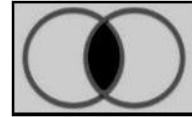




## Polaroid Retirees Association

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Mary McCann, Secretary

### ***Minutes of Board of Directors' Skype Meeting, May 12, 2020***

**Attendees:** Arthur Aznavorian, Nino DiIanni, John Flynn, Elizabeth Foote, Mary Ann Hall, Eva Karger, Erika Kliem, Mary McCann, Jim Micheson, George Murray, Bill Rosen, Robert Ruckstuhl, and Eric Thorgerson

**Absent:** David Bayer, Larry Chelmow, and Ed Wade

**Call to Order: President Elizabeth Foote** – The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM with the directors logging into the Skype call set up by Bill Rosen. Bill was recognized for all he does in creating the Skype meetings.

**Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report for the April 23rd meeting was accepted by the board.

**Rolling Calendar Review:** John Flynn's rolling calendar was accepted by the board. An item for the month was the submission of the EZ990 tax form, normally due this month. Nino DiIanni reported that it had been submitted. Elizabeth will update the rolling calendar with critical dates for board officer elections this year. These will be for 2020 only, and only if the October Members' Meeting takes place. She'll send the calendar to John and Mary for corrections and it to be distributed to the board when complete.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nino DiIanni reported that expenses were limited, and dues receipts were slightly above predictions, (fifteen new members). He reported a cash increase of \$4676. Currently the total assets are ~\$29,000 as compared to \$21,000 to \$23,000 of recent years.

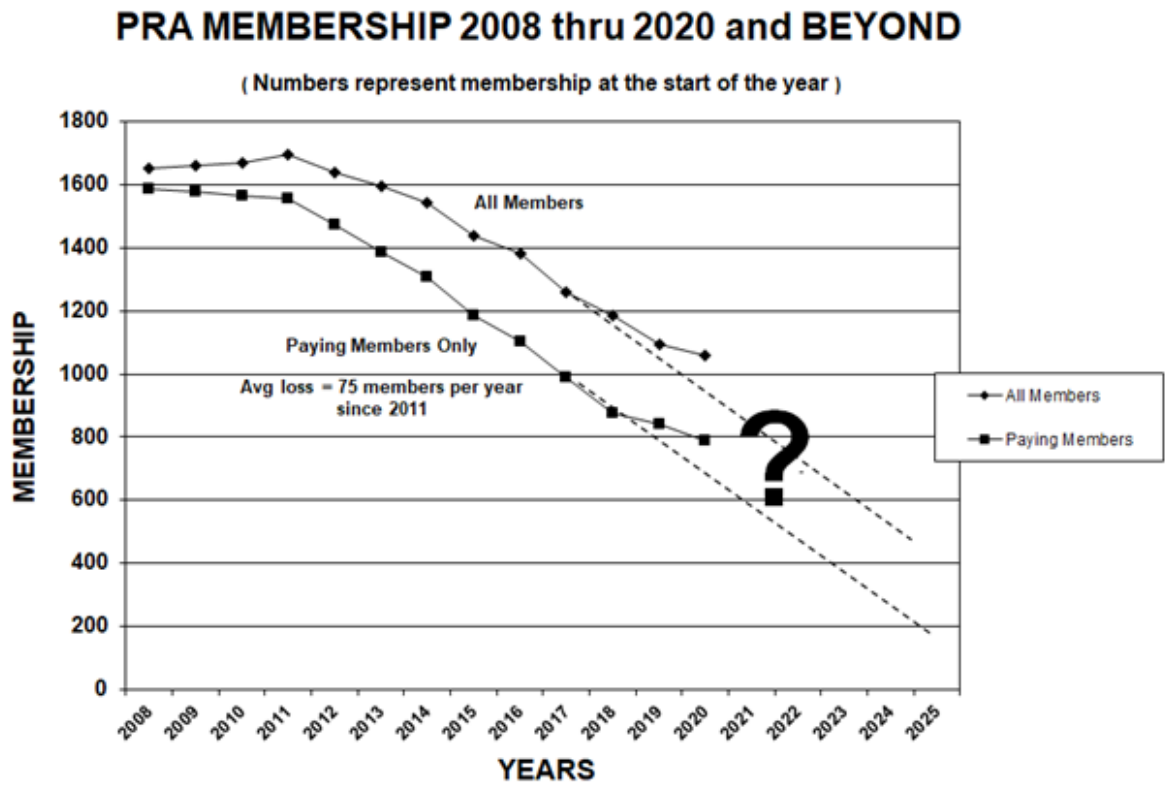
The PRA will not have to pay for a luncheon this year. Nino reported that the Credit Union has committed to pay for the October Luncheon, since the May meeting and Luncheon were cancelled. Here is a quote forwarded from Nick DiMasi's message to Nino.

**I am happy to tell you that you can count on the Direct Federal Credit Union sponsoring the October PRA Luncheon. I think I have told you this in the past, but our Board and our Management feels strongly about supporting the PRA. We have often said that there would never have been a Direct Federal Credit Union if it were not for the Polaroid employees.**

**Membership Committee: Membership:** Currently there are 1064 members, 788 of whom pay annual dues.

Bob made his trek to the Post Office and mailed out the free newsletters to the thirty Polaroid alumni suggested by Jim Murphy. Four people from that group have since become members.

There have been fifteen new members this year. In the notes accompanying his graph of "PRA membership 2008 through 2020 and Beyond" (May 11 at 1:17 PM), he noted that the rate of decline in membership may be slowing. If so, the viable life of the Association could be extended by at least another 5 years.

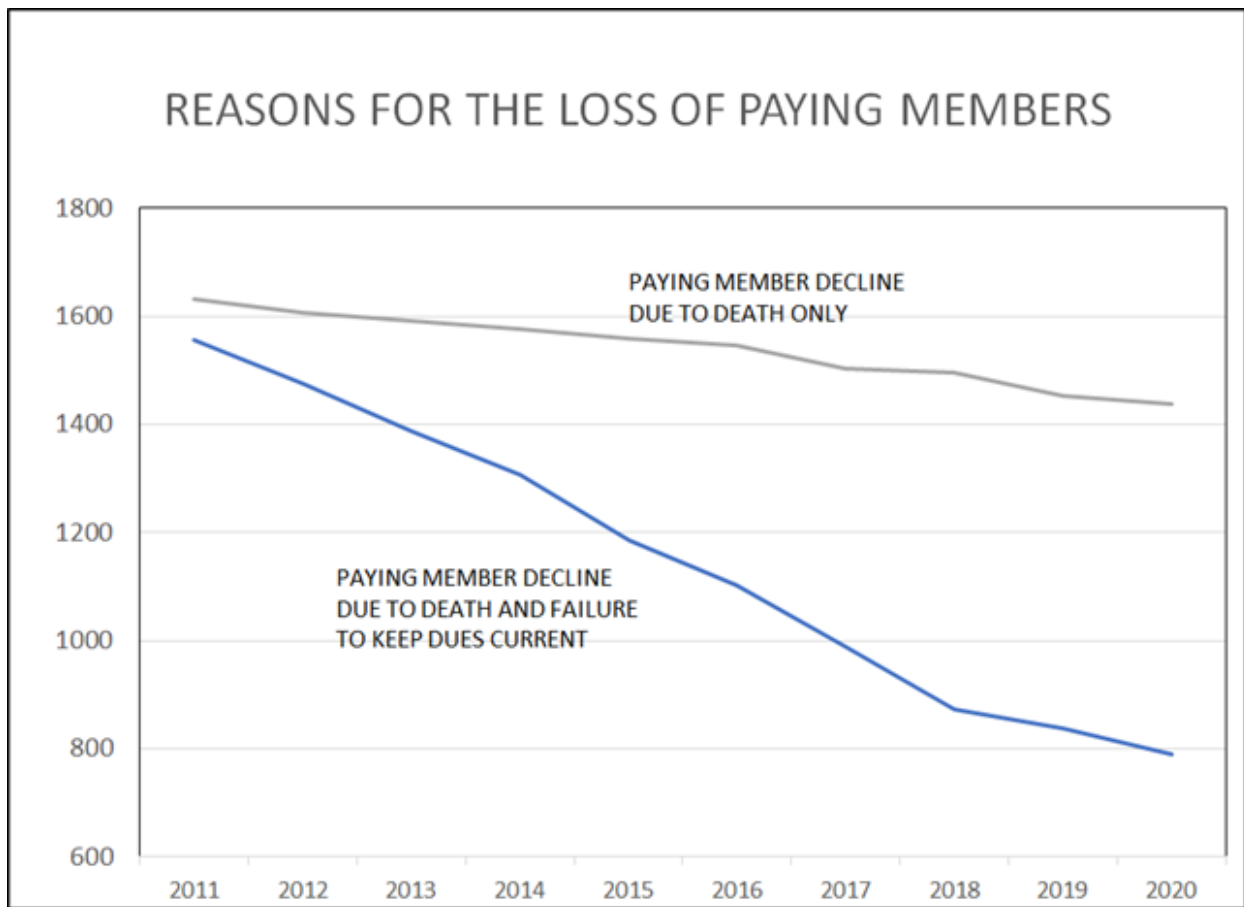


Bob sent a second graph, (May 12, 7:20AM), Titled "Reasons for the loss of paying members". It compared the decline in the number of paying members due to death (only) to the decline in dues paying members because of a failure to keep their dues current. (Members opting out.) It shows that over the last nine years, the decline in dues paying membership has been about 800 persons.

Of that number, approximately 200 have been due to the death of the member, and about 600 have been due to member's opting out of paying dues. Bob pointed out that we can't avoid the loss of dues paying members due to their death, but understanding and addressing the reasons why a very large group of members has let their dues lapse could be significant in our efforts to maintain the long-term viability of the Association.

A lively discussion followed in which a number of ideas were aired, relating to creating opportunities for social interaction between Association members as well as enhancing the "PRA Experience". Some of those ideas were:

- Contact members who have left the Association to understand why they left and what could have been done to get them to stay. (Elizabeth, Eric, Bob and Jim to follow up.)
- Email blasts
- Set up Zoom or Skype sessions
- An initiative that would foster contact with and communications between old friends
- Periodic flyers containing PRA info
- Facebook page: Creating and maintaining a Facebook page to allow more sharing of news and photos by the membership was suggested. We will discuss again at the next meeting.



### Committee Reports

**Condolences;** Maryann Hall reported the names added to the condolences list this month: Alice Galenian, Harvey J. Mills, Peter "Pete" G. Femino, Edward S. Roman, and Francis X. Devin.

**Newsletter:** Elizabeth reports that the Q3 newsletter will go to the printer on June 15. She has received articles from Ed Brynes and Jim Murphy. Ann Tennis has sent a Polaroid Newsletter dated 1972 that will yield some interesting additions.

**October Speaker:** Elizabeth reported that she had left a message on Bob Perry's answering machine at the Charles River Museum, regarding his speaking at the Fall

Luncheon, but that she had not received any feedback. (note; Bob did reply to Elizabeth after the meeting. While the future plans of the Museum are uncertain at this time, he is still willing to come and speak. )

**35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration - Group Brainstorm:**

The uncertainty about the future due to the pandemic makes it difficult to plan when such a celebration should take place. October may not be more amenable to any gathering than the present.

John Flynn had not yet seen the list of BOD members ready to help on plans due to an email mix-up, but will consult with others who have evinced interest in planning for some eventual celebration.

**Old Business:**

**Prospective BOD Candidates:** Elizabeth encouraged board members to think of people who might add specific skills to the board, i.e. Newsletter skills or Excel skills to help with membership. Her president's letter in the Newsletter will again put out a call for new board members by stating the skills we need.

**Agenda Planning:** Elizabeth encouraged board members to suggest topics for discussion at the May BOD meeting.

**Adjournment** A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to adjourn at 1:32AM.

Respectfully submitted by Mary McCann

**Future Meeting Dates** The group suggests that we continue to meet via Skype and decide how frequently at the June meeting,

**DIRECTORS: All on Skype 10:00AM-11:30AM      5/12/20   6/9/20**

**MEMBERS LUNCHEONS: *October 21, 2020***