

NARFE Chapter 1192

February 3, 2010 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Nancy Crosby called the Chapter's regular monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. She introduced the head table, led the Pledge of Allegiance, called for a moment of silence to reflect on the devastation in Haiti. She welcomed members, and gave a special welcome to Marji Parker, who had not been able to attend a meeting for awhile. When the guest speaker, Brandon Homer, arrived, 2nd Vice President Carl Gallion introduced him.

MEETING MINUTES Secretary Mary Binder highlighted the January Chapter meeting minutes. There were no comments or corrections. The minutes were approved. (Note: Minutes are posted on the Chapter's Web site, and copies are available at Chapter meetings.)

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Treasurer Bob Stewart provided the report, which was prepared by President Nancy as Bob had been out of town. Balance on hand as of December 31, \$7,797.09. January receipts were \$705.64 and disbursements, \$524.82, leaving a balance of \$7,977.91. Projected dedicated funds are \$4,466.00 leaving an undedicated funds balance of \$3,511.91. Nancy and Bob were scheduled to meet after the meeting to transfer treasurer books and complete required bank paperwork for Bob as the new treasurer.
- President Nancy reported that Joanne Shadel completed the audit of the Chapter's treasurer books. (Note: Audit completed January 22; it covers the period July 2008 – December 2009.)

Bob also said he has big shoes to fill as President Nancy, as acting treasurer, provided detailed reports.

Monies collected at the January meeting Luncheon, \$183; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$14.50; NARFE-PAC, \$0; Newsletter Fund, \$64 (including \$50 donation from member Ray White, which the Board voted to use for the newsletter); and 50/50 Raffle, \$17 collected/\$8.50 awarded, and donated to Alzheimer's Research.

DISTRICT/OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President No report.

District VP Carl Gallion reported:

- He was not able to attend the January WSFC meeting.
- The 2010 District workshop is scheduled for April 23, Red Lion Hotel, Yakima. Yakima NARFE chapter president, Vic Rohret, will be helping him. Guests will include WSFC President Sandy Cagle and Region IX Vice President Lanny Ross. Format will be much the same as last year's workshop. More information will be available at the Chapter's March meeting. Traditionally, the Chapter has covered the registration cost for Chapter members attending.

1st Vice President Gary Hagedorn reminded members:

- The *NARFE* magazine is a good source for discounts/discount coupons. He said he is using these monthly.
- To complete the Schedule M tax form if they are CSRS annuitants eligible for the one-time \$250 rebate that many Social Security recipients received last year. Gary said the form was easy to complete. Information, instructions and the link to the form are on the Chapter's Web site.

2nd Vice President No report.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke reported:

- There was \$244.43 in the Chapter's Alzheimer's account; he has lapel pins for contributions of \$20 and more.
- He contacted the Federation point of contact regarding the November donation checks that still have not cleared members' checkbooks. A member asked if the donation could still be a 2009 tax deduction even though it had not been deposited. Answer was, yes.

Hospitality No report.

Legislative For Don Binder, co-legislative chair, Mary Binder reported:

- NARFE issued a press release February 2 saying NARFE President Margaret Baptiste said "she was pleased that President Obama's budget for FY 2011 does not recommend any reductions in the earned retirement and health security of federal annuitants and workers." NARFE was also pleased that there was support for pay parity between federal civilian employees and military personnel.
- There is still no word on passage of a bill to change Medicare Part B payment for those NOT eligible for Social Security payments. CSRS members who have Medicare Part B should have seen an increase in their premium as Congress did not pass the needed legislation for CSRS employees to not be impacted by a legislative oversight impacting CSRS retirees with Medicare Part B.

Membership For Chairman Johanna Caylor, President Nancy reported:

- The Chapter had 2 reinstatements; she reminded members about renewing their membership when notices are received.
- Johanna forwarded to President Nancy a letter and \$50 check from long-time Chapter member, Ray White. He shared that he'd been a NARFE member since 1945, contributed annually to NARFE-PAC, explained why he could not attend meetings, and sent a \$50 check for the Chapter to use (Note: The Executive Board voted to use this to help offset newsletter costs.).

NARFE-PAC For Chairman Don Binder, Mary Binder asked for PAC contributions as elections are heating up. We'll be voting for U.S. House of Representatives, and Senator Patty Murray's seat is up for re-election.

Newsletter No report.

Public Relations Chairman Gary Hagedorn said the Chapter's monthly meeting announcement was in the Sunday, January 31, *Tri-City Herald*.

Service Officers Service Officer Mary Goldie reported that Nancy Schreckhise, the Chapter's other Service Officer, was scheduled to be home again Thursday, February 4. Mary had copies of the government booklet, *Who Cares: Source of Information About Health Care Products and Services*, for members. Don Binder ordered this free publication for Chapter members and the Service Office. It is an excellent resource for information.

Sunshine For Chairman Carolyn Reeploeg, President Nancy reported cards were sent to Julie Goeckner, whose mother-in-law passed away, and to the family of member V. Dean Davis, who also passed away.

Website No report.

NEW BUSINESS

WSFC 2010 Convention The WSFC annual convention is scheduled for May 17-19, Holiday Inn, Everett. President Nancy said there would be more information provided at the Chapter's March meeting. There are several deadlines in March pertaining to the Convention. President Nancy, Secretary Mary, and VP Carl have forms. President Nancy asked members to let her know if they want to serve on a Convention committee. The Chapter does provide partial reimbursement to members for costs incurred.

NARFE 2010 National Convention To date, Chapter members Johanna Caylor and Sig Preston have applied for convention committees; Chapter President Nancy has approved their forms and forwarded them to the WSFC president. Anyone wanting to serve on a convention committee needs to contact President Nancy. Applications to serve on committees must be routed through chapter presidents, to federation presidents and regional vice presidents, and then to NARFE headquarters.

OLD BUSINESS No old business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EEOICP President Nancy said Gail Splett, DOE Hanford program manager, Energy Employees Occupational Illness Program, is looking for old phone books, Hanford distribution lists, etc., to help in contacting former employees. Her contact number is: 376-8274.

Drawings Mary Binder, \$8.50, 50/50 raffle (donated to Alzheimer's Research; Marji Parker, free lunch (Bob Stewart won the first drawing and opted to donate his free lunch to another draw).

Executive Board Meeting Scheduled for after the Chapter meeting, same room.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, March 3, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick.

March Meeting Program (Tentative) Recycling Programs – what can/cannot be recycled.

PROGRAM

Brandon Homer, Sunset Memorial Gardens Guest speaker, Brandon Homer, provided members pertinent and thought-provoking information about the importance of planning for one's death. Brandon shared that in his experience in working with families, there is a "night and day [difference] if decisions have been made ahead. He also shared that while 95% of people know the importance of planning and making life-ending decisions, most respond "later" when asked about doing it. President Nancy thanked Brandon, and also reminded members about NARFE's 100-F, *Be Prepared for Life's Events*, a good planning resource guide.

ADJOURNMENT

Deacon Al Rizzo No closing as Deacon Rizzo could not attend the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 1:11 p.m.

Mary Alice Binder,
Secretary