more than once per month. He also felt that the audit done by the PERAC auditors was not an audit.

Board Member O'Brien was glad to see attendance increased by the retirees at this meeting. He also stated that former Board Attorney Gibson had given him reading material when he was first appointed to the Board and this audit from Sullivan and Rogers and Company was much more informative. Board Member O'Brien made the motion to have the Board grant him \$100.00 to make multiple copies of the Sullivan, Rogers & Company report. Board Member O'Neil directed all Board Members and the Attorneys to page 9 of the report which states in part "the report is intended solely for the use of the Retirement Board". Per Attorney Foster it is this Board's prerogative to release this report. The motion was withdrawn by Board Member O'Brien.

Board Member O'Neil asked Dan Sullivan when his firm was hired. Mr. Sullivan replied that he had been hired months ago. Was there a preliminary report, and was it only given to the Chairman? Mr. Sullivan stated that he had met with the Chairman and had given him a Preliminary report on February 19, 2009. Board Member O'Neil

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asked all other Board Members who had a copy of this report? Board Member Pitts stated he did and handed his report to Board Member O'Neil. Board Member O'Neil stated that he was not aware that there was a completed report until he received a phone call from the retirement office on March 16 informing him of a change of date and time for a special board meeting to be held on March 18 discuss this report and to vote on the cola.

On a motion made by Board Member Lyle and seconded by Board Member O'Brien it was

VOTED to restructure and enhance the operation of the Melrose Retirement System by consolidating the duties and responsibilities of both the Retirement Board Administrator and Administrative Assistant into one newly created position entitled "Executive Director of the Melrose Retirement System" to be effective July 1st, 2009. The positions of both the Retirement Administrator and Administrative Assistant are hereby eliminated effective June 26, 2009. There were four Board Members in favor with Board Member O'Neil opposed.

Chairman Dello Russo thanked Dan Sullivan and Stacie Ward. The new position of Executive Director will be advertised as an open position and the Board will work to get all policies in place.

Board Member O'Neil asked for Public Discussion regarding this report. Ed Collina asked about the length of report as he would like copies to post in the Fire Station. Paul Grover asked about office coverage if the new position is for 30 hours only. Board Member O'Brien assured him that the Retirement office will always be staffed with a qualified person.

Board Member O'Neil brought up the elimination of Attorney Thomas Gibson. This was done as a cost saving measure to the Board. He stated that Attorney Gibson charged us approximately seven thousand dollars in 2008 and between seven and eight thousand for the last several years, and as of February 29, 2009 Attorney Foster has submitted bills totaling six thousand five hundred. This is in direct opposition to what Chairman Dello Russo stated he was doing when her terminated Attorney Gibson. Board Member O'Neil will no longer sign any voucher with a bill on it from Attorney Foster as we will be overspending on our legal fees. Board Member O'Neil will do this as his fiduciary responsibility.

On a motion made by Board Member O'Brien and seconded by Board Member Pitts it was unanimously
VOTED by the Board to approve a 3% COLA effective July 1, 2009 for retirees of the Melrose Retirement System. Chairman Dello Russo informed the Board that there would be a letter going out to all retirees regarding this vote.

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On a motion made by Board Member Pitts and seconded by Board Member O'Neil it was VOTED to approve the regular minutes of February 26, 2009, and sign them into record.

On a motion made by Board Member O'Brien and seconded by Board Member Lyle it was VOTE to issue for payment Retirement Expense Voucher #21, and Retirement Allowance Paid Voucher for March 2009 on Voucher #22 and Retirement Staff Payroll on Vouchers #16-17-18-20 and a wire transfer to Invesco US Buyout Fund III on voucher #19

Received Request for Withdrawal of Accumulated Total Deductions from Stacey Breda Brown. Ms. Brown resigned from her position as a Paraprofessional in the Melrose School System on June 30, 2007. On a motion made by Board Member O'Neil and seconded by Board Member Pitts it was VOTED by the Board to approve and process this request.

Received Request for Withdrawal of Accumulated Total Deductions from Paul E. Lord, Jr. Mr. Lord was a driver for the DPW who resigned his position on May 2, 2008. On a motion made by Board Member Lyle and seconded by Board Member O'Brien it was VOTED by the Board to approve and process this request.

Received from PERAC the following Memorandums:
Memo #15/2009 Proposed Regulation on Member's Physician Statement

Received the following financial reports.
TA Realty Fund III Annual Report December 31, 2008
TA Realty Fund IV Annual Report December 31, 2008
Tuckerman Asset Manager's Report for January 2009
PERAC Pension News February 2009
PRIM Board Update through February 2009
Segal Bulletin for February 2009
Trial Balance for December 2008

Received word that Austin Gunnery passed away on March 5, 2009. Mr. Gunnery was an Option C Pop Up retiree. All benefits cease as of the date of his death.

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John O'Brien ^{JOB} 
JP O'Neil 

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Received word that Edward Kerr passed away on March 14, 2009. Mr. Kerr was an Option C retiree. His spouse Deborah Kerr will receive an Option C spousal benefit.

Date of the April meeting will be Wednesday, April 29th at 9:00 am

Old Business

There was no discussion and no action taken by the Board on Memo #7/2009 Chapter 467 of the Acts of 2008 Group Classification for EMT's

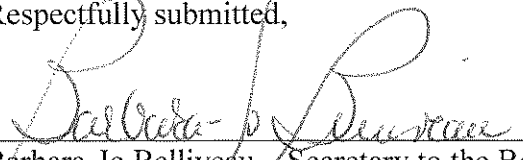
Mr. Pike repayment – Mr. Limone, counsel for Mr. Pike, informed the Retirement Board that neither he nor his client was able to attend this meeting, However, they would be willing to attend the meeting in April. The Retirement Administrator will send letters to both Mr. Limone and Mr. Pike informing them of the date.

On a motion made by Board Member Lyle and seconded by Board Member O'Brien it was

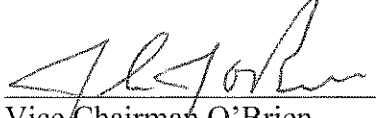
VOTED by roll call vote to exit open session and enter into Executive Session at 9:32 am.

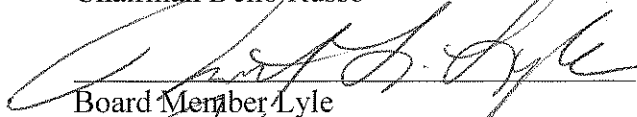
Chairman Dello Russo	Yes	Board Member O'Brien	Yes
Board Member Lyle	Yes	Board Member Pitts	Yes
Board Member O'Neil	Yes		

Respectfully submitted,


Barbara-Jo Belliveau Secretary to the Board


Chairman Dello Russo


Vice Chairman O'Brien


Board Member Lyle


Board Member Pitts


Board Member O'Neil