



## **STAMFORD FIREFIGHTERS PENSION FUND**

**City of Stamford, CT**

Chairman Robert Berlingo  
Richard Lyons  
William J. Smith III  
James Hricay  
Gerald Kutz

### **Meeting purpose: Review of all Fund Managers**

**October 29, 2013**

A regular meeting of the Stamford Firefighters Pension Fund was held at 12 Noon on Tuesday October 29 at Stamford Fire Headquarters.

Present at the meeting were: Chairman Robert Berlingo, Trustee Richard Lyons, Trustee Gerald Kutz, Trustee Brendan Keatley, Fund Advisor John Beirne and Fund Co-Advisor John Oliver Beirne. Excused was: Trustee James Hricay. Various fund managers attended to present a review of their individual funds listed below.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00pm Chairman Berlingo.

### **Review of Retirements approved since last meeting**

None

### **Review of Beach Point Capital Management**

Mr. Paul Labib presented for Beach Point. Beach Point Capital specializes in credit-market investing. A presentation handout was provided to board members and the fund advisors.

#### Beach Point Loan Fund

- Fund status: outperformed benchmark for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and MTD
- Seeking opportunities in the 7.5% - 8% yield range
- 82% of portfolio is floating rate and thus would benefit from a rising interest rate environment (fund seeks to be 90% floating)
- Outlook for year is 6-7% total return for pension

#### Beach Point Total Return Fund

- One year ago, fund was 7-8% invested in Europe, today that has grown to 25%
- YTD fund is up 9.04% and MTD October up approx. 1.5%
- Duration average is less than one year to mitigate rising rates

### **Review of Zesiger Capital Group**

Donald DeVivo and Robert Winters presented for Zesiger Capital Group. Zesiger Capital Group manages an alternative investment fund for the Stamford Firefighters Pension Fund. A presentation handout was provided to board members and the fund advisors.

- Review of overall fund performance
- Review of Emerging Markets
- Review of individual securities and the under performance of the fund
- Discussion of status of 2 private placement transactions
- Discussion of asset allocations between Emerging Markets and S+P type stocks

### **Review of Neuberger Berman**

Ted Vogel, Scott Dynan, Henry Ramallo, and Paul Saitta presented for Neuberger Berman. Neuberger Berman manages 3 Equity and 1 fixed income fund for Stamford Firefighters Pension. Large Cap Growth, Large Cap Value, Mid Cap and Fixed Income. A presentation handout was provided to board members and the fund advisors.

- Reviewed performance of Stamford Firefighters Pension Fund investments
- YTD Large Cap Growth +19.32%, Mid Cap +22.31%, Large Cap Value +22.42%, Fixed Income -2.45%
- Large Cap Growth is Heavy in Healthcare, under in Financial and Technology
- Fixed Income is keeping duration short to hedge against volatility.
- They believe that GDP will be higher than predicted in 2014

Trustee Keatley excused himself from the meeting at 3:00pm

### **Review of Omega Overseas Partners**

Mr. Joseph Scanlon presented for Omega. Omega Overseas Partners is a fund founded in 1991 by Leon Cooperman. Their emphasis is on value investment with a catalyst. They have a prolonged track record of annualized net return of over 14% since inception in 1992.

- 75% of fund in US Equities
- Overweight in Energy, Financials and Telecommunications
- Discussion of specific stocks in the portfolio. Mr. Scanlon to get John Beirne a report on 2 specific securities.

## General Discussion

Mr. John Beirne gave a short overview of the market environment .

A discussion ensued on Zesiger Capital Group. Mr. John Beirne recommended selling half of the assets invested leaving the majority of the remaining investments in "Private Placements". A discussion on liquidating entire investment as well as where to place the money ensued.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lyons and seconded by Trustee Kutz at 4:00pm to advise Zesiger that we are removing \$11.5 million as soon as possible. The funds to be used to bring Midcap up to target and International lightly overweighted. Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

A discussion ensued on the proper classification of the Beach Point Total Return Fund. The fund is currently classified as "Alternative" because the fund has the ability to short. However, many of Beirne Capital's clients are changing the classification to Fixed Income because the only investments are in Fixed Income.

Much discussion was had about trying to categorize today's funds in to "1980's" classifications. John Oliver Beirne will report back at the next meeting with a presentation and research for the change.

Mr. John Beirne is going to host a trustee education session on European Fixed Income on Wednesday November 13, 2013. He will send invitations to the individual trustees.

Next meeting date was set for December 3, 2013 at 12:00 Noon. The meeting will take place at fire headquarters. The intent of the meeting will be to meet with a few fund managers and take care of some pending business.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lyons and seconded by Trustee Kutz at 4:20pm to Pay the accountant balance forward of regular monthly fee plus \$6000.00 for additional accounting services rendered. Motion **PASSED** unanimously.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Kutz and seconded by Trustee Lyons at 4:30pm to adjourn the meeting. Motion **PASSED** unanimously.