

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 26, 2017

President Lorie Bennett called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Members present: Lorie; Mary Binder; Liz Bowers; Nancy Crosby; Bob Stewart; Pat Turner; Larry Williams. Absent: Johanna Caylor; Pam Griffin.

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

- Chapter officers will be elected at the November chapter meeting and installed at the December meeting. Lorie and Pat Turner have agreed to run again for their respective offices, president and 1st vice president; member John Cavanaugh has agreed to run for 2nd vice president and Liz Bowers for treasurer. Bob Stewart will remain as a director at large and Nancy Crosby said she would run for the other director at large position, if no one else stepped forward. A candidate or candidates are needed for secretary. The board discussed ensuring the actual secretarial duties are highlighted at the October chapter meeting and separated from the other duties incumbent Mary Binder is also doing, e.g., newsletter editor, legislative and public relations.
- Chapter bylaws revision – no progress, to date. Awaiting further federation guidance. [Note: From previous board meeting, Liz and Mary will be working on the revision over the next few months, pending changes to the federation's bylaws.]
- The board discussed having the advantages/disadvantages of having chapter meeting programs before the meeting. Based on member feedback at the September meeting, there was support for having the programs first. The board decision was to give presenters the option of going first, and also ensuring there is clarity on whether or not they want lunch. Programs are targeted to last about 30 minutes as are the chapter meetings. This topic will be an agenda item for the October chapter meeting.
- NARFE Federal Benefits Institute and Legislative Department webinars, 2 p.m., ET:
 - October 26, FEHBP & Medicare – What's Best for You
 - November 30, Health Plans: Discover Your **BEST** Option
- Emailing members reminders about attending meetings – Lorie said she'd provide information to Nancy tonight regarding what the chapter will be doing.
- Hospitality: Lorie, Pat and Nancy met with Kyle Thornhill, the new Red Lion chef, and Felicia Hubbard, the catering manager, to discuss the chapter's 2018 contract and menu. Proposed lunch cost is \$18 with dessert and \$17 without dessert. It has been 2-3 years since we've had a price increase; dessert has been provided gratis; and, both labor and food costs have increased. To note, without lunch, it would cost the chapter \$350 to rent the room plus an additional \$100 for set up; therefore, it is more cost effective to have a meal. The team shared with Kyle and Felicia the members preferred menu choices based on the 2017 menu. Kyle discussed limiting/rotating menu options to help keep costs down, e.g., rotating the menu on a 6-month basis. We will have a finalized menu for 2018 so it can be posted on the chapter website and included in chapter newsletters. Also, Felicia and Kyle can be available to meet and talk with members at the October chapter meeting.
- Service Office:
 - Nancy said she received a call from a GSA rep asking if we still wanted the space. She said yes.
 - The veterans office next to the Service Office has been vacated but we don't know if it has been relocated to another office in the Federal Building.
 - Nancy will check on the status of getting an extra key for the Service Office.

1st Vice President: *Pat Turner.* Pat is working on the volunteer staffing schedule for the coat check at the November 11, Tri-Cities Wine Festival. She said she would need 4 chairs and wants to ensure there are enough coat racks. Mary Binder said she would convey the information to the wine festival point of contact. The board also discussed having directional signage so guests will know where to check coats. For NARFE recognition, Mary said she would include information in the festival program and ask the MC to recognize the chapter.

2nd Vice President/Webmaster: *Larry Williams.* No report.

Director at Large: *Liz Bowers* – no report.

Director at Large: *Bob Stewart* – no report.

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

- November/December chapter newsletter articles are due by Friday, October 6.
- No board member attended the annual Tri-Cities Senior picnic but the feedback was that it was very nice.
- 2018 Outreach Action Plan – due to WSFC by December 1. To note, for WSFC budgeting, it should be approved prior to December 1.
- Table-Top Displays – no update.
- Board meeting “to-do” recap email – no update.
- Sunshine: no report.
- Next board meeting – (tentative) Thursday, October 26, 12:30 p.m., Tri-City Country Club.

Treasurer: *Nancy Crosby.*

- Nancy reported there was about \$10,000 in the treasury. She recently paid the \$185 for the annual Visit Tri-Cities membership dues.
- 2018 budget – input is due to Nancy by October 15. She’ll prepare the 2018 budget and present it to members at the November chapter meeting for approval.

WSFC: *Nancy Crosby; Mary Binder; Lorie Bennett.*

- WSFC President (*Nancy*)
 - For the fall health fairs, Nancy said the healthcare providers have requested NARFE points of contact call ahead to coordinate being at a health fair vs. just showing up. Also, a reminder – they are there primarily to provide NARFE information and answer questions. There have been instances at health fairs of aggressive recruiting.
 - Two federation chapters are targeting closing with possible to additional chapters – 2 on the western side of the state; 2 on the eastern side.
 - October 24, La Quinta Hotel, Tacoma – the next scheduled federation board meeting.
 - May 15-16, Mirabeau Park Hotel, Spokane Valley – the WSFC 2018 WSFC convention/conference. Costs are still being finalized.
 - 2019 Region IX Training Conference, Three Rivers Convention Center – Nancy said she wants to ensure rooms get blocked at the Marriott Spring Hills Suite vs. losing that option as happened this year; however, at this point it is hard to even know if there will still be a federation.
- District V VP (*Mary Binder*) – All 3 district chapters (Tri-Cities, Walla Walla and Yakima) have resumed their meeting schedule.
- Alzheimer’s Chairman (*Lorie Bennett*) – Lorie said it was “quiet” over the summer for donations.

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer’s Chairman: *Bill Darke/Larry Williams.*

- Larry said he received \$25 at the September chapter meeting, including \$9 from the 50/50 drawing and donated to the Alzheimer’s Research Fund.
- As of January 2018, HAPO will be converting our chapter’s account to a “commercial account,” which will involve paying banks fees. The board discussed options; Larry will explore a possible bank change and also, not having a separate bank account for Alzheimer’s.

NARFE-PAC: *Bob Stewart.* Bob said he collected \$21 at the September meeting. Also, it is not too soon to be thinking about the 2018 elections.

Legislative: *Mary Binder.* No report.

Membership: *Johanna Caylor.* (Note: Johanna was out of town but sent an update via email for the meeting.)

- FEHBP healthcare providers will be in the Tri-Cities October 10-11.
 - Johanna is working on getting the needed supplies and preparing packets.
 - Sig/Johanna will cover the Federal Bldg. and 2 Stevens Center locations; Lorie volunteered to cover TSA; Nancy volunteered to cover Social Security. Johanna will take information to other agencies.
- Johanna mailed postcards to dropped members/those with second notices before she left town. She wrote that she’ll mail additional cards after she returns October 1 and has the next M-112 report.
- Johanna also reported that she sent a letter to Jackie Bryant at NARFE R&R with 13 names (12 CFEs and 1 from the Senior Life Show). She confirmed via a phone call with Jackie that she’d accept Johanna’s letter format and that Johanna would keep the M2s for her records.

Caller Coordinator: *Pam Griffin.* No report.

PROGRAMS – Upcoming

- 10/04/17 Annual NARFE-focused Program – website review; publications review, etc.** (confirmed; POC: Nancy Crosby/board members. The board discussed covering topics such as the NARFE webinars, the F-100, access to the OPM website, what is available on the NARFE website, etc.)
- 11/01/17 Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund – members bring items for the auction** (confirmed; remind members to bring items, cash/checkbook; POC: Larry Williams)
- 12/06/17** Liz Bowers offered to work on finding a holiday program.
- 01/03/18**
- 02/07/18**
- 03/07/18 Bill Kitchen, director, Tri-Cities Food Bank – presentation** (confirmed; POC: Pat Turner)
- 04/04/18 Terry/Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers – annual update on world of antiques** (tentative; members bring antiques for appraising; POC: Mary Binder)
- 05/02/18**
- 06/06/18**
- 09/05/18**
- 10/03/18 Annual NARFE-focused Program – website review; publications review, etc.** (confirmed; POC: board members; need to discuss who will be doing what, equipment needed, etc.)
- 11/07/18 Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund – members bring items for the auction** (confirmed; remind members to bring items, cash/checkbook; POC: Larry Williams)
- 12/05/18 Holiday Program**

PROGRAMS – January chapter meeting brainstorming results (Mary)

- 1st PNNL and Projects – update** (last presentation, January 2013; contact Pam Larsen; POC: Mary)
- 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, WSFC 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**

PROGRAMS – Future Ideas (New; brought forward)

- Estate planning, wills, powers of attorney – time for another presentation?** (POC: Liz Bowers)
- 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)
- Vista Field – reuse plans** (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)
- Local Micro Brews** (Liz Bowers suggestion)
- 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; Larry pursuing for a possible May program)

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 – 2017 schedule has been published

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; possibly before or after the WSFC May convention; 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 – Based on input from some chapter members after Brad Peck's May presentation, Larry suggested a tour of the Moore Mansion with a chapter donation to the mansion's restoration fund. Mary said she'd contact Brad to see if this would be possible.

Adjourn: 2:28 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder

Secretary