

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 3, 2014

President Don Binder called the meeting to order at noon, Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Board members present: Lorie Bennett; Don and Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Bill Darke; Steve Howes; Pat Turner; Larry Williams. Absent: Carl Gallion; Pam Griffin; Mable Rutt.

The board reviewed and discussed upcoming chapter meeting programs, and discussed other potential options for monthly meetings and group activities in 2014 and early 2015. The overall focus is to have interesting programs and activities that will increase attendance, participation and membership.

PROGRAMS – Upcoming

06/04/14 Sue McDonald, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will provide information on the agency's Mid-Columbia region missions (confirmed; POC: Steve Howes)

09/03/14 Tim Coleman, elder law attorney, will discuss issues pertinent to seniors (confirmed; POC: Johanna Caylor)

(Note: brief August NARFE convention summary besides the program.)

10/01/14 Emergency management representative and/or the 2, 4th Congressional District candidates (tentative; POC: Don Binder pursuing)

11/05/14 White Elephant Auction Fundraiser for NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund (confirmed; POC: Bill Darke)

12/03/14 Rolling Hills Chorus of Sweet Adelines International (tentative; Don will pursue w/Faye Vlieger) [Note: holiday goodies besides a monthly program.]

01/07/15 Music therapy presentation (tentative; POC Mary Binder, will pursue)

02/04/15 Hanford REACH project update (tentative; POC Lorie Bennett will pursue)

03/04/15

04/01/15 Terry and Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers (tentative; POC Mary Binder will pursue)

PROGRAMS – Future Ideas (New; brought forward)

Umatilla Chemical Depot – closure update (POCs: Mary Binder/Debbie Lopez; final update in 2014/2015, depending on closure activities and the schedule)

Blue Mountain Wildlife (POC: Steve Howes; he'll explore for spring, 2015)

Central Basin Audubon Society (POC: Steve Howes)

POPP (Pet Overpopulation Prevention) (POC: Mary Binder)

Service dogs – training and types of service (POC: Mary Binder)

Washington State Native Plant Society, Columbia Basin Chapter (POC: Steve Howes)

Carousel of Dreams – past, present, future (POC: Mary Binder)

CHAPTER GROUP ACTIVITIES – PLANNED AND FUTURE IDEAS

Dust Devils baseball game, Saturday, June 21 (POC: Lorie, will have sign-up sheet at the June chapter meeting; to date, 9 have signed up)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – activities at Mid-Columbia Wildlife Refuge Complex; and/or Hanford Reach National Monument (POC: Steve; possible group activities; Board discussed targeting this for Spring 2015)

MCBONES Research Center Foundation, Coyote Canyon Mammoth Site (POC: Lorie, exploring options for another trip to the site in 2014; still trying to reach the point of contact)

Maryhill Museum – bus trip/tour (POC: Lorie, contacted Eric Miller, Wineries Express, LLC, who has a winery touring business, including a small bus. Committing with Eric now will give us a better price. Target date: Saturday, October 4. Lorie will contact the museum for details about cost, access, etc.)

Pacific Northwest Regional Observatory (POC: Mary. On hold; observatory under construction)

Lamb Weston – tour (POC: Lorie, talked with ConAgra POC who advised that the normal tour may need to be modified as it has stairs and the floors can be slippery. The board wanted to know which facility the group would be touring; Lorie will pursue getting additional information.)

Tour of Mid-Columbia Library (POCs: Mary Binder and Pat Turner; Pat said she spoke with Tom Moak, librarian/branch manager, Kennewick branch, about a tour. He will be our contact point.)

St. John the Forerunner Greek Monastery, Goldendale – trip/tour, June 18, through Kennewick Senior Center, \$65, including lunch (POC: Nancy Crosby; save \$5 w/KSC membership. To date from the chapter, Nancy and Mary Goldie are planning to go.)

Chihuly Glass Garden and Space Center – trip/tour with Kennewick Senior Center, June 28, \$103 (POC: Nancy Crosby; to date, Nancy, Mary Goldie and Marci Lingle are planning to go.)

Broetje Farms/Warehouse Tour (POC: Lorie, talked with the POC. September/October would be a good time to visit with harvest in progress. The tour would include orchards, the workers' housing facility, and an overview of the operations. The farms/warehouse are on Kahlottus Highway.)

Mariners baseball bus trip, August, w/Kennewick Senior Center (POC: Nancy)

President: Don Binder.

- Highlighted the May WSFC convention; many lessons learned for our 2016 convention. Also, we were the only WSFC chapter to receive awards in 3 categories:
 - a certificate for distinguished service for our contributions to NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund;
 - for PAC contributions, the chapter came in 3rd in the federation for total contributions and 3rd in the percentage of members contributing;
 - \$200 and a certificate for the largest increase in dues withholding enrollments.
- The WSFC board has submitted a bylaws resolution for the NARFE August national convention that would reverse the National Executive Board's decision to reduce the number of NARFE regions from 10 to 5 effective November 1. Oregon and Alaska federations have submitted similar bylaws resolutions. Don said there did not appear to be interest in pursuing such a resolution at the Montana convention; and for Idaho, the convention was after the submission deadline.
- Had a further discussion with the board about the *Future of NARFE* report and potential implications. Director-at-Large Steve Howes had reviewed the report and provided written comments to Don. There was a general board consensus that the FON needed a strategic plan.

1st Vice President/Special Programs/Service Office: Lorie Bennett. No additional report.

2nd Vice President: Larry Williams. No report.

Secretary/Sunshine/Newsletter/Public Relations: Mary Binder.

- July/August newsletter articles are due to Mary by Friday, June 6.
- Senior Life Show – June 12, Three Rivers Convention Center. Nancy, Lorie and Barbara Fedoriga will staff the booth. Larry said he may stop by. Sig Preston had to back out of helping. For handouts there will be *narfe* magazines, the general membership brochures and M-2 cards. Nancy will get some candy and press our NARFE tablecloth so it can be used as the table cover.
- Nancy had questions regarding the projected rebates in the 2014 Chapter 1192 Outreach Action Plan. Mary said she'd review the plan to ensure we were on track.
- Shared the copy of the *Senior Life Resources Northwest 2013 Annual Report* that she and Don had received. Included in the report was information from Home Care Services, Mid-Columbia Meals on Wheels and Senior Health Services. The report was informative.
- For Sunshine – member Sandy Smith passed away. Mary sent a card to Sandy's family. Johanna reported that member Dan Zachary passed away the day before. Mary will send a card to his home. Also, member Paul Dunigan is scheduled to have surgery next week. Mary will send a card.
- The next board meeting is Wednesday, August 13, noon, Tri-City Country Club. [Note: The meeting date was subsequently changed to Friday, August 1, same time and location.]

Treasurer: Nancy Crosby.

- Provided copies and highlighted the May treasurer's report.
- Sterling Bank is now part of Umpqua Bank. The chapter's checking account has been with Sterling. Nancy reported that, to date, there has been no change to the charges we've had, but if that happens, she'll review and consider changing financial institutions.
- For the federation, Treasurer Arlene Patton has changed the federation's account to the NARFE Credit Union. Rates are better, including paying some interest on the checking account.
- Summarized reimbursement to chapter WSFC convention attendees: Nancy's and Don's expenses were covered by the federation because of their federation positions; Mary's were covered with Don's. Therefore, the budgeted \$480 was equally divided by the other 4 attendees: Lorie and Leon Bennett; Johanna Caylor; Sig Preston. Each received \$120. [Note: Leon subsequently donated his \$120 back to the chapter. \$40 went to PAC; \$40 to Alzheimer's; \$40 to the Chapter's general fund.]

Directors at Large: Steve Howes, Pat Turner. Pat asked if the board had considered joining the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce besides the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau (TCVCB). This had been discussed before the board decided to join the TCVCB several years ago. Mary said she'd get an information packet from the Chamber and check on costs and benefits. This will be an agenda item at a future board meeting.

District V Vice President: Nancy Crosby

- 2014 NARFE National Convention, August 24-28, Orlando, Florida – Don said with all that is going on, this will be a contentious convention. At the August board meeting, there will be further discussion regarding how the chapter members attending the national convention should cast the chapter's 6 votes. Currently, 5 chapter members are planning to attend: Don and Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor;

Nancy Crosby; Sig Preston. In June all chapters should receive a book with the proposed bylaws changes and resolutions submitted by the chapters or federations. This information will also be on the NARFE website. There may be other changes from the National Executive Board meets in June. After the convention, attendees need to submit their vouchers for reimbursement to Nancy; she'll consolidate and forward to WSFC Treasurer Arlene Patton. [The WSFC board agreed to reimburse federation attendees \$250/each as an incentive/to help defray costs.]

- 2016 Convention – contracts are signed with the Three Rivers Convention Center and SpringHill Suites. The chapter had a table at the May WSFC convention with Tri-Cities area brochures/information to help promote the 2016 convention.
- Will visit the other 2 District V chapters, Walla Walla and Yakima, in September and provide a recap of the national convention.

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer's Chairman: *Bill Darke.* \$11 received at the May chapter meeting; \$39 in the chapter Alzheimer's account.

Caller Coordinator: *Pam Griffin.* No report.

Hospitality: *Carl Gallion.* No report.

Legislative: *Don Binder, Mary Binder.*

- The Washington State primary is Tuesday, August 5. For Rep. Doc Hastings' 4th Congressional District seat, there are currently a number of candidates. One expected candidate, Brad Peck from Pasco, did not file as a candidate.
- No consideration for providing NARFE-PAC money will be given to any 4th Congressional District candidate until after the primary. Also, NARFE does not give money to non-incumbents if there are more than 2 in a primary race.

Membership: *Johanna Caylor.*

- 2013 free memberships – Don is still working on contacting the 6 individuals.
- 2014 free memberships – 2 names will be drawn from the Senior Life Show M-2 cards; 4 from the health fairs.
- There was a question regarding the status of those AFEs who received a free 6-month NARFE membership last fall. Their renewals will be due in July. Don said he'd check with Bridget Boel on their status.
- 2nd reminder postcards – supplied through the federation. Besides using for members who've not renewed, they can be used to contact dropped members. Nancy said she waits 2 months to send the cards after a member has received a dues reminder from NARFE to hopefully not send a card to someone who has, in fact, renewed.
- The board discussed contacting new members via a welcome letter, inviting them to a meeting, etc. Question: who should be sending out the letters/contacting the new members. Johanna used to send a letter; that letter needs to be reviewed/updated.
- Johanna said she'd like to pursue a pop-up table top display. She'll send Sam Cagle, the federation PR chairman, an email regarding what she wants and copy Mary in the email.
- Nancy needs more M-2 cards. Don and Johanna have some for her.
- FEHBP providers will be in the area the week of July 7.

NARFE-PAC: *Steve Howes.* \$81 contributed in May; \$451 year to date.

Parliamentarian: *Mable Rutt.* No report.

FUTURE MEETINGS: Friday, August 1, noon, Tri-City Country Club. [Note the date change.]

MEETING ADJOURNED: 2:40 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary