

NARFE CHAPTER 1192
VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 1, 2022

Zoom: **Nancy Crosby** – Nancy reminded members to silence electronic devices. She also said it is not necessary for members to respond to her “meeting invite” email unless they want to.

Call to Order: President Pat Turner called the virtual meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She welcomed board members and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Members present besides President Pat: Mary Binder; Liz Bowers; Nancy Crosby; Ellen LeVee; Faye Vlieger; Darleen Wall; Larry Williams. Absent: Lorie Bennett; Johanna Taylor; Randy Grekowicz; John Wetterling.

Officer and Coordinator Reports

President: **Pat Turner** – Although the chapter will not be holding elections this year, Pat said the board needs to be thinking about members who could serve as officers and/or committee coordinators. She asked if members had suggestions. The board discussed possible candidates, mentoring future leaders and the importance of personally contacting individuals about serving in leadership positions.

Vice President/Hospitality: **Nancy Crosby**

- Nancy said she will be contacting the Red Lion Hotel in mid-August to verify September's meeting and confirm the menu.
- She will work with the hotel and catering office later this year regarding the 2023 contract.

Treasurer: **Mary Binder for Liz Bowers**

- Liz's 2022 budget report covered from June 1 through August 1. In the chapter checking account, \$493.40; in savings, \$16,163.54. All bills are paid, although she has not received the bill for the July/August chapter newsletter. Nancy said that bill will be \$82.04.
- Regarding the 2023 budget, Liz said she is projecting it will be similar to the 2022 budget. She recommended waiting until after **FEDcon22** expenses had been paid before working further on the budget.
- Chapter liability insurance – Mary reported the Bremerton chapter inadvertently missed the June deadline for the premium and thought they would have to look for other insurance for the year. However, after calls and further exploration, they were able to submit the payment after the deadline. While meeting the deadline is important, Mary said it is good to know there is an option if the date is missed.

Secretary: **Mary Binder**

- Mary thanked members who have been letting her know when they'll be out of town and/or off their computers for several days. She asked members to continue to do so.
- Next board meeting: **virtual, Monday, September 26, 10:00 a.m. [Nancy will send the link.]**

WSF: VP/DVP I Mary Binder; Alzheimer's Chair Lorie Bennett

- **VP Mary:**
 - Mary provided highlights from the July 12 virtual WSF Advisory Committee meeting. [Minutes are posted on the WSF website, www.narfe.org.]
 - Information has been released that NARFE will be selling its headquarters building in Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia. Mary said she has no other details at this time.
 - **FEDcon22**, August 21-23, Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, Scottsdale, Ariz. The chapter has 7 members registered to attend: Lorie Bennett; Mary Binder; Nancy Crosby; Janice Lake; Pat Turner; Darleen Wall; and John Wetterling. Mary said that while some agenda items are similar to past conferences, there are different, and interesting, guest speakers.

- NARFE elections are in progress for NARFE president, secretary/treasurer and regional vice presidents, and also for bylaws amendments. Details, including mail-in ballots, are in the August *NARFE Magazine*. [Voting closes August 31, 11:59 p.m.]
- The WSF virtual annual meeting/conference is scheduled for October 11-13.
 - The agenda is still not finalized but Mary said the conference committee is working on getting speakers from NARFE as well as Washington State.
 - There will be an election for WSF officers – president, vice president, secretary and treasurer – prior to the conference. Mary highlighted recent challenges the Nominating Committee faced and getting updated information to WSF members.
- **DVP I Mary** – Mary provided several updates for the district's 6 chapters [Spokane Chapter 32; Yakima Chapter 238; Wenatchee Chapter 239; Tri-Cities Columbia Basin Chapter 0856; Chapter 1192; Colville Valley Chapter 1247]
 - Columbia Basin Chapter 0856 is moving forward with closing. The vote to close was at the chapter's June 2 special meeting.
 - Wenatchee Chapter 239 is scheduled to hold a special membership meeting Wednesday, September 14, to decide its future. The chapter has not been meeting, had trouble getting members to meetings when it did meet, and has vacant officer, including treasurer, and committee coordinator positions. Larry asked how many members were in the Wenatchee chapter. Mary said it was under 100 but did not have the exact number. She said she would get it and let him know before the end of the meeting. **[Note: Mary did not get the number prior to the end of the meeting, but as of August 6, the chapter had 87 chapter members, and 52 national-only members in the Wenatchee area, for a total of 139.]**
 - Yakima Chapter 238 also has not been meeting and still does not have a meeting location.
 - Colville Valley Chapter 1247 has been meeting but more socially than conducting business. Typically, 3-6 people attend the monthly gatherings at the local Eagles.
 - Spokane Chapter 32 and Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 remain the 2 active District I chapters.
- **Alzheimer's Chairman Lorie** – No report.

Newsletter Editor/Public Relations Coordinator: Mary Binder

- September/October newsletter – articles/input are due to Mary by Monday, August 8. Mary asked members to mark their calendars. She will be working on the newsletter before going to **FEDcon22**.
- New *Senior Guide* directory – Mary said it is scheduled to go to print August 9. If she has copies by the September meeting, she will bring them to the chapter meeting. NARFE/the chapter will be featured in 2 locations in the guide.
- The Tri-Cities Regional Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting and luncheon – August 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Red Lion Hotel & Conference Center, Pasco. Cost: \$30/members. Guest speaker: Congressman Dan Newhouse. [Historically the 4th District congressman provides Chamber members a legislative update at the August meeting, which occurs during the August Congressional recess.] Both Pat and Nancy are planning to attend; Mary said she will be enroute home from Scottsdale.
- Fall Senior Times Expo, Tuesday, October 18. Mary said she would be completing the registration paperwork soon and would keep Liz in the loop for payment (\$425). **[Note: Registration completed August 3; payment made August 4.]**

Legislative Coordinator: Mary Binder

- National legislation:
 - H.R. 82, Social Security Fairness Act, now has at least 292 co-sponsors, the minimum number needed for a House floor vote. Mary said this is the closest legislation has come to repealing GPO and WEP. As of the meeting, there was still no date for a vote.
 - August is NARFE Grassroots Advocacy Month. Mary said she is targeting visiting Senator Maria Cantwell's office in Richland. She said it has been awhile since she's been there.
 - Highlights of recent interfaces with Congressman Dan Newhouse are in the July/August chapter newsletter.
- State legislation:
 - Mary reminded members that ballots are due tomorrow for the state's primary elections.
 - Washington Policy Center events – Mary said she is planning to attend the following:
 - Wednesday, August 3, 7:30 a.m., CG Public House, Kennewick, Solution Series breakfast. Guest speaker – Mike Gallagher, WPC's new president.
 - Friday, September 16, Davenport Grand, Spokane, annual Eastern Washington WPC dinner. Guest speakers – Tulsi Gabbard, former Democratic congresswoman, and Victor David Hanson, historian.
 - Wednesday, October 6, 7:30 a.m., CG Public House, Kennewick, Solution Series breakfast. Guest speaker – to be determined.
 - Launching this fall – Mountain States Policy Center. Based in Idaho, this new “non-partisan public policy research organization” will be the “nation’s newest state-based public policy think tank.” Targeted states are: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Eastern Washington. Mary said she would provide more information as she learns more in the months ahead.

NARFE-PAC Coordinator: Mary for John Wetterling – Mary reminded board members that John had emailed them his report with results for the 6th quarter cycle ending June 30 for the 2021/2022, 2-year, legislative cycle. Although contributions have continued as reflected in the overall figures from 5th to 6th quarter, the drop in NARFE membership has affected PAC contributions and the number of sustainers overall, per John’s report.

Alzheimer’s Coordinator: Larry Williams – The area’s annual Walk to End Alzheimer’s is Sunday, October 9. Larry said not much has changed since his last report. Pat said she still has not been able to register for the Walk and has given up but she is willing to help staff our NARFE chapter table. Nancy also volunteered to help.

Webmaster: Larry Williams and Randy Grekowicz – Larry reported the following:

- He believes the website is up to date.
- Regarding training with Randy as his backup, Larry said they still have had only one training session but Randy has been practicing on his own.
- NARFE WordPress web system – Mary said she learned at the July WSF Advisory Committee meeting that “NARFE is going to start piloting microsites. Cost to use the new system is not firm, but NARFE is considering between \$50 and \$60 annually.” [Information from the July Advisory Committee meeting minutes.]

Service Officer: Ellen LeVee – Ellen reminded board members about the new OPM and TSP login changes. She said that for at least some members, including for her, their designation of beneficiary information did not transfer to the new TSP system and had to be re-entered into the system. Members needing help can contact her.

Membership Coordinator: *Johanna Caylor* – No report. Mary said a focus in the federation is reaching out to former members who have recently dropped their membership, e.g., sending them a “retention/attention” postcard. Johanna consistently works this issue but a number of chapters do not and/or have no membership coordinator.

Sunshine Coordinator: *Faye Vlieger* – updates since the July/August chapter newsletter:

- Chuck Clayton/Nancy Glaesemann – both have had COVID; card sent.
- Dee Knuter passed away – former chapter member and co-worker of several members; working on finding an address to send a card – Ellen may know someone with contact information.

Caller Coordinator: *Darleen Wall* – Darleen reported that she is working on updating the callers’ lists for the new calling year [which starts prior to the September chapter meeting]. She will contact Johanna when she is back in town for any membership updates she may have. Darleen said she will get a copy of the updated lists to Nancy [so she can update her email and mailing lists].

Open Discussion Items: Nancy said she is working on getting the travel schedules for chapter members planning to attend **FEDcon22** so she can suggest a meeting time [to discuss the conference agenda to ensure all breakout sessions/other events will be covered.]

2022 PROJECTED MEETING PROGRAMS

- 09/07/22 Leanne Purcell, executive director, the Children’s Reading Foundation of the Mid-Columbia, will provide a foundation overview, including the “Team Read” program, and volunteer opportunities. (*Confirmed; POC: Mary Binder*)
- 10/05/22 Alexis Bonoff, community outreach manager, Washington State Chapter, Alzheimer’s Association, will provide a presentation, “The 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer’s,” which is part of the Association’s education program series. (*Confirmed; POC: Mary Binder*)
- 11/02/22 Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund – members bring items for the auction (*Confirmed; remind members to bring items, cash/checkbook; POC Larry Williams*)
- 12/07/22 Jeff Peterson and his mellow trumpet return for a holiday music program (*Confirmed; POC: Liz Bowers*)

2023 PROJECTED MEETING PROGRAMS

- 01/04/23 Michael Novakovich, new CEO, Columbia Industries, is scheduled to provide an overview of CI, including its programs and goals. (*Confirmed; POC: Mary Binder*)
- 02/01/23 Jason Mercier, director, Government Reform, Washington Policy Center, will provide his annual state legislative update (*Confirmed: POC: Mary Binder*)
- 03/01/23
- 04/05/23
- 05/03/23
- 06/07/23
- 09/06/23
- 10/04/23
- 11/02/23 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*)
- 12/06/23 Jeff Peterson and his mellow trumpet return for a holiday music program (*Tentative; POC: Liz Bowers*)

Mary asked the board about pursuing a presentation from Dot Stewart on the Miss Tri-Cities program. Dot is chapter member Bob Stewart’s wife and has been involved with the Miss Tri-Cities program for many years. Board members concurred with asking Dot, and besides information on the program, ask her to talk about volunteering and its benefits, why she

is involved with the program, etc. This may encourage others to think about volunteering for organizations, programs, etc. Mary will follow up.

Adjourn: 11:16 a.m.

2017 BRAINSTORMING SUGGESTED PROGRAMS – from January 2017 chapter meeting (*Mary*)
1st PNNL and Projects – completed (*January 2020, 2013 chapter meetings; POC: Mary Binder*)
2nd Hanford: Advisory board; Resource Center; EEOICP; Toxic Substances & Worker Health – update (*last presentation, February 2011*)
3rd Benton-Franklin Dial-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*)
[Chapter meeting program, 5/4/22]

~~Pasco Old Airport Tower – restoration (POC: Mary Binder)~~ [Chapter meeting program 5/4/22]

~~Franklin County Historical Society – newly remodeled museum (POC: Mary Binder)~~
[Chapter meeting program, 3/2/22]

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: Mary Binder)~~
[Chapter meeting program, 6/1/22]

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 – 2022 (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)

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 (POC: Lorie)

WSU Wine Science Center (tour; 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 – new owners as of 2020 (POC: Mary Binder)

McNary Wildlife Refuge Tour (POC: Lorie Bennett)