



The Fourword

Volume 40, Number 7

July 2012

Important Notice Concerning the Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System of Baltimore County

The Pension Board of Trustees has eight positions. Of the eight positions, one is held by the County Administrative Officer and four are held by the appointed department heads of the Office of Budget and Finance, Department of Human Resources, Department of Public Works, and the Police Department. The remaining three positions are elected.

As provided for by the rules and regulations of the Employees' Retirement System of Baltimore County, two members will be elected from the active membership of the system and one retiree will be elected by the retired membership of the system. The persons elected to these positions will serve for four years.

The trustees of the pension system oversee and make policy decisions regarding assets invested in the system. They monitor and evaluate investment manager performance and adherence to policy guidelines, and the performance of the Fund as a whole. Additionally, the trustees review and vote on service retirements, applications for accidental and ordinary disabilities, and good and faithful service considerations.

I cannot stress to you enough the importance of having an elected representative of this organization on your pension board of trustees. Second Vice President Dave Rose turned in the necessary signatures to be placed on the August ballot. He has been your 2nd Vice President for eleven years, and for the last five he has worked exclusively at FOP Lodge #4. Dave is well versed in investment strategies. He has assisted several of our members with difficult questions that affected their decisions to retire, as well as members who have gone through both ordinary and accidental disability process. I feel that Dave has the knowledge and experience necessary to represent all members of the Employees' Retirement System.

Ballots will be mailed to your residence in early August and must be returned post-marked on or before September 4, 2012. Please look for your ballot, and vote for David Rose so he may serve you in this very important position.

Cole B. Weston
President



Representing the Professional Police Officers of Baltimore County





MEETING MINUTES

June 2012

Recorded by David Folderauer

- The June 2012 General Business Meeting was held on June 23, 2012 at FOP Lodge 4. President Weston called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Chaplain Merkle gave the invocation. President Weston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

- First Vice President Comegna and Sister Kraemer were on vacation. Brother Rommel was excused. All other elected officers and Board members were present. Legal advisor Mike Marshall was also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- A motion was made by Brother Grumbach to accept the minutes of the May 2012 General Membership Meeting. A second was made by Brother King. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

~ **PRESIDENT WESTON** ~

- May 23 Addressed the In-Service training class.
- May 24 Attended the Baltimore County Council Budget Adoption Hearing.
- May 29 Attended a Health Care Review Committee meeting and addressed the In-Service training class.

ing class.

- June 4 Attended a fee hearing in Federal District Court concerning the Blake case.
 - June 6 Addressed the In-Service training class, attended a promotion ceremony, visited the funeral home with the Altieri family, and attended an Executive Board meeting for the Retired Officers Association.
 - June 11 Attended a fundraiser for Delegate Steve DeBoy.
 - June 12 Attended a Pension Board of Trustees meeting.
 - June 13 Addressed In-Service training class and met with a newly assigned reporter from the Baltimore Sun.
 - June 14 Met with our Health Care Consultant.
 - June 15 Met with our actuary concerning the employees' pension system.
 - June 18 Met with our investment consultant from RBC concerning the FOP Lodge #4 portfolio.
 - June 19 Addressed the 133rd recruit class, who joined the F.O.P.
 - June 20 Attended the Circuit Court hearing for the unfair labor practice filed over the County Executive refusing to follow the Employee Relations Act.
 - June 22 Met with a member concerning a promotional appraisal.
 - June 25 Met with the F.O.P. Lodge #4 accountant, attended an Executive Board of Directors meeting and chaired the General Membership meeting.
- ~ **1st V. P. COMEGNA** ~
- May 29 Attended a meeting of

LODGE 4 OFFICE

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Baltimore, Maryland 21234
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Toll Free (888) 313-3501
www.foplodge4.org

ELECTED OFFICERS

Cole B. Weston
President
(443) 956-2679

Steven G. Comegna 1st Vice President <i>PC3 - Traffic</i> (410) 409-0293	David M. Rose 2nd Vice President <i>F.O.P Lodge 4</i> (443) 956-2643
David J. Folderauer, Sr. Lodge Secretary <i>PC 4 - IST</i> (410) 382-2075	Robert W. Caskey Treasurer <i>CID-Robbey</i> (443) 956-2615
W. Donald Patterson State Trustee <i>PC12</i>	Anthony DiCara Sergeant at Arms <i>PC12</i>
Paul A. Merkle Chaplain <i>Retired</i>	L. Timothy Caslin Past President <i>Retired</i>

EXECUTIVE BOARD of DIRECTORS

Kenneth F. Schubert Chairman <i>Retired</i> (410) 416-2800	Mike DiCara Vice Chairman <i>PC 4</i>
Thomas G. Scally <i>CID - Arson</i>	Louis J. Lagna <i>Retired</i>
Donna Patterson <i>PC12</i>	Patrick Zito <i>PC 7 - Traffic</i>
James P. Rommel, Jr. <i>K9</i>	Ryan Massey <i>CID - Homicide</i>
Joe Caskey <i>CID - Homicide</i>	Kathy Kraemer <i>PC 6</i>

LODGE STAFF

Juanita Bouthner—Administrative Assistant

LEGAL ADVISORS

Schlachman, Belsky & Weiner, P.A.
Phone (410) 685-2022
IAS Cases Michael Marshall

The Fourword is the official monthly publication of Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 4.

Fourword Editor
Kathryn Greenbeck
Precinct 8

The Fourword

the Health Care Review Committee.

- June 2 Formatted and updated our campaign finance report in the MD CRIS.
- June 14 Attended a meeting with our health care consultant, Randy Hart.
- June 19 Worked at the office and updated our MD CRIS campaign finance report.

~2nd V.P. ROSE~

- May 24 Attended the budget adoption by the County Council.
- May 29 Attended a meeting with the Health Care Review Committee.
- May 31 Attended the promotion draft meeting.
- June 4 Attended the fee petition hearing in the Blake case in Federal Court.
- June 6 Attended in-service training, the promotion ceremony, the viewing for Sister Rene' Altieri, and the Baltimore County Retired Officers Association meeting.
- June 7 Attended the transfer draft, met with worker's compensation attorney, Mark Grasso.
- June 8 Attended the funeral for Sister Rene' Altieri.
- June 13 Attended in-service training, met with Jessica Anderson from the Baltimore Sun.
- June 14 Attended a meeting with our health care consultant.
- June 15 Met with our pension actuary, Joe Duda.
- June 19 Addressed the recruits at the academy.
- June 22 Participated in the Lodge #34 Golf Tournament.
- June 25 Attended a Fair Practices meeting, chaired a Legal Advisory Committee meeting,

attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting and the General membership meeting.

~SECRETARY FOLDERAUER~

- June 25 Attended the Executive Board of Directors meeting and the General Membership meeting.

~TRESURER CASKEY~

- June 14 Worked at the Lodge.
- June 18 Attended a meeting of the Investment Committee.
- June 25 Attended a meeting with the Lodge #4 accountant, two meetings of the Legal Advisory Committee, the Executive Board of Directors meeting, and the General Membership meeting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

~ Kenny Schubert~

- An Executive Board of Directors meeting was held on June 25, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. First Vice President Comegna and Sister Kraemer were on vacation. All other elected officers and Board members were present. Legal counsel Mike Marshall was also present.
- Motions that were made, after receiving a proper second, were discussed, voted upon, and appear in this issue under the appropriate committee reports.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

DONATION REVIEW

~Paul Merkle~

- The Donation Review committee met on June 25, 2012 and considered one item.

Association of Baltimore County Retired Police Meetings 2012

September 4

November 6

All meetings are held at
Parkville Heritage Gar-
dens at 7:30 p.m.

- A motion was made to be a \$250 sponsor of the Chrome City Ride, held on July 29, 2012 to benefit the Benedictine School, a residential facility for persons with disabilities. This motion was approved by the Executive Board of Directors as well as the general membership.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

~Dave Rose~

- On September 27, 2011 the FOP filed a Class Action grievance for changes made to the Absence Control Policy. No date for a Step #3 grievance hearing has been set. An Unfair Labor Practice has been filed in Circuit Court, as well.

HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE

~Steve Comegna~

- The "Labor" portion of the Health Care Review Committee met on Tuesday May 29, 2012 at F.O.P. Lodge # 4. A new chairperson for the committee was elected. John Ripley, the current President of the Baltimore

Congratulations to All June Promotees!!

Sergeant to Lieutenant

Todd A. McGladrie	Ryan M. Stroble
Gregory M. Mead	David P. Trivett
William C. Watts	

Corporal to Sergeant

Michael L. Bortner	Matthew C. Childs
Jeffrey C. Hartman	Chad D. Henry
Michael J. Hill	Glenn S. Holden
Douglas A. Johnson	William D. McGladrie
David M. McVey	Shane A. Moroz
William T. Page	Paul L. Schulman

Officer to Corporal

Cathleen E. Batton	James R. Bossi, Jr.
Gladys L. Brown	Andrea J. Bylen
Sean P. Casey	Christopher A. Griffin
Richard A. Kaschner	Dennis H. Kohajda
Lee M. Prince	Scott E. Shilling
Rachael E. Steigen	Nicholas B. Stein
Michael A. Trout	Jeffrey M. Williams

County Federation of Public Employees was elected to chair the committee. The committee also made a formal request to Baltimore County for claims data from our health care plans.

- Baltimore County is attempting to obtain agreement from all six County labor unions to make changes to active and retired members' health care subsidies and prescription copays. The Healthcare Review Committee has requested claims data from the County on multiple occasions, but the correct data has not been provided. Negotiations are ongoing.

**LEGAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**
~Dave Rose~

- On September 13, 2011 the

FOP delivered an Unfair Labor Practice charge against County Executive Kevin Kamenetz as provided in Baltimore County Code 4-5-204(a) for making unilateral changes to the Absence Control Policy. According to the Code, the Director of the Office of Human Resources, George Gay should have selected an arbitrator to hear the facts of the dispute and issue a ruling. On September 16, 2011 the FOP received a letter from George Gay, Director of the Office of Human Resources in response to the Unfair Labor Practice charge. The letter states it is the position of the Kamenetz administration that "The County does not agree to participate in, or pay for a third party agency review." On Octo-

ber 25, 2012 the FOP filed a Complaint for Declaratory Relief and for a Writ of Mandamus in the Baltimore County Circuit Court. Essentially, the FOP was asking the Circuit Court to direct County Executive Kamenetz to follow the Baltimore County Code. On June 20, 2012 the case was heard in Baltimore County Circuit Court by Judge Cox. After a hearing Judge Cox issued a **ruling from the bench directing the County Executive to follow the law.** Baltimore County has since appealed the decision.

- The FOP has filed a Writ of Certiorari in the Maryland Court of Appeals in the Retiree Subsidy case. The Writ of Certiorari was granted on April 20, 2012. Our Brief was filed with the Court on June 15, 2012. Oral arguments are scheduled for September 7, 2012 at 9:30am.
- The FOP's fee petition for the Blake was heard on June 4, 2012 at 4:00pm in Federal District Court in Baltimore. The hearing lasted for about an hour and a half. After presentations from both sides, Judge Legg advised the hearing would be continued on a later date.
- The Stanley Siedlecki case was scheduled for June 15, 2012 in Baltimore County Circuit Court. The case was postponed.
- The Employee Relations Act case was heard on September 9, 2011 at the Court of Special Appeals. We are currently waiting for a decision.
- On June 26, 2012 the Legal Advisory Committee members met to discuss a request from Brandt Bradford. Brother Bradford was hired on December 16, 1974 and retired on a service retirement on

Bereavements



Sister Rene' Altieri

**Mary Rose Lund
Mother of Retired Brother
Joseph "Cliff" Lund, Sr.**

**Jennie Kane
Mother of Retired Brother
Joe Kane**

**Daniel J. Pickard, Jr.
Son of Retired Brother
Daniel J. Pickard, Sr.**

**Andrew Stevenson
Father of Brother
Nathan Stevenson**

**Sherman B. Morris
Father of Sister
Tylisa Morris**

**Courtney Rose Quinn
Neice of Brother
Steve Hlavach**

June 16, 1998 and chose Option #4 as his retirement option. Option #4 is a custom option that allows a member to specify a dollar amount of the monthly benefit for the designated beneficiary. It also states that no changes can be made to the designated beneficiary under any circumstances after the first payment of the member's retirement allowance. Eighteen months later, on December 1,

1999, he was reinstated and his appointment date was adjusted to June 2, 1976. Since then he has worked 12 creditable service years and his accumulated retirement funds were transferred back into the retirement system. He has since filed for retirement effective June 30, 2012. He now has a total of 36 years of creditable service years and qualifies for Option #7, the Joint and Survivor benefit. The County Office of Law has issued an opinion stating he cannot change from his prior selection of Option #4. Brother Bradford has filed an appeal with the County Board of Appeals and is requesting funding from FOP Lodge #4.

- The committee members also discussed the incident involving Brother James LaBoard. Mike Marshall was present to answer any questions to which he could respond. A motion was made to fund the case against Brother LaBoard. The motion passed unanimously. The committee recommendation was presented to the Executive Board of Directors. The motion passed unanimously.

PENSION COMMITTEE

~ Cole Weston ~

- The Pension Board of Trustees met on June 12, 2012 and approved 29 service, drop, early, and lump-sum death benefit retirements. One accidental disability was approved, one accidental disability was increased to 66 2/3 %, and three ordinary disabilities were also approved.

**POLICY REVIEW
COMMITTEE**

~Dave Rose~

- The committee reviewed three (3) new policies this month. No issues were identified.

**POLITICAL ACTION
COMMITTEE**

~Steve Comegna~

- The Political Action Committee made one motion for the month of June. That motion was to purchase a Silver Sponsorship to a fundraiser being held by State Delegate and F.O.P. Brother John Cluster (District # 8). The event was held at Casey's Bar and Grill on Tuesday June 26, 2012. The expenditure was \$250.00.
- This motion was approved by the Executive Board of Directors and the General Membership on Monday June 25, 2012.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- President Weston advised that donations in memory of Rene' Altieri will be forwarded to the PAR Fund.
- During the month of June, the Lodge sent three (3) flower arrangement and five (5) sympathy cards to bereaving members. Two (2) donations were made in lieu of flowers at the member's request. Two (2) fruit baskets were sent to members who were hospitalized. Five (5) "Thank You" cards were received.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm.

The August

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
August 27, 2012
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road

The September

**FOP Lodge 4
GENERAL
BUSINESS
MEETING**

will be held on

**Monday,
September 24, 2012
7:30 p.m.**

at
FOP Lodge 4
9304 Harford Road