

NARFE Chapter 1192
Executive Board Meeting Minutes, June 2, 2010

CALL TO ORDER Past President Nancy Crosby called the meeting to order, 1:45 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick. Present: Nancy; Don Binder; Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Bill Darke; Mary Goldie; Gary Hagedorn; Carolyn Reeploeg; Nancy Schreckhise; and, Larry Williams. Also at the meeting – Steve Anderson, the new District V vice president.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

09/08/10 *Recap of NARFE National Convention* (confirmed; Johanna Caylor; Sig Preston)

10/06/10 *Social Security/Medicare Interface with Health Care Plans* (tentative; Johanna)

11/03/10 *Annual White Elephant Auction for Alzheimer's Research Fund* (confirmed; Bill Darke)

12/01/10 *Holiday Tap Dance Show, Tri-City Tappers* (confirmed; Mary Binder)

Future program ideas – Other program options under consideration (new/brought forward):

Energy Employees Occupational Illness, Gail Splett, DOE/Hanford PM (Nancy Crosby)

Elder Law/Medicaid/Estate Planning/Living Trusts/Wills/Probate, Loren Eddy (Mary Binder)

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)

Long-term care policies (Carl Gallion/Carolyn Reeploeg)

Contacting OPM/other agencies – what you/your family need to know/have

Advanced Medical, Spaulding Business Park (Mable Rutt said this is a new concept for the area)

American Cancer Society

Area senior housing options (Verneice Skinner/possible 2010 program; Nancy will call Verneice)

Tri-Cities Wine Society or wine industry representatives (Mary Binder)

Volunteer Center and its Mission (Mary Goldie)

OFFICERS

President – Gary Hagedorn. No report.

1st Vice President – Don Binder. No report.

2nd Vice President – Carl Gallion. No report.

Secretary – No report.

Treasurer – Nancy Crosby. She now has a Chapter debit card and encouraged Board members to let her know if they need items. Using the card will potentially save having to reimburse for purchases.

District Vice President – No additional report.

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer's – Chairman Bill Darke said he did not know if the last check he sent to Therese Sannar, former Federation Alzheimer's chairman, had cleared. (**Note: Bill has since received acknowledgement from Alzheimer's for the contribution.**)

Hospitality – Mary Goldie checked on the menu change for today. It was correct according to the signed contract with the hotel. Mary also said there was an issue with members asking for more cole slaw and rolls. Nancy said we could do a reminder in the newsletter that the lunch service is not like a restaurant where you can ask for more rolls, for example. Mary will provide an updated list of menus for the remainder of the year. Larry Williams will post the update on the Chapter's web site.

Legislative – Co-chair Don Binder said he is working with Vic Rohret, Yakima chapter, on a joint August meeting with Yakima and Tri-Cities chapters and Rep. Doc Hastings and/or an official from his office. If this happens, Don could provide a report at the Chapter's September meeting. Steve said his Wenatchee chapter is trying to get Senator Patty Murray for its September 8 meeting/picnic.

Membership – Chairman Johanna Caylor again expressed concerns regarding active Fed employees not renewing their Chapter memberships. (Note: During the meeting it was stated that Lorraine Bennett, new member, is interested in becoming more active in the Chapter.)

NARFE-PAC – No additional report.

Newsletter – The Board discussed having a "special edition" July/August newsletter vs. just waiting until September/October for a regular edition as in past years. Several members believed there was enough information to warrant a special edition – e.g., change in some officers; overview of the

Convention; OPM points of contact. General Board consensus was to have the special edition. Johanna, Mary Binder and Nancy Crosby will coordinate preparing and mailing the edition. The Board also discussed trying to move more and more toward e-mailing the newsletter to members as a way to reduce expenses. However, this could affect the bulk rate mailing as that rate requires a minimum of 200 mailings. **[Reminder: Articles are due the 2nd Friday, every other month. The remainder of the 2010 due-date schedule is: June 11; August 13; October 8; and, December 10.]**

Public Relations – Mary Binder offered to prepare a news release announcing the Chapter's officer changes and also information about the Service Office. She'll send it to area media.

Service Officers/Callers – Service Officers Nancy Schreckhise and Mary Goldie highlighted a number of challenges they/the other callers face each month when trying to notify Chapter members of the meetings. The Board discussed possibly transitioning to using e-mail addresses vs. calling. Nancy Crosby/Larry Williams will work this issue. The Board agreed there needs to be a newsletter announcement reminding members to keep the Chapter advised of their e-mail address and changes.

Sunshine Committee – Carolyn Reeploeg had 2 issues for the Board:

- She wanted guidance/clarification on non-NARFE members and/or their families receiving cards. The Board discussed this and concurred that while the focus remains NARFE members and their families, there are situations when it may be good/appropriate to send cards to non-NARFE members and/or their families. For example, Service Officers Mary and Nancy said there are times when non-NARFE member families come to the Service Office for assistance as a result of receiving a card. The Board agreed that Carolyn should use her best judgment in these situations.
- Carolyn said she needs a backup, especially in the coming weeks as she will be out of the area. Pam Griffin and Marci Lingle were names suggested; Carolyn will check with them.
- **Website** – Chairman Larry Williams. No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Chapter Banner – The banner was accidentally left at the hotel after the Chapter's November meeting. Despite numerous inquiries at the hotel, no luck at finding it until a recent inquiry.

National Convention – Johanna and Sig Preston will be the Chapter's representatives.

- Johanna asked about upcoming deadlines for submitting specific paperwork. Mary Binder and Nancy Crosby will review what they've received and ensure the paperwork is submitted.
- Booster list was circulated among the Board. It was due May 31. Nancy Crosby will coordinate getting it and a check to the convention point of contact.
- Convention resolutions are being posted on NARFE's convention web site. Board members were encouraged to review them. Around the July time frame, a book with all the resolutions will be sent to the chapter. The Board will discuss these at its August meeting.
- The Board also discussed submitting a Chapter ad for the convention booklet. Mary Binder and Nancy Crosby will explore this option; ad will not be submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

2011 District Workshop – Don will ask Sharon Appel, the program analysis officer, OPM Benefits Officers Training and Development, to attend. She did a presentation at the May WSFC convention.

Health Fairs – Johanna said there will be a health fair, July 15, Federal Building. She'll notify the Board with more details. She needs help updating NARFE packets for the fair at the Service Office. Nancy Crosby offered to help. There will be another fair in October; Johanna does not have the dates.

August Board Meeting – The Board agreed to have a meeting **Wednesday, August 11**. Mary Binder will see if the Tri-City Country Club is available. **[Note: Confirmed. Meeting is scheduled for 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Members will be able to order lunch from the Club's menu.]**

Focus Groups – Tabled until the next Board meeting. Mary Binder wants to discuss having a focus group to explore membership issues.

Additional Items – Larry said he had a couple of things he wanted to bring up, not related to the web site, but would wait until the next Board meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED – 3:00 p.m.

Prepared by:
Mary Alice Binder
Secretary