

**MINUTES**

**POLICE OFFICERS' & FIREFIGHTERS'  
RETIREMENT COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY - JANUARY 13, 2015 - 10:00 AM**

**PRESENT**

Sgt. Leo Socorro – Chair  
(Ret) Chief Linda Loizzo  
Sgt. Mo Asim

**ALSO PRESENT**

Renaldo Gayle – Asst. Pension Admin.  
Bob Sugarman – Sugarman & Susskind  
Ivelisse Berio LeBeau – Sugarman &  
Susskind

**ABSENT**

Mayor George Vallejo  
Councilwoman Beth Spiegel  
Martin Lebowitz – Pension Admin.

**DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

**I. ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Trustee Leo Socorro, followed by a roll call of the Trustees by Renaldo Gayle.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**III. PRIVATE MEETING – “SHADE MEETING” FOR CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH  
VERSUS POLICE & FIRE TRUSTEES SOCORRO, ASIM & LOIZZO – CASE # 2014-  
CA-032137**

Trustee Leo Socorro announced the Shade Meeting and stated that Trustee Beth Spiegel and Trustee George Vallejo will not be present for the first Shade and public meetings. However, they will be attending the second Shade and public meetings. He then announced the conclusion of the public meeting at 10:18 a.m.

The board went to the ante room to conduct the Shade Meeting.

The following attended the Shade meeting:

Bob Sugarman  
Ivelisse Berio LeBeau  
Sgt. Mo Asim  
Linda Loizzo  
Sgt. Leo Socorro  
Renaldo Gayle  
Court Reporter

**IV. PRIVATE MEETING – “SHADE MEETING” FOR CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH  
VERSUS POLICE & FIRE RETIREMENT COMMITTEE – CASE # 2014-CA-032137**

The board remained in the ante room to conduct the second Shade Meeting.

The following attended the Shade meeting:

Bob Sugarman  
Ivelisse Berio LeBeau  
Sgt. Mo Asim  
Linda Loizzo  
Sgt. Leo Socorro  
Beth Spiegel  
George Vallejo  
Renaldo Gayle  
Court Reporter

**V. PUBLIC MEETING**

The board returned from the Shade Meetings.

**1. ENGAGEMENT OF LAWYERS IN CASE # 2014-CA-032137 FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

**A. RETIREMENT COMMITTEE**

Bob Sugarman stated that there are two motions to be considered. One is to engage Sugarman & Susskind at the previously agreed upon rate of \$270 per hour and Holland & Knight as co-counsel to defend the retirement committee that is being sued. The insurance company has been contacted and both firms were approved.

Motion by Trustee Mo Asim, seconded by Trustee Linda Loizzo, to engage Sugarman & Susskind and Holland & Knight at the partners' rate of \$500 with lesser rates for associates.

**Roll Call:**

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Trustee George Vallejo | Yes |
| Trustee Linda Loizzo   | Yes |
| Trustee Mo Asim        | Yes |
| Trustee Leo Socorro    | Yes |
| Trustee Beth Spiegel   | No  |

Motion carried

Mr. Sugarman stated that he is requesting another Shade Meeting to discuss further litigation expenditures if necessary.

**B. TRUSTEES SOCORRO, ASIM & LOIZZO**

Mr. Sugarman stated that the three trustees being sued have indicated a desire to engage attorney Richard Sicking to represent them. They have agreed to a fee of \$270/hr which the insurance company has approved.

Trustee George Vallejo questioned whether or not it was appropriate for him to vote on the motion. Mr. Sugarman stated that he would rather have it approved by the entire board and does not see a conflict. He added that the private meetings concerning the litigation expenses or settlement of the suit against the three trustees will not involve Trustee Vallejo and Spiegel

After discussion, motion by Trustee Mo Asim, seconded by Trustee Linda Loizzo, to engage Richard Sicking and his firm at a rate of \$270/hr to defend the three trustees that are being personally sued in their official capacity.

**Roll Call:**

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Trustee George Vallejo | Yes                |
| Trustee Linda Loizzo   | Yes                |
| Trustee Mo Asim        | Yes                |
| Trustee Leo Socorro    | Yes                |
| Trustee Beth Spiegel   | <i>(abstained)</i> |

Motion carried

Mr. Sugarman made a request for a Shade Meeting on behalf of Mr. Richard Sicking to discuss litigation expenditures or settlement with the three trustees as a group.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

The next scheduled meeting is on February 24, 2015. Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.