



CITY OF STAMFORD
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DRAFT MINUTES

Classified Employees Retirement Fund Regular Meeting held
remotely on Thursday, December 8, 2022 via a Zoom meeting

Those in attendance were:

Mary Lou Rinaldi, Acting Chair & Trustee	Alfred Cava, Director – Human Resources	Kevin Nichols, Morgan Stanley
Mayor Caroline Simmons	Angelo Sestito, Assistant Director – Human Resources	Joseph J. Matthews, Morgan Stanley
Steven Bonaparte, Trustee	James Lavin, Retirement Benefits Specialist Human Resources	Lindsay Pereguda, Morgan Stanley
Eric Newman, Trustee	Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources & Benefits Assistant	Anabel Arquello, Northern Trust
Joyce Sun, Trustee	Becky Sielman, Milliman	Patti Koulouris, Northern Trust
David Yanik, Controller	Yelena Pelletier, Milliman	Janet Vaccaro, President – Retiree Association
		Rick Petersen, Retiree Association

Chair, Mary Lou Rinaldi called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Chair Rinaldi noted Trustee, Jeff Curtis attended; however, he was not present at this meeting. In addition to those individuals mentioned above, members of the public joined via Zoom.

I. Minutes:

A motion to approve the November 17, 2022 CERF Board meeting Minutes was made by Steven Bonaparte and seconded by Eric Newman. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

II. Public Participation:

Janet Vaccaro, President of the Retiree Association requested clarifying information from Morgan Stanley regarding ESG funds. Kevin Nichols of Morgan Stanley reiterated what his colleague, David R. Javaheri, stated at the last meeting, which was that the current fund investment policy does not actively complete ESG screens on managers. However, Mr. Nichols stated that Morgan Stanley could run an Impact Quotient Report, which would provide a basis to identify and prioritize impact themes and social and environmental impact preferences using multiple third-party data sources. The result of the report would offer suggestions for investment solutions that may better align the portfolio with the impact preferences.

Rick Petersen of the Retiree Association requested an update on the COLA research. Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources stated that the data gathering process with Milliman is still in process, but he would continue to provide updates to the Trustees as they become available.

III. New Business:

A. Milliman Experience Study – Becky Sielman & Yelena Pelletier, Milliman

Becky Sielman provided the Trustees with an overview of the Experience Study, including the objective, scope and data sources utilized. The key components of the Experience Study included, Economic Assumptions, Demographic Assumptions and Funding Method.

The team from Milliman reviewed each component, and if applicable, provided suggestions. Please note that there were no changes proposed for the Economic Assumptions as the actuaries found those well suited for the Fund. However, Milliman proposed assumption changes for all of the Demographic components, including: Turnover, Retirement, Disability and Sick/Vacation Day Exchange. The Funding Method was the last component reviewed, in which there were proposed assumption changes to both the Cost Method and Amortization Method.

Milliman provided a chart with the proposed assumption changes on the valuation results using 2021 data in order for Trustees to visualize the impact of the proposed changes on the Plan. The valuation data from 2022 would be provided as soon as available.

Mary Lou Rinaldi made a motion to adopt the findings of the Milliman Experience Study with the understanding that other Boards are involved in these decisions as well as the City of Stamford – Mayor’s Office. Eric Newman seconded the motion as presented. Hearing no abstentions or objections, the motion was approved unanimously.

B. Administrative Report – Anabel Arguello, Northern Trust

Anabel Arguello reviewed the Administrative Report for the month dated November 30, 2022, which included financials for the Fund, such as opening balance, contributions, distributions, fees and expenses. According to the report, the Fund had a gain for the month, as well as the fiscal year.

Ms. Arguello reminded the Board that they voted last month on a standing instruction to transfer the dividends from the ETF account to the cash account. Please note that Patti Koulouris of Northern Trust attended and was available for any follow-up questions.

C. Morgan Stanley Consulting Group:

Vice President, Joseph J. Matthews, provided a Capital Market update with information on wealth management perspectives, current indicators and reviewed market expectations.

Kevin Nichols, Senior Vice President presented a Performance Report, which included a summary of the total Fund as of November 30, 2022. The report provided detail on Asset Allocations by Manager, Annualized Performance, and a summary for both the Gain/Loss and Overweight/Underweight performance of the Fund.

At this time, Kevin Nichols made a suggestion to raise another \$3 million dollars in cash by taking from Jennison Large Growth, which would 4 months of benefit payments in the cash account. Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the suggestion by Morgan Stanley noted above. Joyce Sun seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Vested Pensions:

- i. Norrell Clark \$743.23

Joyce Sun made a motion to approve the vested pension for Norrell Clark. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

D. Return of Contributions:

- i. Charlene McArthur \$23,634.93

Mary Lou Rinaldi made a motion to approve the return of contributions for Charlene McArthur. Joyce Sun seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

E. Retirements: At this time, Mary Lou Rinaldi made a motion to suspend the rules to discuss an item not originally on the Agenda. Eric Newman made a motion, which was seconded by Joyce Sun. The motion was approved unanimously and the request below was reviewed:

- i. Dorothy Marciano \$2,343.47

Eric Newman made a motion to approve the retirement request for Dorothy Marciano. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. Disability Retirements: NONE

G. Buy Back: NONE

H. Bills:

- i. Robinson+Cole Invoice# 50395986 \$99.00
(Legal Services Fees)

Eric Newman made a motion to approve Invoice# 50395986 for Robinson+Cole. Joyce Sun seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no further business, at 10:38 a.m., Mary Lou Rinaldi made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded Eric Newman.

The next Meeting of the Trustees for the Classified Employees Retirement Fund will be a Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.