

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2020

Zoom Protocol: Host VP Nancy Crosby. Nancy reminded members to silence phones and other potential noise distractors.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: President Pat Turner called the virtual meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

President: Pat Turner

- Pat reminded members that the primary focus for this abbreviated board meeting was to evaluate using Zoom for the September chapter meeting, and then look ahead to whether it should be used for the October, November and December chapter meetings:
 - September 2, virtual chapter meeting – Nancy provided the following summary:
 - All board members attended the meeting except Lorie Bennett, immediate past chapter president.
 - Sixteen members replied that they'd attend but only 7 did. Nancy contacted the 7 after the meeting for feedback. All comments from them were favorable. Two of the attendees did not have cameras and could not respond but could hear everything. Three read about the virtual meeting in the chapter newsletter; 4 got the information from the callers or acquaintances.
 - Pat stated that she thought the meeting went well and that Davin Diaz's [Arts Centers Task Force] presentation was "awesome." Larry commented that he was glad Davin knew Zoom and could take control as host for his presentation, and that we need this for future Zoom presentations. Nancy said Mark Smith is comfortable doing a presentation via Zoom at the October meeting but wants to just talk vs. doing a presentation such as Davin's.
 - October 7, chapter meeting –
 - Based on the above feedback, Pat said we should proceed using Zoom for the October meeting, including having Mark Smith as the featured program.
 - The board discussed notifying members about the Zoom meeting. The callers could again make calls to local members but that would only reach those not on the Do Not Call List. Mary suggested Nancy use the list of members that would receive an electronic chapter newsletter to invite them to the meeting. Doing so could help reach more members, both local and out of the area/state. Nancy said she could do that.
 - November 11, chapter meeting –
 - Larry said that now that he knows the meeting will be virtual, he will contact Erica Grissmerson, the area Walk to End Alzheimer's manager, about doing a virtual presentation as November is NARFE Alzheimer's month. He'll let the board know via email if Erica can provide a presentation.
 - The board discussed encouraging members to continue to donate to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. Mary said she'd include this in the November/December chapter newsletter. After discussion on how best for members to submit donations, the decision was to recommend members send their checks – made out to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund – to Lorie Bennett as the Washington State Federation Alzheimer's Chairman. Mary said this information, including Lorie's address, will be in the newsletter.

- Johanna said she has been researching how other federation chapters handle recognizing their distinguished members. For example, some do nothing. Pat replied that she wanted to ensure our chapter members were taken care of and saw no need to poll other chapters as we have a process in place and it worked.
- Johanna again reported that she drove 155.3 miles to deliver distinguished member material to 35 local members during the most recent recognition initiative. She said she is confused as to the amount for mileage reimbursement. The federal rate is 57.5/cents per mile, but the federation rate may be different. Pat told Johanna to use the 57.5/cents per mile rate and to submit the reimbursement request so as to “get this off the books.” Johanna replied, “Yes, ma’am.”
- FEHB Program Health Fairs:
 - Johanna said the draft schedule from July shows local health fairs on October 20 (Walla Walla) and October 21 (Stevens Center and the Federal Building). The board consensus was there would not be in-person fairs. Mary said the information she’s seen indicates most fairs would be virtual.
- Johanna said she’d sent an email to Sheri [Davies-Sipila, senior sales manager, BlueCross BlueShield Federal Employee Program]. Sheri is the scheduling point of contact. Johanna said she’s “not heard back from Sheri.” Pat said she would follow up with Sheri. She asked Johanna to send her Sheri’s email address. **[Note: Johanna received a reply from Sheri after the meeting, so Pat did not need to contact Sheri.]**
- Pat asked Faye if she had any “sunshine” updates. Faye said she received a call from Suzanne Clark thanking Faye for the card she sent. She told Faye she is recovering.

Open Discussion Items:

- Johanna said she went to the Service Office last Friday. She showed her ID but that there were no additional restrictions getting into the Federal Building. She said she went there looking for old copies of the NARFE national bylaws as she was looking for “Honorary Member” and “Distinguished Member” historical information, e.g., when the change was made and the criteria for the categories. She said she found the information she needed. She also said she got rid of outdated NARFE material so the cabinet looks “pretty bare.”
- Mary said she’d received Congressman Dan Newhouse’s latest update (sent to constituents who have signed up to receive his newsletters). It is titled “Central Washington Wildfire Resource Kit” and has a number of links to good resources, including a link to a “Fire Evacuation Check List” that has many good suggestions.
- Next chapter board meeting: Monday, October 19, 1 p.m. It will be a Zoom virtual meeting.

2020 PROJECTED MEETING PROGRAMS

- 10/07/20 C. Mark Smith presentation from his book, *Something Extraordinary*** (Confirmed; Nancy contacted Mark regarding a Zoom presentation. He will do this but wants to just talk vs. trying to do a PowerPoint or other type of visual presentation. POC: Nancy Crosby)
- 11/04/20 Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund – members bring items for the auction, cash/checkbook** (Cancelled as the chapter will not have an in-person meeting. Larry will contact Erica Grissmerson, Walk to End Alzheimer’s area manager, about doing a virtual presentation. POC: Larry Williams)
- 12/02/20 Jeff Peterson and his mellow trumpet return for another chapter holiday music program** (Confirmed, but Liz will contact Jeff regarding a virtual performance. POC: Liz Bowers)

Adjourned: 2:03 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary