

NARFE Chapter 1192
Board Meeting Minutes, August 24, 2012
Amended

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Board members present: Lorie Bennett; Don and Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Bill Darke; Carl Gallion; Mable Rutt. Non-board member Sig Preston also attended.

PROGRAMS – Upcoming

- 09/05/12 Recap 2012 NARFE National Convention** (confirmed; Convention attendees)
Candidates Running for Office (tentative; Don Binder pursuing)
- 10/03/12 SHIBA – Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors** (confirmed – Marian DeLuca, local SHIBA volunteer coordinator will provide a presentation on selecting a healthcare provider, including Medicare, and related issues; Mary Binder)
- 11/07/12 White Elephant Auction Fundraiser for NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund** (confirmed; Bill Darke)
- 12/05/12 Holiday Entertainment – Val Wenner** (confirmed; Mary Binder)
- 01/09/13 PNNL – mission and examples of programs/projects** (tentative; Nancy Crosby will pursue via a contact she has)
- 02/06/13 State representative or senator to discuss state issues** (tentative; Don Binder will pursue options, e.g., State Senator Jerome Delvin)
- 03/06/13 WSU Wine Science Center** (tentative; Mary Binder will pursue)
- 04/03/13 Antique Appraisers Terry and Kathy Maurer** (tentative; Johanna working to confirm)
- 05/01/13 Medical Air Services Association – Chuck McNeas** (tentative; Don Binder will again pursue)
- 06/05/13 Recap of WSFC’s first training event from attendees** (tentative, pending dates)
- 10/02/13 FEHBP providers** (tentative; Board recommends inviting all area providers)

PROGRAMS – Future Ideas (New; brought forward)

- Tri-Cities area gang task force** (*Board discussed revisiting this issue with a focus on the regional task force and/or the Yakima area female police officer who gave a presentation Larry and Johanna attended*)
- Emergency Management Representative** (*moved from February 2012; Don Binder will explore as a future option*)
- Fire and safety specialist**
- Neighborhood Watch** (*Dolores Rizzo suggestion*)
- Blue Mountain Wildlife, Pendleton; Alan Cliff, Native American spiritual leader** (*Dolores Rizzo suggestion based on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010, article, Tri-Cities Herald*)
- Seeing-eye dogs and/or police dogs and their roles** (*Dolores Rizzo suggestion*)
- American Cancer Society**
- Recycling opportunities in the Tri-Cities region** (*Mary Binder*)
- Umatilla Chemical Depot – closure update** (*Mary Binder; final update in late 2012 or in 2013, depending on closure activities and the schedule*)

OFFICERS

President – Don Binder.

- NARFE’s 32nd National Convention, August 26-30, Sparks/Reno. Chapter 1192 has more delegates scheduled to attend than any other WSFC chapter. Board members reviewed issues involving the proposed changes to NARFE’s bylaws and concurred with approving the changes. The Board also discussed convention procedures and logistics. Those members attending will provide highlights at the Chapter’s September meeting.
- NARFE Advocacy in Action Competition. This is a grassroots initiative to encourage legislative activity during 2012. The initial period was January 1 to June 30; the 2nd is July 1 to December 31. Mary will help promote the competition via the next Chapter newsletter. The Board discussed what activities count for the competition and how to track them. As the Chapter legislative co-chairs, Don and Mary are the Chapter points of contact.

- Sunshine chair change. The Chapter secretary will now assume these duties. Caller Coordinator Pam Griffin has offered to be the backup for sunshine.
- Don said he wants to again have a “moment of silence” at the start of Chapter meetings.
- Parliamentarian Mable Rutt sent an e-mail to Don in July with several suggestions regarding membership, levels of membership, etc. that came from a survey/results done for the American Nurses Association. Mable provided additional background information, and after discussing how the information could apply to Chapter 1192, the Board agreed to continue the discussion at a future Board meeting. There will be further discussion at future meetings.
- August 1 – NARFE launched its newly designed web site. Board member comments – looks good, but still hard to find things.
- WSFC 2013 training event. This event will be in lieu of the annual WSFC convention. The WSFC Board is working on date, location, agenda, etc., however, the current target time frame is the end of May/early June 2013 for a day, including an overnight stay. More details when available. Johanna said she sent an e-mail to WSFC President Sandy Cagle stating she recommends a “memorial service” at the event as at the WSFC conventions.

1st Vice President – Carl Gallion. Carl said he took a “summer hiatus” from pursuing the Chapter again conducting pre-retirement seminars. Don said he understood and will continue to rely on Carl to pursue this action, including putting his committee together.

2nd Vice President – Lorie Bennett. October 12, LIGO Observatory Tour, 10 a.m., for about 2 hours. For planning purposes, members wanting to attend should provide their names to Lorie. Lorie will provide more information at the Chapter September and October meetings.

Secretary – Mary Binder.

- The next Board meeting will be after the October Chapter meeting.
- Provide Mary any contact changes; she is updating the Chapter Officer/Chairman Roster.

Treasurer – Nancy Crosby.

- Recapped the June and July treasurer reports.
- Actual expenses report will help in developing the 2013 budget. Nancy will be asking officers and chairmen for their input.
- Johanna questioned charging convention ads against dollars budgeted for convention attendees. After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved to charge a different line item. Another motion was made, seconded and approved to charge “Line 8” (PR/TCVCB/Advertising/Expos) for such ads – national and state conventions. There are no “matching funds” for such ads.

District Vice President – Nancy Crosby.

- September 12, Wenatchee chapter picnic. Nancy is planning to attend; also, possibly Carl Gallion, Mary Goldie and Nancy Schreckhise.
- Endeavor Display Unit. Nancy said we purchased/are sharing a unit with Yakima, and that it is a nice unit. She'll bring it to the September Chapter meeting. As more are still available through the WSFC, Nancy will ask Vic Rohret, Yakima chapter president, about purchasing another unit so the 2 chapters don't have to share.
- Nancy said she is planning to visit the Yakima and Walla Walla chapters this fall; she'll then make a decision on whether to have a 2013 district workshop.

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer's – Chairman Bill Darke.

- Currently, \$78.00 in the Chapter Alzheimer's account; he received \$20 at the Board meeting.
- November meeting – white elephant auction. Will be sending a check for NARFE's Alzheimer's Research Fund after the auction.

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin. Pam was not able to attend the meeting, so for her, Nancy reported that Pam receives dropped member names along with other names/info from Johanna so she can update the callers lists. The Board agreed – the callers do not call members who have been dropped. Johanna said the callers also do not call “out-of-town” members. She said she would e-mail her latest report to Don and again to Mary.

Hospitality – Chairman Carl Gallion.

- Carl said he typically starts his negotiations on meals and prices for Chapter meetings with the Red Lion in November. Per Board discussion, Carl will pursue different menu options for 2013, e.g., soup/sandwiches, lighter fare, and ask the hotel for sample menus for the Board's review at its October meeting.
- Reminders, especially for callers – members can attend meetings without having lunch; vegetarian options are available, if ordered ahead.

Legislative – Co-chairs Don and Mary Binder.

- COLA – awaiting October numbers; currently dropped to 1.02%
- NARFE has compiled/posted to its web site voting records for House/Senate members on NARFE initiatives; Don sent this to Board members via e-mail.
- NARFE updated its House contact list and state stats; Don sent this to Board members via e-mail, but will re-send it as some said they did not receive it.
- March 9-12 – NARFE 2013 Legislative Training Conference; Don and Mary are planning to attend. Nancy Crosby asked if the \$500 budgeted for attendees is adequate; no change proposed at this time, but there may be further discussion.

Membership – Chairman Johanna Caylor.

- June Senior Life Show potential members – Nancy will be following up with those who provided contact information about attending September's chapter meeting, including offering them a complimentary lunch.
- 2012 Health Fairs – Johanna will prepare material to have at our NARFE tables. She said she'd be contacting Vic Rohret, Yakima Chapter president, about coverage in Grandview, Toppenish, etc.
 - October 16 – for TSA at the airport; Don said he would like to cover this one.
 - October 17 – Federal Bldg. and Stevens Center, Richland, and SSA, Kennewick. Don volunteered to cover SSA.
- NARFE's *Recruiting & Retention Journal*, April, May and June 2012, is on line. An edited version of an article Don wrote is on page 9.
- Walla Walla chapter's R&R PowerPoint presentation from the spring workshop – Nancy will resend this to Johanna. **Action item: the presentation has much good information, but needs to be streamlined/condensed.**
- Johanna said she remains concerned about the accuracy of Chapter membership numbers she sees from NARFE. This issue should improve with the new real-time data capability.

NARFE-PAC – Chairman Carl Gallion.

- Recap of the latest Chapter information is in the September/October Chapter newsletter.
- Don provided a recap of his recent activities as the WSFC NARFE-PAC chair; most of the activity has been on the western side.
- Board discussed the challenges of getting members to understand that NARFE is "political but non-partisan." Sig referenced the handout past DVP Steve Anderson provided at the 2012 spring combined district workshop. Don said he would update the "PAC" statement.

Newsletter – Chairman Mary Binder.

- September/October Chapter newsletter is posted on the Chapter web site; Nancy has the printed copies ready for mailing – just made the 200 count for bulk mail. Board again discussed the goal of continuing to reduce the number of mailed copies and using e-mail whenever possible as it saves about \$1/copy.
- October 12 – November/December newsletter articles due to Mary.
- USPS is retiring its POSTNET barcode for automation price eligibility by January 28, 2013, and replacing it with the Intelligent Mail Barcode. Mary said she'll work with Terri Rawlins at B&B Printing to get more details.

Parliamentarian – Mable Rutt. No report.

Public Relations – Chairman Mary Binder.

- September 20 – 19th Annual All Senior Picnic, Southridge Sports Complex. Nancy is planning to attend; the Chapter may want to have a NARFE table at next year's picnic.
- October 11 – Let's Talk Seniors, Charbonneau Retirement Living. Bonnie Blum, community sales leader, contacted Mary about NARFE as a follow-up from her Charbonneau predecessor. Don and Mary met with her, and will provide a short NARFE presentation at a new Charbonneau initiative – "Let's Talk Seniors." Besides Charbonneau's residents, Bonnie will send an announcement to a mailing list of about 200 that she uses. Mary said this is yet another Chapter outreach initiative. A goal is to ensure retirement centers, nursing homes, etc., have NARFE/Chapter information and a point of contact.
- *Senior Pages* – the Chapter/contact information will be in 2 places in the upcoming edition. Depending on the response, Mary said we may want to have a small display ad next year.

- Draft Outreach Plan – Mary said she has completed a draft Chapter outreach plan – combining membership and public relations action plans. She provided background information regarding combining the two plans based on a decision at the July WSFC Board meeting; as Chapter Board members and Johanna were schedule to meet on the Chapter’s plans, Mary volunteered to draft a template as a starting point.
- Letter received from the Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau regarding renewing our Chapter’s membership. It included information about the number of times the Chapter’s web site had been viewed last year – 32 with 30 clicking through to the actual site.
- Couples and solicitation differences – Mary said she’d recently discovered that couples receiving NARFE solicitation material, e.g., from the card or calendar program, have not always had the same requested contribution amounts. She contacted Region IX VP Lanny Ross regarding this. He said this is an issue NARFE was supposed to correct, but still working to fix.

Service Office – Chairman Lorie Bennett. Nancy said she has developed a spreadsheet that identifies members needing reminder calls about renewing their memberships. The goal is to have volunteers working at the Service Office make calls, send out reminder postcards, etc., while they are at the Service Office. However, to date, no calls have been made as there have been several issues regarding the currency/accuracy of NARFE’s various membership reports. Don said this issue would be revisited after the NARFE convention as there will be a training session on NARFE’s new real-time data system. Chapter presidents, secretaries and membership chairmen will be able to make updates. Don, Mary, Johanna and Nancy are planning to attend the training.

Website – Larry Williams. No report.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – Confirmed: Wednesday, October 3, immediately following the chapter meeting, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick.

MEETING ADJOURNED – 1:35 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary