

**NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (ZOOM)**  
**September 30, 2024 1:30 PM**

President Nancy Crosby called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. Attendees were reminded to silence electronics devices followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members/Chapter heads in attendance were Mary Binder, Elizabeth Bowers, Nancy Crosby, Johanna Caylor, Larry Williams, and Debbie Carlson

**Officer and Committee Reports. President Nancy**

Nancy reported the September 7 Dust Devils game went fine. She noted she would like someone else to coordinate future games.

There will be a change in speakers for the October 2 meeting. The original speaker, from SHIBA insurance, could only do a presentation if it was done via ZOOM. Because of unknowns, specifically, if CG Public House (and Chapter) equipment could handle a ZOOM call. Nancy made the decision to cancel the SHIBA representative at this time and decided for a different presenter (see below). Mary will contact the presenter. Since that change was made, it was discovered the SHIBA rep would set up the ZOOM call and there would be no equipment issues from CG or the Chapter. The SHIBA speaker will be rescheduled.

**Vice President: Mary Binder**

Mary reported the rewrite of Chapter bylaws are on hold until Chapter activity settles, and she and Nancy can devote more time to getting this task accomplished.

**Hospitality Coordinator: Nancy** reported there is an issue with the January Chapter meeting. The first Wednesday of January falls on January 1, a day normally filled with festivities of a new year; therefore, January's Chapter meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. **(Note: Confirmed with CG Catering that our meeting will be held on January 8)**

Nancy also reported she will be meeting with CG to discuss 2025 menus (big part of this is keeping lunch costs down to \$22.50).

Nancy reported there will be two guest speakers and probably 24 people at the October Chapter lunch. As stated above, Nancy sought out a replacement speaker and asked Brett Spooner, owner of Gravis Law, who will present on concerns about legal ramifications for seniors, specifically focusing on legal items "we" can do to protect our assets particularly should "we" need to go into long-term care.

**Service Officer (Acting) Nancy :** Nancy reported new insurance rates are available on OPM's webpage for the FEHB and new PSHB programs. She said that she and Ellen (who was unable to attend today's meeting) were coordinating efforts in putting together a health fair. The event will be held on Tuesday, October 22 at the Richland Public Library from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. It is hoped at least three presenters will be available to answer questions. Invitation letter and the flyer will be mailed to all the local Federal Agencies. Invitation letter, flyer and Fact sheet will be mailed to all the local Postmasters. Ellen will be visiting potential customers and giving out flyers to post for their employees as well as visiting the care facilities. **Nancy said she would be emailing Chapter members about the health fair.** As an aside, vendors will be at DOE's Steven's Center from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. that same day.

**Secretary: Debbie Carlson:** The next board meeting will be held on Monday, December 9, via ZOOM, and will start at 1:30 p.m. Topics for discussion include the hospitality contract and the upcoming budget.

**Treasurer: Liz Bowers:** Liz reported, there was “basically nothing to report”. She continues to enjoy life at the cabin and will return to the Tri-Cities on Tuesday, October 1.

- It was noted there may be additional payments made to Mary and Janice for their travels to Fedcon24. Mary did note her expenses were all paid by the Federation and Janice had sent her reimbursement paperwork to the Federation. The Federation may not pay for all her expenses so she may have to submit some paperwork to Liz for additional reimbursement.
- Johanna mentioned she had a check from Bob Larson for Chapter dues and will give this to Liz at the Chapter meeting.
- Reimbursement for the Chapter’s expenses for the Community Senior Picnic has yet to be received for this community outreach event.
- Nancy will be submitting an expense sheet for the newsletter, flyer and the Chapter’s birthday cake. Some of Nancy’s expenses could be paid for by the Federation as a part of the Chapter’s outreach program.
- Liz requested any additions/deletions to the current budget for 2025 and to send the anticipated cost to Liz. There was discussion on the newsletter, specifically has, or will, the number of mailings increase due to the absorption of closed chapters in the area.

**WSF: DVP Mary:** Mary reported on:

- Region IX Symposium
  - Attendees were updated on Symposium activities and Mary responded to questions on the proposed “memorial service,” whether there would be gift baskets, fundraising, etc.
  - Thus far about 45 people have signed up to attend the event. Registration is on the Federation website; however, Mary has hard copies and will bring registration and reimbursement forms to the Chapter’s monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 2. A Symposium’s Chapter work group will be at Mary’s house Thursday afternoon, October 3 to help assemble a couple of things for the Symposium. The next Symposium Committee meeting will be via Zoom Friday, October 4.
  - Nancy offered additional help if Mary needs it.
- Federation-level elections
  - Board updated on candidates for elected offices – one for each elected position except treasurer; no volunteers so Arlene Patton will continue until a replacement is found/appointed.
  - Explained “election by acclamation” process and issues, e.g., it can be used unless a ballot is required by the bylaws, which is a WSF bylaws requirement; board is opting to still use the process as it will not make a difference in the outcome – lesson learned for updating Chapter 1192 bylaws.
- NARFE National election.
  - September 30 is the last day for voting and as such can now only be done electronically.
  - It was noted that two years ago just 7% of members voted; however, 12% of Chapter members voted.

**Newsletter /Public Relations/Outreach: Mary**

- Articles/input deadline for the November/December Chapter newsletter, is Monday, October 14 (and to the printer by Wednesday, October 21. The tight time frame is due to the Region IX

Symposium). Mary is hoping to get pictures of recent community outreach events in the upcoming newsletter (e.g., IX Symposium; Alzheimer's Walk; Senior Times Expo; Community Senior Picnic).

- 2024 Outreach Action Plan for 50% Matching Funds:
  - More simplified process this year – each chapter has access to \$1,000 in matching funds for outreach; some chapters have not use much of their allocation.
  - An outreach plan is needed to have a general outline of the anticipated costs.
- Annual All Community Senior Picnic was held on September 12 at the HAPO Center in Pasco:
  - Set up for about 800, good attendance.
  - Location for Chapter table was not ideal but still worth attending; saw many familiar vendors and some new ones.
  - Recommend trying this event again – good contacts, some member possibilities.
- CNS Cares presentation, Thursday, September 19:
  - Confusion on day/date – communication was for September 18 but that was wrong; lesson learned – use day and date in scheduling.
  - About 45 attendees – no feds/retired feds; all contract employees/retirees who worked on the Hanford Site.
  - Good outreach effort – more visibility in the community.
- Senior Times Expo, Tuesday, October 15:
  - The Chapter will have a have a NARFE table – please contact Mary if you can volunteer
  - Nancy volunteered to do the set up; Mary said she has this covered
  - Will submit matching funds reimbursement request after the event
- Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce October lunch/program will be held on Wednesday, October 23, Red Lion Hotel & Conference Center in Pasco. The meeting is from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. and will feature a panel discussion on, “Will We Have Enough Power for the Future of the Tri-Cities”. Mary has registered for the event. Anyone who wishes to attend should contact her or Nancy.
- FEEA/NARFE Scholarships
  - Mary has the list of the recently announced winners
  - A member at the September meeting asked about the results but Mary does not remember who that was, and no board member knew either; Mary will ask at the October meeting

### **Legislative: Mary**

- National legislation – primary focus has been repealing GPO/WEP
  - Discharge petition reached needed 218 signatures, but earliest floor vote is now projected to be in November when Congress is back in session after the November 5 national elections
  - Emphasis is now on the Senate and trying to move the companion bill forward
- State legislation – Mary is registered to attend the annual Chamber of Commerce-sponsored “Elected Leaders Reception,” on Thursday, October 3, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Reach Museum (yet another good outreach opportunity)
- NARFE-PAC
  - Quarter ended on September 30 and quarterly results are anticipated to be released by mid-October.
  - Region IX’s federations have been strong PAC supporters for many years; Mary discussed this with John Hatton, NARFE Senior VP, Policies & Programs, at FEDcon24 and hopes John addresses this during his presentation at the Region IX Symposium.

**Alzheimer's Coordinator: Larry**

Reminded folks of the Walk to End Alzheimer's coming up on Saturday, October 19. There has not been a lot of folks signing up for this event. The Chapter will have a table and Chapter members have volunteered to man it.

**Webmaster: Larry**

Larry will continue as webmaster until the new MicroSite system is installed. Nancy is taking the training; however, the system is not ready to set up. The system will cost the Chapter an estimated \$60.00/year to use.

- Nancy said she was not impressed by the new system, specifically mentioning the different web pages which creates a lot of work. Another item is the fact the new system will only archive material for a two-year period.
- Larry mentioned he recently purchased (\$11.00 – a donation to the Chapter) a device off Amazon which will allow a presenter to move slides forward as they speak and thus eliminating the need to have this done by a Chapter member.

**Membership Coordinator: Johanna**

Noted the distinguished members list is up to date through November. There is one member to be added in December. All recently joined Chapter members have been included in an update; however, since the system is not fully operating now this list is not up to date. (may be available October 9).

**Sunshine Coordinator: Faye**

Unable to be at the meeting (out cruising). Johanna has volunteered to send out any cards to Chapter members that may need them.

**Caller Coordinator: Darleen**

Unable to attend today's meeting. Speaking for her, Nancy mentioned Alicia Mercado and Verneice Skinner have been added to the list of callers.

**Programs (2024/25):**

- TBD SHIBA insurance
- 11/06/24 Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund – members bring items for the auction
- 12/04/24 Holiday Music (Nancy said she will see if Mary Lynn Schmid from BC/BS could again attend to provide a 2025 health benefits update).

**Open Discussion:** it was suggested the removal of the announcements for birthdays and anniversaries occurring during the month and be replaced with something like "Member Moments" whereby Chapter members can pass along any information they would wish to – e.g. birthday, anniversary, births, moves, adventures, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

## Suggestions for Programs and Social Events

Make a Wish

Requests for end of life for adults (nonprofit excellent presentation) -Layna Kinsman

Nutritionist

Meals on Wheels

Social Events

Gallery at the Park Allied Arts

Visit the TC Annual Quilt Show

Planetarium (CBC)

Bowling

Book Club just for members

hockey games

River Cruise Lunch or Dinner

Ice Harbor Dam Tour

Wine tasting -local or Walla Walla

Field trips to special places, i.e., gardens, museums, etc.

Horse Ranch on Red Mountain – covered wagon holds 10 people- goes through vineyards

Meet at a winery!

Picnic in the Park

Someone who can speak to Legislative issues

Graces' Kitchen