

PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust
Form DEF 14A
April 06, 2012

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A
(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT
SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant ☒ x
Filed by a Party other ☐ o
than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ☐ o | Preliminary Proxy Statement |
| ☐ o | Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)) |
| ☒ x | Definitive Proxy Statement |
| ☐ o | Definitive Additional Materials |
| ☐ o | Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12 |

PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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| ☒ x | No fee required. |
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| (1) | Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies: |
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- (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
- (3) Filing Party:
- (4) Date Filed:
-

6101 Condor Drive
Moorpark, California 93021

April 6, 2012

Dear Shareholder:

I would like to cordially invite you to attend the 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the “Meeting”) of PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust to be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. Pacific time. The Meeting will be held at our principal executive offices, located at 6101 Condor Drive, Moorpark, CA 93021.

The Notice of 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and Proxy Statement are attached to this letter and contain information about the matters on which you will be asked to vote at the Meeting. We will transact no other business at the Meeting, except for business properly brought before the Meeting or any adjournment thereof by our Board of Trustees.

Only our common shareholders of record at the close of business on April 2, 2012, the record date, are entitled to vote at the Meeting. A complete list of our common shareholders of record entitled to vote at the Meeting will be available for inspection for proper purposes by our shareholders at our principal executive offices during ordinary business hours for the 10 business days prior to the Meeting.

Your vote is very important. Please carefully read the Notice of 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and Proxy Statement so that you will know the matters on which we plan to vote at the Meeting, and then sign, date and return the proxy card as soon as possible to make sure that your shares are represented at the Meeting. You may also cast your vote in person at the Meeting. If your shares are held in an account at a brokerage firm or bank, you must instruct them on how to vote your shares.

ANNUAL MEETING ADMISSION: If you attend the Meeting in person, you will need to present your admission ticket, or an account statement showing your ownership of our common shares as of the record date, and valid government-issued photo identification. The indicated portion of your proxy card will serve as your admission ticket.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, I thank you for your participation. We look forward to seeing you on May 16th.

Sincerely,

STANFORD L. KURLAND
Chairman of the Board

6101 Condor Drive
Moorpark, CA 93021

Notice of 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

Time and Date: 10:00 a.m. Pacific time on Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Place: PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust
6101 Condor Drive
Moorpark, CA 93021

Items of Business: To elect the four (4) Class III Trustees identified in the enclosed Proxy Statement to serve on our Board of Trustees, each for a term expiring at the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders;

To ratify the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm for 2012;

To approve, by non-binding vote, our executive compensation; and

To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting and any adjournment thereof.

Record Date and Meeting Admission: You are entitled to attend the annual meeting only if you owned our common shares at the close of business on April 2, 2012, the record date.

Proxy Voting: Whether or not you plan on attending the annual meeting, we encourage you to vote as soon as possible. Please sign, date and return the proxy card as soon as possible to make sure that your shares are represented at the annual meeting. You may also cast your vote in person at the annual meeting. If your shares are held in an account at a brokerage firm or bank, you must instruct them on how to vote your shares.

Recommendations: Our Board of Trustees recommends that you vote "FOR" the election of each of the nominees as Trustee, "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year, and "FOR" the approval, by non-binding vote, of our executive compensation.

Mailing Date: The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials is being mailed to you on or about April 6, 2012, and the Notice of 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, the Proxy Statement, 2011 Annual Report to Security Holders, and the proxy card or voting instruction form are accessible to you online at www.PennyMac-REIT.com. Hard copies of the proxy materials will be mailed to you upon your request.

By Order of the Board of Trustees,

JEFFREY P. GROGIN
Secretary

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE
ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON MAY 16, 2012:**

The Notice of 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K are available in the Investor Relations section of our website, www.PennyMac-REIT.com.

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PENNYMAC MORTGAGE INVESTMENT TRUST
6101 CONDOR DRIVE
MOORPARK, CALIFORNIA 93021

2012 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

PROXY STATEMENT

PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust (“we,” “our,” “us” or the “Company”) is furnishing this Proxy Statement in connection with our solicitation of proxies to be voted at our 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the “Meeting”). We will hold the Meeting at our principal executive offices, located at 6101 Condor Drive, Moorpark, California 93021, on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Pacific time, and any postponements or adjournments thereof. We are delivering this Proxy Statement and the proxy card to our shareholders commencing on or about April 6, 2012.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

What am I voting on?

You will be entitled to vote on the following proposals at the Meeting:

- The election of four (4) Trustees, Randall D. Hadley, Clay A. Halvorsen, Stanford L. Kurland and David A. Spector, each for a term expiring at the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders;
- The ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2012; and
- The approval, by non-binding vote, of our executive compensation.

How does our Board of Trustees recommend that I vote on these proposals?

Our Board of Trustees (the “Board”) recommends you vote “FOR” the election of each of the nominees as Trustees, “FOR” the ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year, and “FOR” the approval, by non-binding vote, of our executive compensation.

Who can attend the Meeting?

If you were the record owner of our common shares as of the close of business on the record date, you are entitled to attend the Meeting, although seating is limited. Our Board has set April 2, 2012 as the record date for the Meeting. If you plan to attend, please check the box on your proxy card and return it as directed on the proxy card.

If you hold your common shares through a broker and you would like to attend, please either (1) write us at Investor Relations, PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust, 6101 Condor Drive, Moorpark, California 93021, (2) email us at investorrelations@pnmac.com, or (3) bring to the Meeting a copy of your brokerage account statement or an omnibus proxy (which you can get from your broker).

In addition, you must bring valid, government-issued photo identification, such as a driver’s license or a passport. No cameras or recording devices of any kind, or signs, placards, banners or similar materials, may be brought into the

Meeting. Anyone who refuses to comply with these requirements will not be admitted.

Who is entitled to vote at the Meeting?

If you were the record owner of our common shares as of the close of business on the record date, you are entitled to vote at the Meeting. Each shareholder of record on the record date is entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Meeting and any adjournments thereof. As of the record date, 31,116,878 common shares were issued and outstanding. If you were the record owner of our common shares at the close of business on the record date, you may vote at the Meeting. You are entitled to one vote on each proposal for each common share you held on the record date.

How many shares must be present to hold the Meeting?

The presence of a majority of the shares entitled to vote constitutes a quorum, which is required in order to hold the Meeting and conduct business. Since there were 31,116,878 eligible votes as of the record date, we will need at least 15,558,440 votes present in person or by proxy at the Meeting for a quorum to exist. If a quorum is not present at the Meeting, we expect that the Meeting will be adjourned to solicit additional proxies.

What shareholder approvals are required to approve the proposals?

Trustees will be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the holders of the common shares voting in person or by proxy at the Meeting. Ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm and approval, by non-binding vote, of our executive compensation will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast by the holders of the common shares voting in person or by proxy at the Meeting.

How will voting on any other business be conducted?

Other than the three proposals described in this Proxy Statement, we know of no other business to be considered at the Meeting. If any other matters are properly presented at the Meeting, your signed proxy card authorizes Stanford L. Kurland, our Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, and Jeffrey P. Grogan, our Secretary, to vote on those matters according to their best judgment.

How do I vote my shares as a shareholder of record?

If you are a shareholder of record, you may vote by using one of the following methods:

- by mail,
- online at www.PennyMac-REIT.com, or
- in person at the Meeting,

as instructed on the proxy card.

If you vote now, it will assure that your vote is counted. Whether you vote by mail, online or in person at the Meeting, the proxies identified on the back of the proxy card will vote the shares as to which you are the shareholder of record in accordance with your instructions. If the proxy card is signed and returned and no instructions are marked, the shares will be voted as recommended by our Board in this Proxy Statement.

What is the difference between a shareholder of record and a “street name” holder?

If your shares are registered directly in your name, you are considered the shareholder of record with respect to those shares. If your shares are held in a stock brokerage account or by a bank, trust or other nominee, then the broker, bank, trust or other nominee is considered to be the shareholder of record with respect to those shares. However, you still are considered the beneficial owner of those shares, and your shares are said to be held in “street name.” Street name holders generally cannot vote their shares directly and must instead instruct the broker, bank, trust or other nominee how to vote their shares.

If my broker holds my shares in “street name,” how do I vote my shares?

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If you own your shares in “street name,” you must vote your shares in the manner prescribed by your broker or other nominee. Your broker or other nominee has provided a voting instruction form for you to use in directing the broker or nominee how to vote your shares. Please follow the instructions provided on such voting instruction form.

If you do not provide your broker with instructions on how to vote your street name shares, your broker will be able to vote them only on the proposal to ratify the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm. Your broker will not be able to vote them on the proposals relating to the election of Trustees or our executive compensation. You should, therefore, be sure to provide your broker with instructions on how to vote your shares. See your voting instruction form for instructions.

How do I vote my shares in person at the Meeting?

If you are a shareholder of record, to vote your shares at the Meeting you should bring the proxy card and proof of identification. If you own your shares in “street name,” to vote your shares at the Meeting you must obtain a proxy from your broker or nominee and bring that proxy to the Meeting.

Even if you plan to attend the Meeting, we encourage you to vote in advance of the Meeting, so your vote will be counted if you later decide not to attend the Meeting.

What if I do not specify how I want my shares voted?

If you submit a signed proxy card and do not specify how you want to vote your shares, we will vote your shares as follows:

- FOR the election of four (4) Class III Trustees, Randall D. Hadley, Clay A. Halvorsen, Stanford L. Kurland and David A. Spector, each for a term expiring at the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders;
- FOR the ratification of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year; and
- FOR the approval, by non-binding vote, of our executive compensation.

May I revoke my proxy and change my vote after submitting my proxy?

Yes. You may revoke your proxy and change your vote before it is taken at the Meeting by (1) delivering a written notice of revocation to the attention of our Secretary at 6101 Condor Drive, Moorpark, California 93021, (2) delivering a duly executed proxy bearing a later date, or (3) attending the Meeting and voting in person. As noted above, if you own your shares through a brokerage account or in another nominee form, you cannot vote in person at the Meeting unless you obtain a proxy from your broker or nominee and bring that proxy to the Meeting.

What does it mean if I receive more than one proxy card?

It means that your shares may be registered differently and in more than one account. Sign and return all proxy cards to ensure that all your shares are voted.

How are votes counted?

You may either vote “FOR” or “WITHHOLD” authority to vote for each nominee for the Board. You may vote “FOR,” “AGAINST” or “ABSTAIN” on the proposal to ratify the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the current fiscal year and the proposal to approve, by non-binding vote, our executive compensation. An abstention is the voluntary act of not voting by a shareholder who is present at a meeting in person or by proxy and entitled to vote.

If you submit your proxy but abstain from voting or withhold authority to vote on one or more matters, your shares will be counted as present at the Meeting for the purpose of determining a quorum. Your shares also will be counted as present at the Meeting for the purpose of calculating the vote on the particular proposal with respect to which you abstained from voting or withheld authority to vote. However, because an abstention is not counted as a vote cast, if you abstain from voting on a proposal, your abstention will have no effect on the proposal in question.

If you hold your shares in “street name” and do not provide voting instructions to your broker or other nominee, your shares will not be voted on any proposal on which your broker or other nominee does not have discretionary authority to vote under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”). Under NYSE rules, brokers that hold our common shares in street name for customers that are the beneficial owners of those shares may not give a proxy to vote those shares on certain matters, including the election of Trustees and our executive compensation, without specific instructions from those customers. When a broker lacks authority to vote under these circumstances, this is referred to as a “broker non-vote.” Broker non-votes will be counted as present at the Meeting for the purpose of determining a quorum but will not be considered votes cast and, accordingly, will have no effect on any proposal to be considered at the Annual Meeting.

Who will count the vote?

Representatives of Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. will count the votes for shares held in “street name” and the votes of shareholders of record. The Company will serve as the Inspector of Elections.

How will we solicit proxies for the Meeting?

We are soliciting proxies from our shareholders by mailing the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and providing internet access, at www.PennyMac-REIT.com, to our Notice of 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, Proxy Statement, 2011 Annual Report to Security Holders, and proxy card or voting instruction form. In addition, some of our Trustees and officers and some employees of PNMAC Capital Management, LLC, which we refer to as our Manager or PCM, may make additional solicitations by telephone or in person. We may also retain Computershare to assist in the solicitation of proxies.

What does it cost the Company to solicit proxy materials?

We will pay the cost of the solicitation of proxies, including preparing and mailing the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. To the extent any of our Trustees or officers, or any employees of our Manager, solicit proxies by telephone, facsimile transmission or other personal contact, such persons will receive no additional compensation. Brokerage houses and other nominees, fiduciaries and custodians who are holders of record of common shares will be requested to forward proxy soliciting materials to the beneficial owners of such shares and will be reimbursed by us for their charges and expenses in connection therewith at customary and reasonable rates. In addition, we may retain Computershare to assist in the solicitation of proxies, in which case we will pay Computershare a total solicitation fee of \$7,500 per six-month period, plus reimbursement of expenses.

Can I access the Company's proxy materials and Annual Report to Security Holders electronically?

This Proxy Statement and our 2011 Annual Report to Security Holders, which includes our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 ("Fiscal 2011"), are available in the Investor Relations section of our website, www.PennyMac-REIT.com.

Will our External Manager be present at the Meeting?

Officers of our Manager will be present at the Meeting.

When are shareholder proposals due for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders?

If you are submitting a proposal for possible inclusion in next year's Proxy Statement pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), we must receive the proposal no later than December 7, 2012. If you are submitting a proposal for possible inclusion in next year's Proxy Statement other than pursuant to Rule 14a-8 of the Exchange Act, we must receive the proposal no earlier than November 7, 2012 and no later than December 7, 2012.

Who can help answer my questions?

If you have any questions or need assistance voting your shares or if you need additional copies of this Proxy Statement or the proxy card, you should contact:

PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust

Attention: Investor Relations

6101 Condor Drive

Moorpark, CA 93021

Phone: (818) 224-7028

Facsimile: (818) 936-0145

Email: investorrelations@pnmac.com

OUR TRUSTEES

Trustees

We have three classes of Trustees. Our Class III Trustees to be elected at this year's Meeting will serve until our annual meeting of shareholders in 2015 and their successors have been duly elected and qualify. Our Class I Trustees will serve until our annual meeting of shareholders in 2013 and their successors have been duly elected and qualify. Our Class II Trustees will serve until our annual meeting of shareholders in 2014 and their successors have been duly elected and qualify. The names of the Trustees, their ages as of April 2, 2012, and certain other information about them, including their qualifications to serve as a Trustee, are set forth below:

Class III Trustees

Randall D. Hadley. Mr. Hadley, age 68, has been a member of our Board since August 2009 and is a Class III Trustee and nominee for election at this year's Meeting. Mr. Hadley is also our Independent Lead Trustee. Mr. Hadley was a CPA and partner of Grant Thornton LLP, an accounting firm, including nine years as regional director of professional standards, before retiring in July 2003. He advised both public and private entities while at Grant Thornton LLP and provided various consulting services to the accounting firm following his retirement through July 2011. Mr. Hadley holds a BS from Wright State University. We believe Mr. Hadley is qualified to serve on our Board because he is a financial and accounting expert with over 30 years of wide-ranging accounting and auditing experience, including extensive experience in mortgage banking.

Clay A. Halvorsen. Mr. Halvorsen, age 52, has been a member of our Board since August 2009 and is a Class III Trustee and nominee for election at this year's Meeting. Mr. Halvorsen is senior vice president and general counsel of The Irvine Company, a diversified real estate firm, where he has served since February 2010, and he also holds the position of general counsel at Irvine Community Development Company, a residential real estate developer. From 1998 until February 2009, Mr. Halvorsen was the executive vice president, general counsel and secretary of Standard Pacific Corp., a homebuilding company. Mr. Halvorsen holds a BA from California State University, Northridge and a JD from the University of Southern California. We believe Mr. Halvorsen is qualified to serve on our Board because he is a longtime legal executive in homebuilding and mortgage businesses with considerable experience advising publicly-traded institutions.

Stanford L. Kurland. Mr. Kurland, age 59, has been a member of our Board since our formation in 2009 and is a Class III Trustee and nominee for election at this year's Meeting. Mr. Kurland is our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and he is also the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Private National Mortgage Acceptance Company, LLC, or PennyMac, the parent company of both PCM and PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, which we refer to as our Servicer or PLS. Before founding PennyMac in January 2008, from January 1979 to September 2006, Mr. Kurland served as a director and held several executive positions, including president, chief financial officer and chief operating officer, at Countrywide Financial Corporation ("Countrywide"), a diversified financial services company. Mr. Kurland holds a BS from California State University, Northridge. We believe Mr. Kurland is qualified to serve on our Board because he is our Chief Executive Officer and an accomplished executive in financial services with more than 30 years of experience in the mortgage banking arena.

David A. Spector. Mr. Spector, age 49, has been a member of our Board since our formation in 2009 and is a Class III Trustee and nominee for election at this year's Meeting. Mr. Spector is our President and Chief Operating Officer, and he is also the President and Chief Investment Officer of PennyMac. Before joining PennyMac in March 2008, Mr. Spector was co-head of global residential mortgages for Morgan Stanley, a global financial services firm, based in London. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley in September 2006, Mr. Spector was the senior managing director, secondary marketing, at Countrywide, where he was employed from May 1990 to August 2006. Mr. Spector holds a

BA from the University of California, Los Angeles. We believe Mr. Spector is qualified to serve on our Board because he is our President and Chief Operating Officer and an experienced executive with broad mortgage banking expertise in portfolio investments, interest rate and credit risk management, and capital markets activity that includes pricing, trading and hedging.

Class I Trustees

Matthew Botein. Mr. Botein, age 39, has been a member of our Board since August 2009 and is a Class I Trustee. Mr. Botein is also the vice chairman of PennyMac. Since November 2009, Mr. Botein has been employed at BlackRock, Inc., an asset management firm, where he currently holds the position of managing director and head of BlackRock Alternative Investors. He previously served as chairman of Botein & Co., LLC, a private investment and advisory firm, from July 2009 through November 2009 and as a managing director of Highfields Capital Management LP, an investment management firm, from March 2003 through June 2009. He also currently serves on the board of Northeast Bancorp, a bank holding company. Mr. Botein holds an AB from Harvard College and an MBA from the Harvard Business School. We believe Mr. Botein is qualified to serve on our Board as a result of his considerable experience in the financial services industry, where he has managed portfolio investments in the banking, insurance, asset management, capital markets, and financial processing sectors.

Scott W. Carnahan. Mr. Carnahan, age 58, has been a member of our Board since August 2009 and is a Class I Trustee. Since April 2007, Mr. Carnahan has provided financial and accounting consulting services to various financial institutions. From 1992 to 1998 and from 2000 to March 2007, Mr. Carnahan was an audit and consulting partner at the professional services firm of KPMG LLP. Mr. Carnahan holds a BA and an MBA from the University of California, Irvine and is a CPA. We believe Mr. Carnahan is qualified to serve on our Board because he has both accounting and financial expertise, due to his experience at KPMG LLP, as well as a fundamental understanding of the mortgage lending business.

Frank P. Willey. Mr. Willey, age 58, has been a member of our Board since August 2009 and is a Class I Trustee. Since February 2009, Mr. Willey has served as of counsel at the law firm of Hennelly & Grossfeld LLP. From 1984 to January 2009, Mr. Willey held a variety of executive positions, including president and general counsel, at Fidelity National Financial, Inc. ("Fidelity"), a provider of title insurance, specialty insurance, claims management services and information services. Mr. Willey currently serves as a director of Fidelity, where he is Vice Chairman, and Winter Sports, Inc., a ski resort operator. Mr. Willey holds a BS from LeMoyne College and a JD from Albany Law School. We believe Mr. Willey is qualified to serve on our Board because he is an experienced executive and director with strong business and legal backgrounds in the financial services industry.

Class II Trustees

Joel S. Marcus. Mr. Marcus, age 64, has been a member of our Board since August 2009 and is a current Class II Trustee. Mr. Marcus is currently the chairman, chief executive officer and president of Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc., a real estate investment trust, or REIT, where he has served in various capacities since 1997. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts. Mr. Marcus holds a BA and a JD from the University of California, Los Angeles. We believe Mr. Marcus is qualified to serve on our Board because he is a seasoned business and legal executive with significant experience relating to the real estate industry and, more specifically, REITs.

Stacey D. Stewart. Ms. Stewart, age 48, has been a member of our Board since August 2009 and is a current Class II Trustee. Since June 2009, Ms. Stewart has served as executive vice president for Community Impact Leadership and Learning for United Way Worldwide, the world's largest charitable organization. From February 2007 to April 2009, Ms. Stewart was a senior vice president of Fannie Mae, a government-sponsored enterprise that supports liquidity and stability in the secondary mortgage market. Ms. Stewart holds an AB from Georgetown University and an MBA from the University of Michigan. We believe Ms. Stewart is qualified to serve on our Board because she has deep experience in the mortgage sector and is a proven leader and director of charitable organizations, the primary focus of which is housing and homeownership within underprivileged communities.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, TRUSTEE INDEPENDENCE,
BOARD MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES

Corporate Governance

We believe that we have implemented effective corporate governance policies and observe good corporate governance procedures and practices. We have adopted a number of written policies, including our Corporate Governance Guidelines, our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, and charters for the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

Independence of Our Trustees

The NYSE rules require that at least a majority of our Trustees be independent of our company and management. The rules also require that our Board affirmatively determine that there are no material relationships between a Trustee and us (either directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with us) before such Trustee can be deemed independent. We have adopted independence standards consistent with NYSE rules and the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Our Board has reviewed both direct and indirect transactions and relationships that each of our Trustees had or maintained with us and our management.

As a result of this review, our Board, based upon the fact that certain of our non-employee Trustees do not have any material relationships with us other than as Trustees and holders of our common shares, affirmatively determined that six of our Trustees are independent Trustees under NYSE rules. Our independent Trustees are Messrs. Carnahan, Hadley, Halvorsen, Marcus and Willey and Ms. Stewart.

Board Leadership Structure and Independent Lead Trustee

The positions of Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer are currently held by Mr. Kurland, and we have determined not to separate the positions at this time. This determination is based, in part, on our belief that independent Trustees and management have different perspectives and roles in strategy development. Our independent Trustees bring experience, oversight and expertise from outside the Company and industry, while the Chief Executive Officer brings company-specific experience and expertise. We believe our Chief Executive Officer is thus better situated to serve as Chairman of the Board because he is able to utilize the in-depth focus and perspective gained in running the Company to effectively and efficiently lead our Board. As the Trustee most familiar with our business and industry, he is most capable of identifying new initiatives, strategic priorities and other critical and/or topical agenda items for discussion by our Board and then leading the discussion to ensure proper oversight of these issues by our Board. Our Board believes that the combined role of Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer promotes strategy development and execution, and facilitates information flow between management and our Board, all of which are essential to effective governance.

This determination is also based on what we consider to be a strong governance structure already in place, including the appointment of an influential Independent Lead Trustee with a strong voice. The Independent Lead Trustee works with our Chairman of the Board and other Board members to provide strong, independent oversight of our management and affairs. Among other things, the Independent Lead Trustee reviews and provides input on Board meeting agendas as well as the quality, quantity and timeliness of information sent to our Board, coordinates with committee chairs to ensure the committees are fulfilling the responsibilities set forth in their respective charters, serves as the principal liaison between our Chairman of the Board and the independent Trustees, and chairs an executive session of the independent Trustees at each regularly scheduled Board meeting. Our Board has appointed Mr. Hadley as Independent Lead Trustee.

Together, our Chairman of the Board and the Independent Lead Trustee provide leadership to our Board and work with our Board to define its structure and activities in the fulfillment of its responsibilities.

Risk Oversight

Our Board and its committees oversee our risk management process, while supporting organizational objectives, improving long-term organizational performance and creating shareholder value. A fundamental part of risk management oversight is not only understanding the risks a company faces and what steps management is taking to manage those risks, but also understanding what level of risk is appropriate for the Company. The involvement of the full Board in our business strategy is a key part of its assessment of management's appetite for risk and also a determination of what constitutes an appropriate level of risk for the Company. While the Board has the ultimate oversight responsibility for the risk management process, particularly with respect to credit risk, interest rate risk, market risk and other risks specific to the mortgage and REIT industries, the committees of our Board also share responsibility for overseeing risk management. For example, the Audit Committee focuses on financial risk, including internal controls, and receives an annual risk assessment report from our internal auditors. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee focuses on risks associated with the independence of our Trustees and potential conflicts of interest. While each committee is responsible for evaluating certain risks and overseeing the management of such risks, the entire Board is regularly informed through committee reports about the nature of all such risks.

Board Committees and Charters

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which sets forth the basic principles and guidelines for resolving various legal and ethical questions that may arise in the workplace and in the conduct of our business. This code is applicable to all of our officers and Trustees, as well as to the employees, officers and directors of our Manager and Servicer when such individuals are acting for or on our behalf.

Corporate Governance Guidelines

We have adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines which, in conjunction with the charters and key practices of our board committees, provide the framework for the governance of our company.

Other Charters

The Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee have also adopted written charters that govern their conduct.

Where You Can Find These Documents

Our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, Corporate Governance Guidelines, Audit Committee Charter, Compensation Committee Charter and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Charter are available on our website (www.PennyMac-REIT.com). We will provide copies of these documents free of charge to any shareholder who sends a written request to Investor Relations, PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust, 6101 Condor Drive, Moorpark, California 93021.

Audit Committee

Our Board has established an Audit Committee, which is comprised of three independent Trustees, Messrs. Carnahan, Hadley and Willey. Mr. Hadley chairs the Audit Committee, and he and Mr. Carnahan each serve as an “audit committee financial expert,” as that term is defined by the SEC. Each of the members of the Audit Committee is “financially literate” under the rules of the NYSE. The Audit Committee assists our Board in overseeing:

- o our accounting and financial reporting processes;
- o the integrity and audits of our financial statements;
- o our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- o the qualifications and independence of our independent registered public accounting firm; and
- o the performance of our independent registered public accounting firm and any internal auditors.

The Audit Committee is also responsible for engaging our independent registered public accounting firm, reviewing with our independent registered public accounting firm the plans and results of the audit engagement, approving professional services provided by our independent registered public accounting firm, considering the range of audit and non-audit fees, and reviewing the adequacy of our internal accounting controls.

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Our Board has determined that all of the Trustees serving on the Audit Committee are independent under the current NYSE independence requirements and SEC rules. The activities of the Audit Committee are described in greater detail below under the caption “Report of the Audit Committee.”

Compensation Committee

Our Board has established a Compensation Committee, which is comprised of three independent Trustees, Messrs. Halvorsen and Marcus and Ms. Stewart. Mr. Marcus chairs the Compensation Committee, the principal functions of which are to:

- o evaluate the performance of our officers;
 - o evaluate the performance of our Manager and our Servicer;
- o review the compensation and fees payable to our Manager under our management agreement (the “management agreement”) and our Servicer under our loan servicing agreement (the “servicing agreement”) and other services agreements;
- o recommend to the Board the compensation for our independent Trustees; and
 - o administer the issuance of any securities under our equity incentive plan.

Our Board has determined that all of the Trustees serving on the Compensation Committee are independent under the current NYSE independence requirements and SEC rules. For additional information on the Compensation Committee, please see the section below entitled “Compensation Committee Report.”

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Our Board has established a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, which is comprised of three independent Trustees, Messrs. Halvorsen and Marcus and Ms. Stewart. Ms. Stewart chairs the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, which is responsible for seeking, considering and recommending to the full Board qualified candidates for election as Trustees and then recommending nominees for election as Trustees at the annual meeting of shareholders. It also periodically prepares and submits to our Board for adoption the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's selection criteria for Trustee nominees. It reviews and makes recommendations on matters involving the general operation of our Board and our corporate governance, and annually recommends to our Board nominees for each of its committees. In addition, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee annually facilitates the assessment of the performance of the individual committees and our Board as a whole and reports thereon to our Board.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for developing the general criteria, subject to approval by the full Board, for use in identifying, evaluating and selecting qualified candidates for election or re-election to our Board. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee periodically reviews with our Board the appropriate skills and characteristics required of Board members in the context of the current make up of our Board. Final approval of trustee candidates is determined by the full Board, and invitations to join our Board are extended by our Chairman of the Board on behalf of the entire Board.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, in accordance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines, seeks to create a board that is strong in its collective knowledge and has skills and experience with respect to accounting and finance, management and leadership, vision and strategy, business operations, business judgment, risk management, corporate governance, and knowledge of the mortgage industry and the global markets. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also focuses on issues of diversity, such as diversity of gender, race and national origin, education, professional experience, and differences in viewpoints and skills. We do not have a formal policy with respect to diversity; however, our Board and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believe that it is essential that our Trustees represent diverse viewpoints and backgrounds. In considering candidates for our Board, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers the entirety of each candidate's credentials in the context of these standards and in light of the needs of our Board and the Company at that time, given the then current mix of Trustee attributes. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also considers a candidate's accessibility and availability to serve effectively on our Board, and it conducts inquiries into the background and qualifications of potential candidates. With respect to the nomination of continuing Trustees for re-election, the individual's past contributions to our Board are also considered.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee uses a variety of methods for identifying and evaluating nominees for Trustee. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assesses the appropriate size of our Board and whether any vacancies on our Board are expected due to retirement or otherwise. In the event that a vacancy is anticipated, or otherwise arises, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers whether to fill any such vacancy and, if so, various potential candidates for Trustee. These candidates are evaluated at regular or special meetings of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and may be considered at any point during the year. In evaluating such nominations, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee seeks to achieve a balance of knowledge, experience and capability on our Board.

Candidates may come to the attention of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee through current members of our Board, professional search firms or other persons. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will also consider recommendations for nominees properly submitted by our shareholders. These recommendations should be submitted in writing to our Secretary at our principal executive offices, located at 6101 Condor Drive, Moorpark, California 93021. If any materials are provided by a shareholder in connection with a

recommendation for a Trustee nominee, such materials are forwarded to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Following verification of the shareholder status of persons proposing candidates, recommendations are aggregated and considered by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee at a regularly scheduled or special meeting.

Our Board has determined that all of the Trustees serving on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are independent under the current NYSE independence requirements.

Communications with our Board of Trustees

Interested persons may communicate their concerns by sending written communications to the Board, committees of the Board and individual Trustees by mailing those communications to:

Specified Addressee
c/o PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust
6101 Condor Drive
Moorpark, CA 93021
Email: investorrelations@pnmac.com
Attention: Investor Relations

These communications are sent by us directly to the specified addressee.

Attendance by Members of our Board at the 2011 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

We require each member of the Board to attend our annual meeting of shareholders except for absences due to causes beyond the reasonable control of the Trustee. All current members of our Board attended the 2011 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

Board and Committee Meetings

During Fiscal 2011, our Board and the Audit Committee each held nine meetings. During such period, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee each held two meetings. Each Trustee attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings held in Fiscal 2011 by our Board and each committee on which such Trustee served except Mr. Marcus, who attended 69% of such meetings.

Meetings of Non-Management Trustees

Our Corporate Governance Guidelines require that our Board hold at least four regularly scheduled meetings each year for our non-management Trustees. These meetings, which are designed to promote unfettered discussions among our non-management Trustees, are presided over by the Independent Lead Trustee, Mr. Hadley. During Fiscal 2011, our non-management Trustees held four meetings.

OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following sets forth certain information with respect to our executive officers:

Name	Age	Position Held with the Company
Stanford L. Kurland	59	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
David A. Spector	49	Trustee, President and Chief Operating Officer
Andrew S. Chang	34	Chief Business Development Officer
Vandad Fartaj	37	Chief Investment Officer
Jeffrey P. Grogin	51	Chief Administrative and Legal Officer, and Secretary
Doug Jones	55	Chief Correspondent Lending Officer
Anne D. McCallion	57	Chief Financial Officer
David M. Walker	56	Chief Credit Officer

Biographical information for Messrs. Kurland and Spector is provided above under the caption “Our Trustees.” Certain biographical information for the other executive officers is set forth below.

Andrew S. Chang. Mr. Chang has been our Chief Business Development Officer since our formation in May 2009 and holds the same title at PennyMac, where he has served since May 2008. Mr. Chang is responsible for sourcing investment opportunities and overseeing our corporate development activities. Prior to joining PennyMac, from May 2005 to May 2008, Mr. Chang was a director at BlackRock, Inc. and a leader in its advisory services practice, specializing in financial strategy and risk management for banks and mortgage companies. Mr. Chang is an experienced financial services executive with strong backgrounds in corporate finance and mortgage banking.

Vandad Fartaj. Mr. Fartaj has been our Chief Investment Officer since March 2010 and holds the title of Chief Capital Markets Officer at PennyMac, where he has served since April 2008. Mr. Fartaj is responsible for all capital markets activities, including asset valuation, trading, hedging and research. Prior to joining PennyMac, he was employed in a variety of positions, including vice president, whole loan trading, at Countrywide Securities Corporation, a broker-dealer, where he was employed from November 1999 to April 2008. Mr. Fartaj has substantial experience in mortgage banking, including whole loan trading and managing interest rate risk and credit risk.

Jeffrey P. Grogin. Mr. Grogin has been our Chief Administrative and Legal Officer, and Secretary since February 2012, and he previously served as our Chief Legal Officer and Secretary since our formation in May 2009. He also holds the title of Chief Administrative and Legal Officer, and Secretary at PennyMac, where he has served since PennyMac's formation in January 2008. Mr. Grogin is responsible for overseeing our legal management and affairs, administration and human resources. Mr. Grogin is an owner of Snood, LLC, a computer games publisher, where he has served as president since 1999. Mr. Grogin has significant experience in real estate, mergers and acquisitions, securities, and mortgage banking law.

Doug Jones. Mr. Jones has been our Chief Correspondent Lending Officer since June 2011 and holds the same title at PennyMac. Mr. Jones is responsible for all business activities and production within our correspondent lending segment. Prior to joining PennyMac, Mr. Jones was the senior managing director, correspondent lending at Countrywide (and Bank of America Corporation, as its successor) from 1997 until 2011, where he was responsible for managing and overseeing Countrywide's correspondent and warehouse lending operations. Mr. Jones is an experienced mortgage banking executive with significant experience in the correspondent lending and warehouse lending businesses.

Anne D. McCallion. Ms. McCallion has been our Chief Financial Officer since our formation in May 2009 and holds the same title at PennyMac. Ms. McCallion is responsible for overseeing our financial management, reporting and controls, compliance, and tax management. Prior to joining PennyMac, Ms. McCallion was employed by Countrywide (and Bank of America Corporation, as its successor), where she worked in a variety of executive positions, including deputy chief financial officer and senior managing director, finance, from 1991 to 2008. Ms. McCallion is a seasoned finance and accounting executive with considerable experience in the financial services industry and, more specifically, the mortgage banking sector.

David M. Walker. Mr. Walker has been our Chief Credit Officer since our formation in May 2009 and holds the titles of Chief Operating Officer and Chief Credit Officer at PennyMac, where he has served since PennyMac's formation in January 2008. Mr. Walker is responsible for credit and portfolio management activities, and new loan underwriting and modification standards. Prior to joining PennyMac, Mr. Walker served as chief credit officer at New World Financial from April 2007 to January 2008. From 1992 to 2007, Mr. Walker was employed in a variety of executive positions at Countrywide and its subsidiaries, including a role as chief lending officer for Countrywide Bank, N.A., where he was responsible for the bank's lending, credit and portfolio management activities. Mr. Walker is an experienced mortgage banking executive with specific expertise in the areas of lending and credit.

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS

The following table sets forth certain information relating to the beneficial ownership of our common shares by each person or entity known to the Company to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of our common shares, based on our review of publicly available statements of beneficial ownership filed with the SEC on Schedules 13D and 13G as of April 2, 2012.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Number of Shares Owned	Percent of Class(1)
Blue Ridge Capital, L.L.C.(2) 660 Madison Avenue, 20th Floor New York, NY 10065-8405	2,384,000	7.66%
Highbridge Capital Management, LLC(3) 40 West 57th Street, 33rd Floor	2,160,120	6.94%

New York, New York 10019

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- (1) The “Percent of Class” reported in this column has been calculated based upon 31,116,878 common shares outstanding as of the record date, April 2, 2012, and may differ from the “Percent of Class” reported in statements of beneficial ownership filed with the SEC.
- (2) As reported in an Amendment No. 1 to Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 14, 2012 by Blue Ridge Capital, L.L.C. (“BRC”), Blue Ridge Limited Partnership (“BRLP”), Blue Ridge Offshore Master Limited Partnership (“BROMLP”) and John A. Griffin. The filers are collectively referred to as the “Blue Ridge reporting persons.” In the Schedule 13G Amendment, the Blue Ridge reporting persons do not affirm the existence of a group and disclose that Mr. Griffin is the managing member of BRC, which is the investment manager of BRLP and BROMLP. The Blue Ridge reporting persons disclose that, taken as a whole, they have shared voting and dispositive power as to 2,384,000 shares. The respective Blue Ridge reporting persons disclose voting and dispositive power as follows: BRLP, shared voting and dispositive power as to 1,514,800 shares; BROMLP, shared voting and dispositive power as to 869,200 shares; and BRC and Mr. Griffin, shared voting and dispositive power as to 2,384,000 shares.
- (3) As reported in an Amendment No. 3 to Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 14, 2012 by Highbridge International LLC (“HI”), Highbridge Long/Short Equity Fund, L.P. (“HLS LP”), Highbridge Long/Short Fund, Ltd. (“HLS Ltd”), Highbridge Long/Short Institutional Fund, Ltd. (“HLSI”), Highbridge Managed Portfolio Master, Ltd. (“HMP”), Highbridge Long-Term Equity Master Fund, L.P. (“HLT”), Highbridge Long/Short Equity Master Fund, L.P. (“HLSE”), Highbridge Capital Management, LLC (“HCM”), and Glenn Dubin. The filers are collectively referred to as the “Highbridge reporting persons.” In the Schedule 13G Amendment, the Highbridge reporting persons affirm the existence of a group and disclose that Mr. Dubin is the Chief Executive Officer of HCM, which is the trading manager of HI, HLS LP, HLS Ltd, HLSI, HLT and HLSE, and an advisor to HMP. The Highbridge reporting persons further disclose that, taken as a whole, they have shared voting and dispositive power as to 2,160,120 shares. The respective Highbridge reporting persons disclose voting and dispositive power as follows: HI, shared voting and dispositive power as to 1,073,287 shares; HLS LP, shared voting and dispositive power as to 0 shares; HLS Ltd, shared voting and dispositive power as to 0 shares; HLSI, shared voting and dispositive power as to 185,428 shares; HMP, shared voting and dispositive power as to 32,834 shares; HLT, shared voting and dispositive power as to 37,000 shares; HLSE, shared voting and dispositive power as to 831,571 shares; and each of HCM and Mr. Dubin, shared voting and dispositive power as to 2,160,120 shares. In addition, HCM and Mr. Dubin disclaim beneficial ownership of shares held by HI, HLS LP, HLS Ltd, HLSI, HMP, HLT and HLSE.

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth certain information as of April 2, 2012 relating to the beneficial ownership of our common shares by (i) each of our named executive officers and Trustees, and (ii) all of our executive officers and Trustees as a group. Unless otherwise indicated, all shares are owned directly, and the indicated person has sole voting and investment power. Further, unless otherwise indicated, the address of the person is the address of our principal executive offices, 6101 Condor Drive, Moorpark, California, 93021.

Name	Shares Owned(1)	
	Number	Percentage
Stanford L. Kurland	266,040(2)(3)	*
David A. Spector	56,061	*
Anne D. McCallion	16,250	*
David M. Walker	14,375	*
Vandad Fartaj	14,375	*
Matthew Botein	34,089	*
Scott W. Carnahan	28,000	*
Randall D. Hadley	8,750	*
Clay A. Halvorsen	3,000	*
Joel S. Marcus	3,000	*
Stacey D. Stewart	2,250	*
Frank P. Willey	18,000	*
All Trustees, Trustee nominees and executive officers as a group (16 persons)	485,440	1.56%

* Represents less than 1.0% of the number of common shares outstanding as of the record date.

(1) Based on 31,116,878 common shares outstanding as of the record date on a fully diluted basis. Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act. A person is deemed to be the beneficial owner of any common shares if that person has or shares voting power or investment power with respect to those shares or has the right to acquire beneficial ownership at any time within 60 days of the record date. As used herein, “voting power” is the power to vote or direct the voting of shares and “investment power” is the power to dispose or direct the disposition of shares.

(2) Includes 157,290 common shares owned by the Kurland Revocable Trust.

(3) Includes 6,000 common shares owned by the Kurland Family Foundation, as to which Mr. Kurland disclaims any beneficial interest.

COMPENSATION OF TRUSTEES

We pay an annual Trustee's fee of \$50,000 to our Trustees who are independent under the NYSE listing standards. We pay an annual fee of \$10,000 to the chair of the Audit Committee and an annual fee of \$5,000 to the chairs of the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. We pay an annual fee of \$10,000 to our Independent Lead Trustee. Each independent Trustee also receives a fee of \$2,000 for attendance at each in-person meeting and \$1,000 for participation in each telephonic meeting of either our Board or a committee of our Board (unless a committee meeting is on the same day as a Board meeting), up to a maximum of \$15,000 per year. The fees to our independent Trustees will be paid in cash or common shares at the election of each independent Trustee. Common shares issued in payment of Trustees' fees will be valued based on the fair market value on the date of issuance and will vest immediately upon issuance. Further, all members of our Board will be reimbursed for their reasonable out of pocket costs and expenses in attending all meetings of our Board and its committees and certain other Company-related functions.

In addition, our Trustees are eligible to receive certain types of equity-based awards under our equity incentive plan. During fiscal 2011, each of Messrs. Botein and Wiedman and each of our independent Trustees received a grant of 2,250 restricted share units, which vest ratably over a three (3) year period beginning on the one (1) year anniversary of the date of the grant, March 8, 2011 and entitle the recipient thereof to receive dividend equivalents during the vesting period.

We also granted Mr. Botein 40,000 restricted share units and each independent Trustee 2,250 restricted share units at the time of their appointments to our Board upon the completion of our initial public offering. With respect to such restricted share units, Mr. Botein's restricted share units vest ratably over a four-year period beginning on the one-year anniversary of the date of the grant, while the independent Trustee's restricted share units vested in full on the one-year anniversary of the date of grant. Our equity incentive plan also provides that any independent Trustee newly elected or appointed to our Board will receive a one-time grant of 2,250 restricted share units on the date of election or appointment, which shares will vest in full on the one-year anniversary of the date of grant.

Prior to the vesting of a restricted share unit, such restricted share unit is generally subject to forfeiture upon termination of service to us. Upon a change in control (as defined in our equity incentive plan) or upon termination of the management agreement other than for cause (as defined in the management agreement), any restricted share unit not previously vested shall become fully vested and will be settled in our common shares.

Trustee Summary Compensation Table

The table below summarizes the compensation paid by the Company to Trustees for Fiscal 2011.

Name(1)	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash \$(2)(3)	Stock Awards \$(4)	Total (\$)
Matthew Botein	—	42,390	42,390
Scott W. Carnahan	65,000	42,390	107,390
Randall D. Hadley	84,000	42,390	126,390
Clay A. Halvorsen	64,000	42,390	106,390
Joel S. Marcus	61,000	42,390	103,390
Stacey D. Stewart	66,000	42,390	108,390

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Mark Wiedman	—	42,390	42,390
Frank P. Willey	64,000	42,390	106,390

*The columns for “Option Awards,” “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation” and “Change in Pension Value,” “Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings” and “All Other Compensation” have been omitted because they are not applicable.

(1) Mr. Kurland, our Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Spector, a Trustee and our President and Chief Operating Officer, are not included in this table as they are officers of the Company and thus receive no compensation for their services as Trustees. Messrs. Kurland and Spector received compensation as officers of the Company for Fiscal 2011 as shown in the “2011 Summary Compensation Table.” Mr. Wiedman resigned from our Board, effective March 7, 2012.

(2) Reflects fees earned by the Trustee in Fiscal 2011.

(3) Mr. Botein is not considered to be an independent Trustee under the NYSE listing standards and thus generally receives no fees for his services as a Trustee. Mr. Wiedman was not considered to be an independent Trustee under the NYSE listing standards and received no fees while he served as a Trustee.

(4) Reflects the full grant date fair value, as determined in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, Compensation — Stock Compensation (“FASB ASC TOPIC 718”), of restricted share units granted to the Trustee on March 8, 2011.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Our Compensation Discussion and Analysis describes our compensation program, objectives and policies for our Chief Executive Officer, our Chief Financial Officer and our three other most highly-compensated executive officers as of December 31, 2011 (the “named executive officers”).

Overview of Compensation Program and Philosophy

We have no employees. We are externally managed by our Manager pursuant to the management agreement. All of our named executive officers are employees of our Manager. We have not paid, and do not intend to pay, any salaries or bonuses to our named executive officers. We do not provide our named executive officers with pension benefits, perquisites or other personal benefits. We have no arrangements to make cash payments to our named executive officers upon their termination from service as our officers. While we do not pay our named executive officers any cash compensation, the Compensation Committee may grant our named executive officers equity-based awards intended to align their interests with the interests of our shareholders.

Following our 2011 Annual Meeting, we considered the advisory (non-binding) vote to approve our executive compensation when reviewing our compensation program, policies and decisions. Of those shareholders voting for or against the proposal to approve (by non-binding vote) our executive compensation, a majority of our shareholders, approximately (99.6%), voted to approve our executive compensation. We consider this vote as supportive of our executive compensation and, accordingly, have not made any changes in response thereto.

Cash and Other Compensation

We do not pay or accrue any salaries or bonuses to our named executive officers.

Equity-Based Compensation

The Compensation Committee may, from time to time pursuant to our equity incentive plan, grant our named executive officers certain equity-based awards, including options, restricted shares, restricted share units, unrestricted shares, LTIP units (a special class of partnership interests in our operating partnership) and other awards based on our shares. These awards are designed to align the interests of our named executive officers with those of our shareholders, by allowing our named executive officers to share in the creation of value for our shareholders through capital appreciation and dividends. These equity awards are generally subject to vesting requirements over a number of years, and are designed to promote the retention of management and to achieve strong performance for the Company. These awards provide a further benefit to us by enabling our Manager and Servicer to attract, motivate and retain talented individuals.

We believe our compensation policies are particularly appropriate since we are an externally managed REIT. REIT regulations require us to pay at least 90% of our taxable income to shareholders as dividends. As a result, we believe that our shareholders are principally interested in receiving attractive risk-adjusted dividends and growth in dividends and book value. Accordingly, we want to provide an incentive to our named executive officers that rewards success in achieving these goals. Since we generally do not have the ability to retain earnings, we believe that equity-based awards serve to align the interests of named executive officers with the interests of our shareholders in receiving attractive risk-adjusted dividends and growth. Additionally, we believe that equity-based awards are consistent with our shareholders' interest in book value growth as these individuals will be incentivized to grow book value for shareholders over time. We believe that this alignment of interests provides an incentive to our named executive

officers to implement strategies that will enhance our long-term performance and promote growth in dividends and growth in book value.

The Compensation Committee does not use a specific formula to calculate the number of equity awards and other rights awarded to named executive officers under our equity incentive plan. The Compensation Committee does not explicitly set future award levels/opportunities on the basis of what the named executive officers earned from prior awards. While the Compensation Committee will take past awards into account, it will not solely base future awards in view of those past awards. Generally, in determining the specific amounts to be granted to an individual, the Compensation Committee will take into account factors such as our performance, the individual's position, his or her contribution to our performance, and general market practices, as well as the recommendations of our Manager.

2011 Restricted Share Unit Grants

We granted our named executive officers restricted share units under our equity incentive plan on March 8, 2011 in the following amounts: Mr. Kurland, 95,000 restricted share units; Mr. Spector, 60,000 share units; Ms. McCallion, 25,000 restricted share units; and Messrs. Fartaj and Walker, 17,500 restricted share units each. The restricted share units granted to our named executive officers vest ratably over a four-year period beginning on the one-year anniversary of the grant date and entitle the recipients thereof to receive dividend equivalents during the vesting period.

Prior to the vesting of a restricted share unit, such restricted share unit is generally subject to forfeiture upon termination of service to us. Upon a change in control (as defined in our equity incentive plan) or upon termination of the management agreement other than for cause (as defined in the management agreement), any restricted share unit not previously vested shall become fully vested and will be settled in our common shares.

In determining the number of restricted share units granted in Fiscal 2011, we considered, among other factors, the recommendations of our Manager and the report of FTI Consulting, Inc., a third party compensation consultant retained by our Compensation Committee for the purpose of analyzing our executive compensation policies and practices and our proposed awards under the equity incentive plan. The consultant considered a variety of factors, including the Company's size and financial performance, the experience and positions of our named executive officers, and compensation provided to executive officers by our industry and sector peers.

Compensation Committee Report

Our Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K with management and, based on such review and discussions, the Compensation Committee recommended to our Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement.

The Compensation Committee

Joel S. Marcus, Chairman
Clay A. Halvorsen
Stacey D. Stewart

2011 Summary Compensation Table

We do not provide any of our named executive officers with any cash compensation or bonus, nor do we provide any named executive officers with pension benefits or nonqualified deferred compensation plans. We have not entered into any employment agreements with any person, and are not obligated to make any cash payments upon termination of employment or a change in control of us.

During the year ended December 31, 2011, we granted to our named executive officers long-term equity compensation in the form of restricted share units pursuant to our equity incentive plan. The “2011 Summary Compensation Table” below lists the annual compensation for our named executive officers relating to equity awards received from us in Fiscal 2011, Fiscal 2010, and Fiscal 2009.

Name & Principal Position	Year	Stock Awards (\$)(1)	Total (\$)
Stanford L. Kurland Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	2011	1,789,800	1,789,800
	2010	—	—
	2009	575,676	575,676
David A. Spector Trustee, President and Chief Operating Officer	2011	1,130,400	1,130,400
	2010	—	—
	2009	431,957	431,957
Anne D. McCallion Chief Financial Officer	2011	327,659	327,659
	2010	—	—
	2009	143,919	143,919
David M. Walker Chief Credit Officer	2011	329,700	329,700
	2010	—	—
	2009	143,919	143,919
Vandad Fartaj Chief Investment Officer	2011	229,361	229,361
	2010	211,772	211,772
	2009	27,050	27,050

*The columns for “Salary,” “Bonus,” “Option Awards,” “Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation,” “Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings,” and “All Other Compensation” have been omitted because they are not applicable.

(1) Reflects the full grant date fair value, as determined in accordance with FASB ASC TOPIC 718, of the restricted share units granted to our named executive officers in Fiscal 2011, Fiscal 2010 and Fiscal 2009 pursuant to our equity incentive plan.

2011 Grants of Plan-Based Awards

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The following table provides information about our plan-based awards granted under our equity incentive plan to our named executive officers in 2011.

Name	Grant Date	All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#)(1)	Grant Date Fair Value of Equity Awards (\$)(2)
Stanford L. Kurland	March 8, 2011	95,000	1,789,800
Equity Incentive Plan Award			
David A. Spector	March 8, 2011	60,000	1,130,400
Equity Incentive Plan Award			
Anne D. McCallion	March 8, 2011	25,000	327,659
Equity Incentive Plan Award			
David M. Walker	March 8, 2011	17,500	329,700
Equity Incentive Plan Award			
Vandad Fartaj	March 8, 2011	17,500	229,361
Equity Incentive Plan Award			

*The columns for “Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards,” “Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards,” “All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options,” and “Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards” have been omitted because they are not applicable.

(1) Reflects the number of restricted share units granted to the named executive officer on March 8, 2011.

(2)The value of a restricted share unit shown in this column is determined in accordance with FASB ASC TOPIC 718.

2011 Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table provides information about outstanding equity awards of our named executive officers as of the end of Fiscal 2011.

Name	Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)(1)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)
Stanford L. Kurland	135,000	2,243,700
David A. Spector	90,000	1,495,800
Anne D. McCallion	35,000	581,700
David M. Walker	27,500	457,050
Vandad Fartaj	31,900	530,178