

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 15, 2019

President Lorie Bennett called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m., Zintel Creek Golf Club, Kennewick, Wash., and then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: Lorie; Mary Binder; Liz Bowers; Johanna Caylor; John Cavanaugh; Nancy Crosby; Bob Stewart; Pat Turner; Darleen Wall; Larry Williams. Absent: Faye Vlieger.

President: Lorie Bennett

- Nominating Committee – Mary Binder reported that she had spoken with each member of the current board, both elected officers and chairmen. Based on the conversations and the chapter's bylaws:
 - President Lorie is term limited; 1st VP Pat is willing to run for president; 2nd VP John said he wants to step down from leadership positions; Secretary Faye stated she needs to step away from her current level of involvement; Treasurer Liz said she will continue to serve if there is not another candidate. The board discussed the vacancies – 1st VP, 2nd VP and secretary. For 2nd VP, the board voted to test having only 1 vice president for 2020. If the determination is that the position is not needed, it will be removed from the chapter's bylaws during the next bylaws revision. Mary said she would be willing to again serve as secretary if there is no other candidate.
 - Regarding the director-at-large positions currently held by Nancy and Bob, the board reviewed the initial intent behind these positions – an initiative by Don Binder, past chapter president – but what the reality has been, e.g., no real assignments and it is difficult to find volunteers to fill them. The board voted to test not filling the positions starting in 2020. If the determination is that they are, in fact, not needed, they also will be removed from the chapter's bylaws during the next bylaws revision.
 - Regarding chairmen positions, all current chairmen said they are willing to continue serving in their positions – Mary, national/state legislative and PR/newsletter; Johanna, membership; Bob, PAC; Larry, Alzheimer's and webmaster; Darleen, caller coordinator.
 - Mary said she will continue to look for members willing to serve as elected officers and/or chairmen. Further, there will be an announcement in the September/October chapter newsletter and at the fall chapter meetings.
- Chapter Bylaws – Mary reviewed with the board the February 2019 NARFE guidance and updated bylaws template. The chapter's revised bylaws were approved by NARFE in 2018 and meet current standards; therefore, per NARFE, submitting another revision would be a lower priority for review at headquarters as there are still many chapters that have not updated their bylaws to meet 2018 compliance. There was further board discussion on having only 1 vice president and leaving the directors-at-large positions vacant, as noted above, and also a discussion on the current 2 consecutive, 2-year term limit. Further, with **FEDcon20** coming in 2020 and possible changes to the NARFE bylaws, the board voted to leave the chapter bylaws as they are at least until after **FEDcon20**.
- Hospitality – Nancy and Darleen will work with the Red Lion catering point of contact on the 2020 chapter meetings menu. There is a new chef at the Red Lion and he may have ideas for the menu. The current menu has been in place for 2018 and 2019. The goal is to have the 2020 menu approved by the end of the year. Once it is finalized, Larry will post it on the chapter's website.

1st Vice President: Pat Turner – no report.

2nd Vice President: John Cavanaugh

- Service Officer – John had no report.
- Service Office – Nancy said the board should consider clearing out material and vacating the office in the Federal Building, Richland. Lorie said there is material in the office that is out of date and needs to be tossed, and that there are a number of items in the office that belong to Johanna. Lorie said she would review the material in the office; Johanna said she would assist Lorie.

Director at Large: Nancy Crosby – Nothing to report.

Director at Large: Bob Stewart – Nothing to report.

Secretary/Sunshine: Mary Binder for Faye Vlieger

- Officer/chairman roster – Faye has an August 14 update. (She sent an email to the board without the attachment. Mary said she would contact her regarding sending the attachment.)
- May chapter and board meeting minutes – Faye is still working on drafting these.
- Sunshine – Mary reported that Faye sent her an updated report that covers through July. In addition, Mary reported that 2 former WSF presidents, Dale Brighton, Wenatchee chapter, and Natalie Leath, from the Tacoma area, both recently passed away.
- Next chapter board meeting – Tuesday, October 1, 1 PM, Zintel Creek Golf Club. **[Note: time and location confirmed after the board meeting.]**

Treasurer: Liz Bowers

- Gesa account – Liz and John recapped a recent issue he had between funds in the chapter's Gesa account and his personal account. While he and Liz have resolved the issue and all funds are accounted for, John has requested his name be removed from the chapter's account. This will leave 3 names on the chapter's account – Liz, Pat and Lorie – vs. 4 names. In progress – signing new signature cards that are required with the change.
- 2019 chapter budget – Liz provided a summary of this year's chapter budget. As of August 15, the savings account balance: \$14,205.45; the checking account balance: \$2,207.29. Liz again expressed concern that, at least to date, the chapter has been spending more than what has come in for the checking account, that is, \$8,632.76/in vs. \$10,852.90/out.
- 2020 chapter budget – Liz requested input by the next chapter board meeting so she can prepare a draft budget. The board discussed NARFE's rebranding and the potential impacts to the chapter's budget, e.g., business cards, letterhead, banners, using up current supplies, possible sources for replacing material, etc.

Public Relations/Newsletter: Mary Binder

- September/October chapter newsletter – Mary is working on the newsletter. Several articles were still due to her. Mary said she is targeting having the newsletter finalized within a week or so. She also discussed with the board the challenges of trying to do a quarterly vs. bi-monthly newsletter. For example, the edition she is working would have to cover from back-to-school through Thanksgiving. After further discussion, the board approved returning to a bi-monthly publication. This will not impact the chapter's 2019 budget. Costs will be reviewed for the 2020 budget. (Each edition costs between \$140 and \$150.) A focus will be to continue encouraging members to go electronic vs. receiving mailed copies.
- June 13, Senior Life Show – Mary and Larry staffed the NARFE chapter table. Mary said the table location was the best the chapter has had. They spoke with a number of attendees with one, James Hilgartner, joining NARFE/the chapter. James is planning to attend the September chapter meeting; Darleen has his name for the callers' lists.

- 2020 NARFE Photo Contest, August 1 to April 7, 2020. Theme: Home Sweet Home – what it means to you. Board members received a handout with details.
- RiverFest 2019, Saturday, September 7. Board members received a flyer. This is a free, family focused, hands-on learning event focusing on the area's rivers and dams. Elected officials are scheduled to attend and speak.
- Wenatchee Chapter Picnic, Wednesday, September 11, Rocky Reach Dam Park, upper shelter, starting at 11:30 (weather permitting, i.e., no fires and/or heavy smoke). No cost but attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. There will also be a fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. Attendees are encouraged to bring items for the fundraiser – buy tickets and put them with items you are interested in winning. Board/chapter members are invited; several have attended past picnics. **[Mary confirmed the details after the meeting with Wenatchee Chapter President Kent Clarida.]**
- 26th Annual All Senior & CommUNITY Picnic, Thursday, September 19, 11 AM to 2 PM, HAPO CENTER (formerly TRAC). Cost, \$1/per person. Board members received a flyer.
- Membership renewals – The chapter has renewed its membership with the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce. Per the chapter's 2019 Outreach Action Plan, up to 50 percent of the dues can be reimbursed from the WSF that is, \$175 of the \$350 for 2019/2020. Mary submitted the paperwork; Liz has received the reimbursement. The chapter's annual dues for its Visit Tri-Cities membership will be due in September. Up to 50 percent of the dues are also eligible for WSF reimbursement.
- 2019 Outreach Action Plan – Mary provided board members a copy of the plan and a summary cover sheet of projected federation matching funds. She asked board members to review the plan prior to the next board meeting. The 2020 plan needs to be finalized and approved, and to the WSF finance officer, not later than 2 weeks prior to the WSF EB's December 12 meeting.

WSF: Nancy Crosby; Mary Binder; Lorie Bennett

- **WSF President Nancy:**
 - Region IX Training Conference, May 17-18, Three Rivers Convention Center. Nancy provided the board a final report, and thanked Darleen for her “yeoman efforts” with the reservations and payments. Nancy said one vendor, Kaiser Permanente, still has not paid for its vendor table. Despite this, the conference made a profit of \$132.87, which Nancy recommended go to our Tri-Cities chapter as we did the majority of the work for the conference. No decision has been made on the next biennial training conference, which would be in 2021. The Region IX vice president has the lead.
 - Federation Presidents' Meeting/NARFE Annual Meeting, July 7-10, Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, Scottsdale, Ariz. Mary attended for Nancy as she was recovering from hip surgery. Mary said the hotel is beautiful and in a great location; however, it is spread out and will require a lot of walking. The meeting days were long and intense with a full agenda. Key NARFE issues included: rebranding; the new AMS and implementation challenges; NARFE's financial future; and, upcoming September voting and elections/voting in 2020.
 - WSF Exec Board meeting, Tuesday, August 13, La Quinta Inn & Suites, Tacoma. Nancy, Mary and Lorie attended in their respective federation positions. Nancy provided a general recap of the meeting. Pertaining to WSF chapters, the board is considering again waving the per capita tax (\$1.20 per chapter member) to help chapters, especially smaller chapters with limited funds. The board waved the tax for 2019 and will be discussing the issue further at its next board meeting, which will include a focus on the federation's 2020 budget. Nancy reported that she will be working with the WSF Nominating Committee as it moves forward with finding

candidates to run for WSF officer positions. Between officers who are term limited and those wanting to step down, there will be vacancies. Next Exec Board Meeting – Thursday, December 12, La Quinta Inn & Suites, Tacoma. Nancy, Mary and Lorie are planning to attend in their respective federation positions.

- 2019/2020 NARFE voting schedule – Nancy discussed with the board the upcoming September voting on several referendums. The online voting is scheduled to begin August 20; printed ballots will be in the September *narfe* magazine. Voting ends September 30. Referendum information has been in the July and August *narfe* magazines. Basically, the referendums involve an administrative cleanup of NARFE's bylaws, e.g., correcting terminology and inconsistencies. It is important that our members vote so this will be an agenda item at the September chapter meeting. Board members also received a handout from NARFE Executive Director Barb Sido with key dates for NARFE's 2020 voting.
- Reminder – WSF 2020 Conference, May 19-21, Embassy Suites by Hilton Seattle North, Lynnwood.
- Reminder – **FEDcon20**, August 30 to September 1, Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, Scottsdale, Ariz. **[Note: Westin is part of Marriott International.]**
- **WSF VP Mary:** Mary reported that she and Bea Bull, District IV VP, are continuing to work on updating/streamlining the federation's various policies and procedures.
- **District V VP Mary:** No report.
- **WSF Alzheimer's Chairman Lorie:** She said she would defer to Larry for his update. Mary said that the new Alzheimer's Association TV ad was shown at the July NARFE president's meeting. The theme is also being carried in printed ads. Mary had an ad from a recent *The Wall Street Journal* that she provided to Lorie.

Committees

Legislative: Mary Binder

- August is NARFE Grassroots Advocacy Month. Mary reported that Congressman Dan Newhouse (R-04) will be the featured speaker at the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce monthly lunch/meeting, Wednesday, August 28, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Red Lion Hotel & Conference Center, Pasco. Cost is \$25 for Chamber members. Mary said if we have 8 reservations, we can have a table reserved for "NARFE" vs. just "open seating." As of the meeting, Mary, Nancy and Pat were scheduled to attend. She said she will help others who want to attend with reservations. Also, she said she has contacted Charles Rinker, Yakima chapter president, about some of that chapter's members attending as they are in Congressman Newhouse's district. Further, Mary she said she is targeting contacting Congressman Newhouse's district director regarding a photo op with the congressman at the meeting.
- October 24, Washington Policy Center's annual dinner, The Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane. Guest speakers: Governor Chris Christie, former NJ governor; and, General James Mattis, former Secretary of Defense. Basic ticket price is \$200; VIP ticket is \$350. This is a fundraiser for the WPC, which is a nonprofit. Mary said she is planning to attend. **[Note: Jason Mercier, who has provided several state legislative updates to the chapter, is the WPC director, Center for Government Reform.]**
- Heads up – per a NARFE release, starting sometime in September, the *NARFE NewsLine* will go online. It will replace both the current *NARFE Legislative Hotline* and *NARFE NewsWatch*. It "will feature the best of both publications in one streamlined e-newsletter."

NARFE-PAC: Bob Stewart

- Quarterly updates – only the 2nd quarter NARFE disbursement report was on the website, as of the meeting. The remainder of the reports were scheduled to be posted August 16, per an update from NARFE. **[Note: As of Monday, August 26, the reports were still not posted on the NARFE website.]**
- Chapter update – with no 2nd quarter reports, Bob provided information as of the June chapter meeting. For 2019 at chapter meetings, Bob had collected \$389. Of that, \$100 came in one check. Only \$5 was collected at the June chapter meeting. Bob said he is hoping there will be an increase in contributions for the 2020 election season.

Alzheimer's: Larry Williams – Larry reminded the board that the local Walk to End Alzheimer's is Sunday, October 13, Kennewick. The chapter's page is up on the Walk's site. Members can log in and sign up to participate – to walk/donate or just to donate if they cannot do the walk. Also, for the first time, chapter member donations will count toward the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund \$14M goal although the money will stay local. Larry will have information at upcoming chapter meetings and in the next chapter newsletter.

Webmaster: Larry Williams – no report.

Membership: Johanna Caylor

- Distinguished members update – Johanna reported that 1 distinguished member has passed away from the list she has been working. She also stated she has not yet proceeded with the letters and/or certificates from NARFE. Now that the new NARFE logo has been released for use, Johanna will move forward, including purchasing the presentation folders. She said she will focus on keeping costs to a minimum. She is targeting completing this project prior to becoming a "snowbird" sometime in the fall.
- Fall FEHB Program Health Fairs, October 15 and 16 – Johanna said she and Liz will cover the VA and Corps of Engineers facilities in Walla Walla. She and possibly Sig will cover the DOE locations in Richland. She asked for help with the local Social Security office. Mary and/or Nancy might be able to cover that office but they weren't sure at this time.
- Reminder – the Annual NARFE Fall Membership Drive is September 1 through December 31. [See the August *narfe*, page 44.] Recruiters will receive \$10 for each new member they recruit and their names will be put into a drawing for various prizes, again, for each member they recruit.
- Reminder – again for 2019, the WSF will give chapters \$20 for each new chapter member, up to a maximum of 10 new members. Payment is scheduled for January 2020, that is, after the treasurer receives the final chapter membership reports.

Caller Coordinator: Darleen Wall

- Former Walla Walla chapter – The board discussed having an annual gathering in WW for that area's former chapter members. Mary said she discussed this with Tom Brown, immediate past president of the WW chapter at the May Region IX Training Conference. He said he would canvas some of the WW members regarding their interest. Also at the training conference at the Enlivant vendor table, Mary said she talked with Don Veverka, the Whitman Place Senior Living community relations manager. He said he'd be willing to host the gathering at Whitman Place. Mary will follow up with both Tom and Don.
- Annual calls to all local chapter members – the calls will be done prior to the September chapter meeting. Darleen recapped the challenges callers had last year as most calls were made over Labor Day Weekend and many members were out of town. The board's recommendation after last year's calls was to suggest callers make their calls prior to the

weekend, e.g., on Wednesday or Thursday. Mary said the chapter newsletter should be available by that time, which is a goal for each newsletter edition. Darleen will pursue contacting the callers in time for them to make their calls earlier if they choose.

2019 PROJECTED MEETING PROGRAMS

- 09/04/19 Decluttering/downsizing presentation by chapter member Terri Fischer, a Certified Professional Organizer® and stager.** (*confirmed; POC: Mary Binder*)
- 10/02/19 United Way and what area nonprofits are doing – an overview by Dr. LoAnn Ayers, area president, United Way** (*tentative; POC: Pat Turner*)
- 11/06/19 Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund – members bring items for the auction** (*tentative; remind members to bring items, cash/checkbook; POC: Larry Williams*)
- 12/04/19 Holiday Music Program**
- 01/08/20**
- 02/05/20**
- 03/04/20**
- 04/01/20**
- 05/06/20**
- 06/03/20**
- 09/02/20**
- 10/07/20**
- 11/04/20**
- 12/02/20**

2017 BRAINSTORMING SUGGESTED PROGRAMS – from January 2017 chapter meeting (*Mary*)

- 1st PNNL and Projects – update** (*last presentation, January 2013; contact Pam Larsen; POC: Mary*)
- 2nd Hanford: Advisory board; Resource Center; EEOICP; Toxic Substances & Worker Health – update** (*last presentation, February 2011*)
- 3rd Benton-Franklin Dal-a-Ride Service** (*new presentation*)
- 4th Manhattan Project National Park – update** (*last presentation, May 2016, WSF convention*)
- 5th Habitat for Humanity – update** (*last presentation date, unknown; Linda Bauer, point of contact*)
- 5th TRIDEC** (*new presentation*)
- 6th Audubon Society** (*new presentation*)
- 6th CBC Observatory** (*new presentation*)
- 6th Richland Citizens Police Academy** (*new presentation; Cerise Peck, 509.528.0245, point of contact*)
- 6th Tri-City Union Gospel Mission** (*new presentation*)
- 6th Uber Services** (*new presentation*)
- 6th Veterans Coalition** (*new presentation*)
- 6th VFW – Veterans' Benefits** (*new presentation*)
- 7th LIGO** (*new presentation; chapter made a site visit, October 2014*)
- 7th The Reach** (*update; last presentation, January 2012*)
- 7th Young Marine Program** (*new presentation*)
- 8th Animal Rescue – program overview; where to make donations** (*new presentation*)
- 8th CBC Planetarium**

OTHER POSSIBLE FUTURE PROGRAMS – new; brought forward

- Amazon call center, Kennewick – function of the center** (*POC: Larry Williams*)
- Aviation History in the Tri-Cities – presentation by Malin Bergstrom, president, Bergstrom Aircraft, Pasco** (*Note: Check if this can tie into Pasco Old Airport Tower restoration; POC: Mary Binder*)
- Pasco Old Airport Tower – restoration** (*POC: Mary Binder*)
- Franklin County Historical Society – newly remodeled museum** (*POC: Mary Binder*)
- Local/Regional Wine Industry/Wine Programs – WSU/Walla Walla programs; vineyard – how, what, why, where; winemakers – careers, background, successes, etc.; starting a winery** (*Liz Bowers suggestion*)
- Central Basin Audubon Society** (*POC: Steve Howes*)

Service dogs – training and types of service (POC: Mary Binder)
WSU Extension Service/Master Gardeners – programs, training (POC: Larry Williams; still pursuing)
City of Kennewick’s “Bridge to Bridge” Redevelopment (POC: Larry Williams)
Drones – uses and challenges (POC: Larry Williams)
Port Directors – update on port activities
CBC’s Culinary Arts Program
Women Helping Women – a women/children-focused program

CHAPTER GROUP ACTIVITIES/SPECIAL PROGRAMS – PLANNED AND FUTURE IDEAS

Dust Devils – 2019 (POC: Lorie Bennett)
White Bluffs/Ringold – history and current status (POC: Steve Howes; Lorie will talk with Steve)
Hanford Reach National Monument (POC: Steve Howes; Lorie will talk with Steve)
MCBONES Research Center Foundation, Coyote Canyon Mammoth Site (POC: Lorie Bennett; on hold)
Pacific Northwest Regional Observatory/CBC Planetarium (POCs: Mary Binder, Larry Williams)
possibly in 2016; Larry said he has talked with POC Mike Brady regarding a tour
Lamb Weston – tour (re-contacted; awaiting a reply; POC Lorie)
WSU Wine Science Center (tour; possibly before or after the WSF May convention; POC: Mary Binder)
Registering Voters (Johanna suggestion; she updated the board on the feasibility of doing this as a way to provide NARFE/the chapter exposure; volunteers would be needed; she’ll continue to get more information, e.g., would this be feasible before the November elections)
Moore Mansion tour – Based on input from some chapter members after Brad Peck’s May presentation, Larry suggested a tour of the Moore Mansion with a chapter donation to the mansion’s restoration fund. Mary said she’d contact Brad to see if this would be possible.
McNary Wildlife Refuge Tour – POC Lorie Bennett

Adjourn: 3:57 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Public Relations Chairman for
Secretary Faye Vlieger