

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES March 23, 2016

President Lorie Bennett called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Members present: Lorie; Mary Binder; Liz Bowers; Nancy Crosby; Bill Darke; Steve Howes; Pat Turner; Larry Williams. Absent: Pam Griffin.

President/Service Officer/Special Programs: *Lorie Bennett.*

- 34th NARFE National Convention, August 28 to September 1.
 - Registration opened March 1.
 - Chapter attendees – to date the following chapter members are planning to attend: Lorie and Leon Bennett; Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Sig Preston; Pat Turner; and, Larry Williams.
 - There is \$1K in the chapter's 2016 budget to help offset chapter attendees' convention expenses.
- NARFE M+R monthly report – all board members received a copy from NARFE.
- Meeting email blasts to members – now scheduled to start for the April meeting; will also include a reminder about registering for the WSFC convention.
- Annual chapter food drive – \$90/cash and 102 lbs/food donated.
- June 18, Dust Devils game – chapter activity. Lorie will have a sign-up sheet at upcoming chapter meetings.
- Hospitality – the board discussed several items:
 - There was butter but no rolls, nor vegetables, at the March meeting; at the February meeting, there were rolls but no butter. Lorie will discuss this with the Red Lion catering manager.
 - The 2016 menus were presented to the chapter for review at the September meeting. No one offered feedback; so, the menu was kept the same as for 2014/2015. The focus has been on lighter, more healthy lunches vs. heavy on carbs. The menus can be revisited for 2016/2017.
 - Mary said she had received a call from the Red Lion's catering office admin point of contact requesting a copy of the monthly menus that could be provided to the kitchen staff. Mary provided the copy.
 - As the hotel catering point of contact had trouble getting in touch with Pam Griffin at the number provided, Lorie will contact Pam regarding the best phone number and email address to use for contacting her.
 - Director-at-Large Pat Turner said she wanted to recognize the hotel servers! She recently attended an event and one of the servers recognized her from the monthly NARFE meetings and knew she had vegetarian entrees. He asked if that is what she wanted for the event she was attending!
- Service Office:
 - Johanna said she still has not been able to get in contact with the individual who said she slid a membership renewal check under the Service Office door but no one found it. The board agreed to no longer pursue resolution as Johanna has made repeated attempts to contact the individual.
 - Mary will check to see if the chapter's service officer nomination was the only one received for WSFC.
 - Nancy said the service office volunteers have not been reimbursed for mileage for the past 6 months. Lorie said she would resend the paperwork to Charlie Caughlan, WSFC service officer, with a copy to Anne Kusch, WSFC treasurer.

1st Vice President: *Pat Turner.* No report.

2nd Vice President/Webmaster: *Larry Williams.*

- Larry reported that the chapter's stats "are fine," no anomalies.
- The board discussed whether additional convention information/links needed to be added to the chapter website directing people to the federation website. The board concluded current information is sufficient.

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

- May/June newsletter articles are due to Mary by Friday, April 8.
- Senior Life Show, Thursday, June 9 – the chapter's application/payment for a table has been submitted.
- 2016 NARFE Scholarship Program – applications are due by April 29.
- Table-Top Displays – no progress.
- 2016 Visit Tri-Cities annual brochures – Mary and Nancy picked up a box. Copies will be available at chapter meetings.
- Board meeting "to-do" recap email – no progress.
- Sunshine – no report.
- Next board meeting – Tuesday, April 26, noon, Tri-City Country Club.

Treasurer: *Nancy Crosby.*

- Nancy said the chapter is "right on track" with its 2016 budget.
- Nancy has filed the chapter's annual IRS Form 990N. She explained that she worked through a new IRS one-time process for the form, which was difficult and has resulted in complaints to NARFE. However, she successfully completed the process so follow-on years will be easier.
- Per Nancy, there are federation chapters reimbursing their members the full convention registration cost. She asked if the board wanted to do that for Chapter 1192 members. The board discussed the proposal and voted to approve reimbursing chapter members their registration costs. The federation is also offering a \$50 "scholarship" to each federation member attending the convention. This will further help members attending the convention.

District V Vice President: *Nancy Crosby.*

- 2016 WSFC Convention – the board was updated on key convention activities:
 - Nancy said the Columbia Basin College jazz band will perform for the banquet entertainment. There will be 5-6 performers. Nancy discussed providing a \$100 donation for the performance.
 - Johanna has secured the local Young Marines for both convention opening and closing ceremonies.
 - Liz Bowers, convention treasurer, provided members several handouts with updates on everything from registration to vendors. As the registration numbers are low, Nancy said she would email WSFC President Rich Wilson, asking him to send a convention reminder to all chapter presidents.
 - Director-at-Large Pat Turner reported that Confluence is excited about having a table at the convention.
 - Board members updated each other on their local contacts for vendors, advertisers, etc.
 - Johanna will not be at the April chapter meeting so needs someone to solicit additional "boosters."
 - Mary reported that she has been meeting with Dominique Vetrano who will be assisting with the layout/design of the program, badges, meal tickets, etc.
 - Lorie reported that she has gotten minimal response to her request to federation presidents for input for an agenda for the convention presidents' breakfast.
 - The board discussed the NARFE Region IX Alzheimer's Chairman Gen Boguslawski's registration costs as NARFE will not be reimbursing her for attending the WSFC convention. The board agreed to allow Gen the \$50 WSFC deduction even though she lives in Idaho.
 - Nancy reported that Visit Tri-Cities will be providing bags, tour books and a "VIP" sheet listing local businesses that will offer discounts to attendees.
- Nancy recently visited both the Yakima and Walla Walla chapters. They will be providing convention support.

Directors at Large: *Liz Bowers; Steve Howes.* No report.

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer's Chairman: *Bill Darke.*

- Bill reported that \$45 was donated at the March chapter meeting. Currently, the chapter's Alzheimer's account has \$149.
- To date Bill said he had submitted \$2,356 to the WSFC Alzheimer's chairman for the WSFC fiscal year, May 1 through April 30. The total for last year was \$2,540.

- Bill said he has 3 items for the Alzheimer's "auction" at the WSFC convention: 2 autographed books from C. Mark Smith, who provided the chapter a presentation at its May 2015 meeting; and, a framed moose wildlife print. The print was donated by the widow of former member Dan Zachary, who was also a co-worker of several chapter members.

NARFE-PAC: *Steve Howes.*

- March was NARFE-PAC month. Steve reported that \$140 was contributed at the March chapter meeting, bringing to \$191 the total collected for calendar year 2016 at the chapter meetings.
- No members signed up to become a sustainer at the March meeting despite the offer of a \$25 gift card to a restaurant of choice for signing up. The board discussed and voted to continue the offer through 2016.
- Mary gave Steve and Nancy their "overdue" tote bags for becoming sustainers.

Legislative: *Mary Binder.* Mary reported that there are 2 new items on the NARFE website pertaining to the Strategic Plan – a video and PowerPoint presentation. She recommended board members view both.

Membership: *Johanna Caylor.* For Johanna, the following updates:

- Nancy said she received \$10 from NARFE for recruiting a new member and donated it to the chapter.
- Johanna said she is working with WSFC President Rich Wilson to get the names of "e-chapter" members living in our area. The board discussed the likelihood of these members attending the WSFC convention. The consensus was that they would not.
- The WSFC recruiting incentive will continue in 2016 – \$20 to the chapter for each new chapter member recruited. The chapter will receive the incentive payment for the new 2015 chapter members in January 2017 as the names were received too late for January 2016 payment.

Caller Coordinator: *Pam Griffin.* No report. Nancy said she is targeting working with Pam on the caller lists/formatting after the May WSFC convention.

The board next discussed upcoming chapter meeting programs, and other potential options for monthly meetings and group activities in 2016. The focus is to have interesting programs and activities that will increase attendance, participation and membership. Requests for program ideas will be included in future chapter newsletters and at chapter meetings, e.g., members submit suggestions on a card.

PROGRAMS – Upcoming

04/06/16 *Terry & Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers – will provide an update on the world of antiques and appraise items members bring* (confirmed; POC: Mary Binder; NOTE: remind members to bring an item/s for appraisal)

05/05/16 *Moore Mansion – owner Brad Peck will provide an overview of the mansion, including its history and restoration* (confirmed; POC: Mary Binder)

06/01/16 *Hands In for Hands On (HiHo) Tri-Cities – Lara Hastings to provide a presentation on a children's museum/science center for the Tri-Cities* (tentative: POC: Lorie Bennett)

09/07/16 *Heidi Newsome, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will give a presentation on USFWS management activities in the Hanford area.* (tentative for September or October; POC: Steve Howes; Steve pursuing)

10/05/16

11/02/16 *Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for Alzheimer's Research fund – members bring items for the auction* (confirmed; POC: Bill Darke)

12/07/16 *Desert Bells* (POC: Lorie Bennett; Lorie will pursue; Mary Binder and Lorie will also provide holiday goodies)

01/04/17 *Hanford Cleanup – presentation from Washington State Department of Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program* (confirmed [after the board meeting]; POC: Lorie Bennett)

PROGRAMS – Future Ideas (New; brought forward)

Franklin Country Historical Society – newly remodeled museum (POC: Mary Binder; board agreed this could be a worthwhile presentation)

Vista Field – reuse plans (POC: Mary Binder; board agreed this could be a worthwhile presentation)

Pasco Old Airport Tower – restoration (POC: Mary Binder; board agreed this could be a worthwhile presentation)

Hanford Reach National Monument/White Bluffs/Ringold – history and current status (POC: Steve Howes)

Jack Collins and his stained glass (*recent article in Senior Times; Jack is a chapter member; Johanna Caylor suggestion*)

Local/Regional Wine Industry/Wine Programs – Walla Walla program; vineyards – how, what, why, where; winemakers – careers, background, successes, etc.; starting a winery business
(*Liz Bowers suggestion*)

Local Micro Brews (*Liz Bowers suggestion; she'll pursue getting a speaker*)

Local Distillers (*Liz Bowers suggestion*)

Rep. Dan Newhouse (POC: Mary Binder; Mary contacted Amy Harris, Rep. Newhouse's scheduler in the D.C. office; she has passed on the request to the local points of contact)

Decluttering – challenges and tips (POC: Mary Binder)

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)

Port of Kennewick's "Bridge to Bridge" Redevelopment (POC: Larry Williams)

CHAPTER GROUP ACTIVITIES/SPECIAL PROGRAMS – PLANNED AND FUTURE IDEAS

Junior Achievement Bowling Team for Fundraiser (POC: Lorie Bennett)

MCBONES Research Center Foundation, Coyote Canyon Mammoth Site
(POC: Lorie Bennett; on hold)

Pacific Northwest Regional Observatory/CBC Planetarium (POCs Mary Binder, Larry Williams;
Mary and Larry will check on the status and provide an update at the next board meeting)

Lamb Weston – tour (POC Lorie; on hold)

Broetje Farms/Warehouse Tour (POC: Lorie Bennett; on hold)

The REACH Museum (*possible spring tour for the chapter; POC: Lorie Bennett*)

WSU Wine Science Center (*tour; possibly before or after the WSFC May convention; POC: Mary Binder*)

Registering voters (*Johanna suggestion; she'll work to get more details; may be an opportunity for visibility for the chapter/NARFE*)

OTHER IDEAS/SUGGESTIONS

New Tri-Cities area mental health program (POC: Pat Turner)

Drones – uses and challenges (POC: Larry Williams)

FUTURE BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, April 26, noon, Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 2:45 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary