

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2021

Call to Order: President Pat Turner called the virtual meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. The board meeting followed the virtual chapter meeting.

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

Officer and Committee Reports

President: Pat Turner

- Pat welcomed and thanked chapter member Ellen LeVee for volunteering to serve as the chapter service officer. Pat called for a motion to approve Ellen for the position. Nancy moved and John seconded the motion. Board approval was unanimous.
- Nominating Committee – Pat asked members to contact her if they are interested in serving in officer positions. She said she sent an email to Liz and John asking if they would serve on the committee. Mary will chair the committee. Liz said she does not want to serve on the committee as she will be gone quite a bit this summer. John said he had not seen the email, but would look for it. [Note: John subsequently found the email and agreed to serve on the committee.] Nancy said we need to continue to try to encourage having “new blood,” that is, encourage others to serve as officers and in chair positions as many currently serving have been in their current and/or other positions for a number of years.
- Hospitality – Pat recapped for the board her latest contact with the Red Lion Hotel Kennewick catering point of contact, Jillian Stricklin. In replying to Nancy’s question about a guaranteed minimum lunch number, Pat said 20-22 has been discussed. The board discussed attendance at the most recent monthly meetings prior to COVID; Liz said we were not getting that many at the meetings. There was discussion about using the hotel’s free internet to offer a Zoom option for the September meeting for those who could not/chose not to attend. After discussion the board consensus was not to do this as we need to encourage members to attend to help fulfill our contract/commitment with the Red Lion. This can be emphasized in the upcoming chapter newsletters.

Vice President: Nancy Crosby – the board discussed continuing with Zoom meetings over the summer. Once Nancy has moved and gotten resettled, she can continue to host. She is scheduled to move toward the end of June.

Acting Service Officer: Nancy Crosby

- Service Office – Nancy said she had no updates. No one has contacted her regarding vacating the office. Pat said she, too, has not been contacted.
- 3M 1700 Plus Series overhead projector – the projector was donated to Veterans Warehouse Thrift Store, Columbia Center Blvd. [It is no longer a chapter asset.] Faye had posted it on her Craig’s List account but did not get any offers. John tried to sell it at a yard sale he had, but it did not sell. Rather than continue to store it, John recommended donating it to the area’s new Veterans’ Warehouse Thrift Store in Kennewick. [Address: 908 N. Colorado Street, Kennewick.] The officers concurred via email replies to John.

Treasurer: Liz Bowers

- The chapter budget will need to be reviewed/adjusted. For example, the \$2K budgeted for members attending **LEGcon21** won’t be used as the federation is covering the registration costs for what is now a virtual event; therefore, no registration or travel expenses. The

federation is also covering the registration costs for the virtual Centennial Gala. The budget will be an agenda item at the August board meeting.

- Nancy stated that her Zoom subscription will be up for renewal in August. She said she wasn't sure of the renewal cost, but estimated \$120. She said she would pay the renewal as she uses the subscription for personal reasons; but for future budgeting, at some point she may not be able to do so. Liz said she has the cost noted in the budget, currently as a donation.
- Johanna noted that her sister's supply of stamps is diminishing, too, so at some point she'll be needing stamps. Liz said she also has this in the budget as a donation.
- Liz said there is a USPS proposal to increase first-class postage from 55 to 58 cents in August. She updated the board on the chapter's current supply of stamps and projected usage. Faye said she used about 40 last year for sunshine-related mailings. Nancy said between 60 and 65 are needed every 2 months to mail newsletters, and she prefers rolls vs. sheets. After discussion, the board approved for Liz to purchase 400 stamps.
- Ray White, the chapter's centenarian member, sent a letter to Liz at Mary's home address regarding charges for purchasing stamps after he read Liz's article in the May/June chapter newsletter. In his letter, he shared that he has a stamp collection and is willing to sell it. Mary sent the letter to Liz and Liz replied to Ray.
- Reimbursement form for expenses – Mary asked Liz if the modified WSF F-1 Excel fillable form she sent to her for review would work for the chapter. If so it would save Liz from having to create a separate form as she and Johanna had been trying to do. Liz indicated that she thought the form would work. Johanna said she tried to use the WSF F-1 but did not understand the instructions about saving and converting it to make it fillable. Mary said she would send Johanna the modified fillable form to her. There was discussion about having Larry post it to the chapter website. **[Note: Mary sent the modified Excel form to Johanna, June 4.]**

Secretary: Mary Binder

- Johanna requested agendas and minutes also be sent in PDF, besides Word, to facilitate her being able to print these documents from her phone.
- With several board changes, Mary said she'll be updating the board/chair roster and sending it out in draft for review within the next few days.
- Board members are asked to let other members know when they will be out of town and/or off computer access for several days.
- After discussion, board members set **Monday, August 16, 10 a.m.** for the next board meeting. It will be virtual.

Public Relations/Newsletter: Mary Binder

- Newsletter reminders – Mary asked board members to please mark their calendars:
 - July/August newsletter articles/input due by **Friday, June 11.**
 - September/October newsletter articles/input due by **Friday, August 6.**
- Table runners – Mary shared that she is expecting to get an additional white runner and one in blue, per information from WSF PR Chairman Sam Cagle. For Johanna, who requested a blue runner, Mary said she had no input to the shade of blue and has not seen a sample.
- 2021 Chapter 1192 Outreach Action Plan – Mary reported that WSF President Steve Roy has disapproved the plan for 50-percent matching fund requests, including for the chapter's membership in the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce and Visit Tri-Cities. Steve said to Mary that he believes NARFE leaders have a fiduciary responsibility to use member dues money where they can get the "biggest bang" for the money spent, that is, for activities and/or interactions with current and retired federal employees, professional federal employee organizations, etc. He said he discussed this with Kathryn Hensley, NARFE's

secretary/treasurer, who Steve said concurred with how we should be spending our money. So, even though the WSF Executive Board has approved previous chapter outreach plans for more than 10 years, and Rich Wilson, former Region IX VP has concurred that these memberships are within NARFE's scope of outreach, Mary said she will be reviewing the plan based on President Steve's guidance. For example, regarding the federal professional organizations Steve referenced, Mary said she downloaded from the NARFE website a list of 30 that are coalition partners with NARFE. Over the summer, she said she will be working to locate local contacts for at least some of these organizations and will provide an update at the August board meeting.

- Renewing Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce membership. Mary said she received the renewal invoice; annual membership remained at \$361. As the bill was due June 1, she worked with the elected officers and got approval to renew the membership, even without 50-percent federation matching funds.
- Membership renewal with Visit Tri-Cities will be due in August. Mary recommended reviewing the renewal at the August board meeting. VP Nancy said we might want to consider dropping that membership until/if there is a time when we will again be hosting a training or federation conference. Mary offered that from a "PR" perspective, this might not be the best thing to do as it could look as though we were only using the organization when we needed to vs. providing ongoing support.
- Senior Times Expo, Tuesday, October 20, Southridge Sports Complex, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mary said that at this point an in-person event is planned. She said some of the costs for the drive-thru event the chapter supported last fall would not be incurred for the in-person event, e.g., printing 1,000 flyers. Registration/booth space is \$425. She requested revisiting this potential outreach activity at the August board meeting.
- Chapter 1192's 50th anniversary celebration is scheduled for the September 1 chapter meeting. Ellen LeVee and Layna Kinsman have volunteered to assist Mary in planning the celebration. A kickoff brainstorming meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 7, 2 p.m., Mary's house. Other volunteers, and ideas/suggestions, are welcome. Mary told Johanna that at some point they would be going to the chapter's service office in the Federal Building to look at historic chapter material stored there. She'll keep Johanna apprised.

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

- **VP Mary** – Continuing to work with DVP III Bea Bull on updating WSF guidance documents.
- **DVP I Mary** – A primary focus is reviewing/working with district chapters on updating their bylaws. Mary said Chapter 1192's will need to be updated, e.g., the chapter no longer has director at large positions. She proposed this as an August meeting agenda item.
- **Alzheimer's Chairman Lorie** – No report.

Legislative: Mary Binder – nothing additional from her chapter meeting report.

NARFE-PAC: John Wetterling – nothing additional from his chapter meeting report.

Alzheimer's: Larry Williams – nothing additional from his chapter meeting report.

Webmaster: Larry Williams – nothing additional from his chapter meeting report.

Membership: Johanna Caylor – In answer to a question from Pat, Johanna said she did receive a supply of updated WSF renewal reminder postcards but is first depleting her supply of the previous version.

Sunshine: Faye Vlieger – nothing additional from her chapter meeting report.

Caller Coordinator: Darleen Wall – nothing additional from her chapter meeting report.

Open Discussion Items: Not pertaining to NARFE, but Larry shared a story about his motor home and fuel being taken.

2021 PROJECTED MEETING PROGRAMS

09/01/21 Chapter 50th Anniversary Celebration (POC: Mary Binder)

10/06/21 The board discussed at its April meeting having a NARFE-related program, e.g., showing one of the webinars, discussing the benefits of NARFE membership, etc.; no decision on the exact program (POC: Mary Binder/Board)

11/03/21 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)

12/01/21 Jeff Peterson and his mellow trumpet return for another chapter holiday music program (Tentative; Liz is trying to contact Jeff to confirm; POC: Liz Bowers)

2022 PROJECTED MEETING PROGRAMS

01/05/22

02/02/22 Jason Mercier, director, Government Reform, Washington Policy Center, will provide his annual Washington State legislative update (Confirmed; POC: Mary Binder)

03/02/22

04/06/22 Terry & Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers, return to provide an update on the world of antiques; members bring items (no weapons) for appraisal (tentative; POC: Mary Binder)

05/04/22

06/01/22

09/07/22

10/05/22

11/02/22 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)

12/07/22 Holiday Music Program

Adjourn: 3:00 p.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)
- 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 – 2021 (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; 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