

NARFE Chapter 1192
Executive Board Meeting Minutes, June 4, 2008

CALL TO ORDER – President Nancy Crosby called the meeting to order, 1:37 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. Attending: Nancy Crosby; Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Carl Gallion; Phil LaMont; Mable Rutt.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

09/03/08 Diabetes update; Mable will provided a hands-on-type presentation
10/01/08 NARFE National Convention report from Johanna/Sig Preston;
Judy Park's presentation from the Federation's state convention (CD ordered)
11/05/08 Social Security/Medicare and interface with health-care plans (Carl/Johanna)
12/03/08 Holiday-themed program; Food Bank donations; installation of officers
04/01/09 Terry/Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers; confirmed (Johanna)

Future program ideas – Other program options still under consideration:

Update on the U.S. Army Umatilla Chemical Depot's weapons disposal program (Mary Binder)
American Cancer Society
Tri-City Railroad (David Samples; had to cancel his February 2008 presentation (Carl)
Area senior housing options
Rod Coler Center for Senior Health (Phil)
Long-term care ombudsman program (Carl)
Tri-Cities Wine Society or wine industry representatives (Mary Binder)
Travel opportunities, Genie Tours

OFFICERS

President – Nancy proposed either Thursday, August 21, or Monday, August 25, for the next Executive Board meeting, and incorporating lunch. She'll finalize the date during the summer.

Secretary – Mary said she wanted to have June Chapter/Executive Board meeting minutes out by June 13.

Treasurer – Phil said he'll be gone quite a bit during the summer; either Nancy or Carl will need to have access to the Chapter's checkbook in his absence.

Per capita tax – Changes to reporting were approved as a "bylaw" not a "resolution" change at the Federation's recent convention. Chapters will receive a new, simpler reporting form. The Chapter's next per capita tax is due to the Federation at the end of July.

NARFE Federal Credit Union – Phil will explore for discussion at the August Board meeting the advantages/disadvantages of changing/using NARFE's credit union for Chapter funds.

Chapter budget – The Board discussed the current budget year dates, July 1 through June 30, and reverting back to a calendar year budget as Chapter officers are sworn in at the December meeting. The reason for the change to July-June cycle was to match the Federation's budget year. The Board recommended keeping the Chapter's budget year as is to: align with the Federation; provide a new Board with a working budget; and, avoid another change now as Phil is still working some transition issues. The following 2009-2010 budget preparation steps were proposed for the Board: February – reminder to think about budget requirements; March – discuss budget needs; April – review a draft budget; May – finalize a budget; June – provide proposed budget to members at the Chapter meeting. For the 2008-2009 budget, Phil, Johanna and Carl will prepare a budget spreadsheet and send to the Board for review prior to the August Board meeting. It was proposed the Board vote on the budget at its August meeting.

Fundraisers – The Board discussed the Chapter's budget and how funds have previously been obtained – primarily through membership dues; hosting conventions; putting on pre-retirement seminars. Other chapters also do such things as collect cans; have bake sales; and, sell coffee at interstate coffee stops. The Board recommended discussing fundraising options at its August Board meeting.

Vice president – No report.

COMMITTEES – Following were the only committee reports:

Membership

MAP – Johanna presented the Chapter's proposed Membership Action Plan (MAP), which reflects what the Chapter plans to do for the coming year and what the Federation may rebate. The Board discussed the figures and how Johanna obtained them. Carl reported that the Federation recently voted unanimously to no longer reimburse for gift memberships. Johanna stated that the \$1,155.00/35 gift memberships entry should remain in the MAP as this document is the first step in developing the Chapter's budget; that is, identifying operating needs. The Board approved the MAP as presented.

NAPUS Convention – Johanna reminded the Board that the National Association of Postmasters of the United States convention (Idaho, Oregon and Washington members) will be July 14-17, Pasco Red Lion Hotel. She discussed the handout material she intends to have at the Chapter's NARFE table and said she will try to get postal employees to help staff the table. The Board discussed various "membership drive" ideas to encourage those attending the convention to join NARFE, e.g., the Chapter paying the first 6 months of a new member's annual dues. Johanna said the Federation may help with reimbursement. Nancy has a gift basket she will donate as a raffle item at the convention.

Recruitment – The Board discussed various new-member recruitment ideas, e.g., offering a free lunch to those who bring a guest; offering new retirees who join a free membership for the first 6 months. Johanna reminded the Board that the multi-year dues option is no longer available. Carl said NARFE's entire dues structure may change at its September national convention.

Newsletter – The Board discussed and developed a Chapter bi-monthly newsletter schedule for the coming year: September/October; November/December; January/February; March/April; May/June. No July/August newsletter, at least for this year. For the September/October newsletter, articles are due by July 31; publication is projected for mid August, in time for members to plan for fall meetings.

Service Center/Callers

Volunteers – Nancy said additional volunteers are needed for the Service Center. Ruby Ulseth volunteered at today's Chapter meeting. Suggestion was made to ask Al Rizzo if he would volunteer.

Caller Incentives – The Board again discussed a free lunch/other type "thank you" for Chapter "callers." Nancy said she'd work with Mary Goldie/Nancy Schreckhise when they're back in town.

Federation Service Officer – Marian Wilson is replacing Gene Owens as the new FSO.

CONVENTIONS

State – The Board discussed and approved reimbursing the Chapter's delegates \$85 to help defray their convention expenses. The \$85 covers registration, legislative luncheon and plated dinner costs. Those to receive reimbursement are: Estelle Bellefeuille; Don and Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Mary Goldie; Gary Hagedorn; Sig Preston; Al and Dolores Rizzo; Anne Ross; Nancy Schreckhise; and, Verneice Skinner. Delegates-at-large Carl Gallion and Clark Crouch will be reimbursed through the Federation. Phil will send/provide delegates a check.

National – Toward latter July, the Chapter should receive several copies of the booklet with proposed resolutions for discussion at the convention. Copies will be distributed to Board members for their review; discussion will be at the August Board meeting. (Note: Per announcement at the Chapter meeting, information about the resolutions will also be posted on the Chapter's web site, when it is available.)

OLD BUSINESS

Newsletters – District VP Carl Gallion said the Federation is encouraging chapters publishing newsletters to help those chapters that are not, e.g., could information be included in one newsletter. Carl said the Walla Walla chapter is not publishing a newsletter and asked Board members for their input on incorporating that chapter's information into Chapter 1192's newsletter. Since Chapter 1192 is working through newsletter revision/publication changes, the Board recommended not doing this at this time.

Honorary memberships – Carl reported that NARFE National is doing away with honorary memberships and encouraging chapters to do the same. Past practice has been to give such membership to those with at least 20 years NARFE membership and who are at least 85 years of age. Chapter 1192 does have several chapter honorary members. The Board recommended further discussion at its August Board meeting.

Okanogan chapter – Carl reported that in closing the Okanogan chapter, \$42.53 was added to Chapter 1192's treasury for the one Okanogan chapter member who now lives in Prosser. The amount basically equals what was in the Okanogan chapter's treasury divided by the number of chapter members.

NEW BUSINESS

June meetings – Issue: should the Chapter continue to hold June meetings. Nancy said past June meetings records showed no significant attendance changes from other meetings. Therefore, she proposed and the Board agreed the Chapter continue with June meetings.

August meeting – Proposed for either Thursday, August 21, or Monday, August 25, and incorporating lunch. Date will be finalized during the summer/closer to August.

MEETING ADJOURNED – 3:15 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary