

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2016

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

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

- 34th NARFE National Convention, August 28 to September 1 – Lorie said she would keep emphasizing the convention at chapter meetings.
 - Committee assignment forms are due by March 4. Both Johanna Caylor and Sig Preston have applied for committees.
 - Registration opens 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.
- Meeting email blasts to members – scheduled to start for the March meeting.
- Annual chapter food drive – at the March meeting. Donations will go to the Tri-Cities Food Bank. Mary will include a reminder in the March/April chapter newsletter about the drive and to bring nonperishable items. Callers will also remind members when making their calls for the March meeting.
- Hospitality – no updates; everything is OK.
- Service Office:
 - Lorie reported that Johanna is still trying to resolve the issue of the missing renewal check that was supposedly slid under the Service Office door. She has made repeated attempts to contact the individual who wrote the check.
 - Lorie said that as of today, the NARFE website has been updated to reflect the correct times for when our Service Office is open.
 - Mary provided an update on the NARFE Service Officer Award program. Board discussion followed, including discussing recognitions at the May WSFC convention.

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

2nd Vice President/Webmaster: *Larry Williams.* Larry reported that there will be a page on the chapter's website for the 2016 WSFC Convention with links to convention forms on the WSFC website.

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

- March/April newsletter articles were due February 5. Nancy expressed concern that with the convention it was important to get the newsletter out to members as soon as possible. Mary said the convention will again be highlighted in the newsletter.
- March 3, 1971 – the first Chapter 1192 meeting 45 years ago. Pat Turner said she thought she was at that meeting. The board discussed having a cake at the March meeting to celebrate. Lorie will check with the Red Lion catering manager to ensure that would be OK. Mary will give Lorie the name of the bakery in Richland where she and Don got the cake for the chapter's 40th anniversary.
- 2016 Outreach Action Plan – WSFC PR Chairman Sam Cagle approved the plan. Mary said she will revisit the format for next year to hopefully simplify to approval process for Sam.
- NARFE F-7 – Mary said she has updated this report to reflect current officers and chairmen.
- 2016 NARFE Photo Contest – entry deadline is March 15. The theme is: Made in America.
- 2016 NARFE Scholarship Program – applications are due by April 29.
- 2016 Public Service Recognition Week, May 1-7 – Mary said she will be doing a commentary for the *Tri-Cities Area Journal of Business*.
- June 9 – the annual Senior Life Show at the Three Rivers Convention Center. Mary said she'd check with the convention center point of contact regarding the application form.
- Sunshine – Lorie reported that Sig Preston's significant other, John, passed away earlier today.
- Next board meeting – Wednesday, March 23, noon, Tri-City Country Club.

Treasurer: *Nancy Crosby.*

- Nancy reported that she needs to amend the January treasurer's report as she omitted the budgeted amount for the newsletters in the obligated funds.
- Mary asked Nancy for a copy of the 2015 audit for secretarial records.
- Nancy received \$92.50 in 50-percent matching funds for the chapter's annual Visit Tri-Cities dues; and, \$142.50 for the chapter's annual *Senior Pages* advertising. Both items were identified in the chapter's 2015 outreach action plan and approved by WSFC Public Relations Chairman Sam Cagle.

District V Vice President: *Nancy Crosby.*

- 2016 WSFC Convention
 - Forms – Mary and Nancy have been updating the convention forms. Only 2 remaining to update.
 - Federation committees – applications have been at the January and February chapter meetings. Nancy said she would ask WSFC President Rich Wilson to send another email with the form requesting members consider applying to serve on a convention committee or as a WSFC committee chairman.
 - Speakers – NARFE Legislative Director Jessica Klement is confirmed as the keynote speaker. She'll provide legislative and other updates from NARFE. Region IX VP Lanny Ross is also confirmed and will provide an update on the NARFE *Strategic Plan*. Jason Mercier, government reform director, Washington Policy Center, will provide a state legislative update at Tuesday's luncheon. Nancy is working with Colleen French to have a speaker from the National Park Service for the Monday luncheon.
 - Agenda – Nancy provided the board copies of the draft agenda.
 - Several chapter members volunteered at the February chapter meeting to serve on committees. Nancy has the names.
 - President's Breakfast – Lorie volunteered to work on an agenda.
 - Nancy and Larry will meet to go over AV needs and what is available at the Three Rivers Convention Center. Chapter members John Cavanaugh and Faye Vlieger volunteered to assist Larry.
 - OPM – Mary said she would try to locate the contact Don had from the Everett convention and pursue having someone from OPM at the convention. The board discussed that having a representative at past conventions has been well received.
 - Liz reported that she is developing forms, in Excel, to track everything from registrations to ad requests.
 - Mary reported that Dominique Vetrano will help with the design and layout of the convention program. Mary will also ask her about designing name tags and meal tickets. (Note: Dominique is a nonmember volunteer who assists Mary with the *WSFC Federation Reporter*.)
 - The board discussed contacting several local businesses regarding having representation at the convention with a table and/or advertising and/or promotional items. Board members volunteered to contact specific businesses. Nancy reported that GEHA has committed to a \$100 ad in the program book; \$200 for a table; and, another \$500 for an opportunity to speak for 3-5 minutes at the convention.
 - Confluence – Mary reported that after the February chapter meeting, she spoke with Colin Fogarty and Chuck Eaton from Confluence. They expressed interest in having a table/representation at the convention. Nancy said that would be OK but even as a nonprofit, they would have to pay the \$200 fee. Pat Turner will pursue with contacts she has at the Confluence's Sacajawea State Park project.
 - The board had several convention-related questions, e.g., how delegates are determined; who prepares the ballots. Nancy will pursue getting answers.
 - Nancy and Mary are scheduled to attend the February 11, WSFC Executive Board meeting in Tacoma.
- Directors at Large:** *Liz Bowers; Steve Howes.* Steve reported that 13 members signed up at the chapter meeting for the McNary Wildlife Refuge tour, February 24. He will call and/or email them with a reminder.

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer's Chairman: *Bill Darke.*

- Bill reported that \$52 was donated at the February chapter meeting. Currently, the chapter's Alzheimer's account has \$84.
- Mary and Bill updated the board on the issue of receiving donation acknowledgements/thank yous from the Washington State Alzheimer's Chapter vs. the national Alzheimer's Association in Chicago. Region IX Alzheimer's Chairman Gen Boguslawski is still working the issue.

NARFE-PAC: *Steve Howes.*

- Steve reported that \$19 was contributed at the February chapter meeting, bringing to \$32 the total collected for calendar year 2016 at the chapter meetings.
- March is NARFE-PAC month. The board discussed offering a gift card for a restaurant of choice to those who become a PAC sustainer during March. Results could be announced at the April meeting. Nancy said there is money available in a non-dues line item to use for the cards.
- Nancy and Steve are sustainers but have never received the tote bags. Mary will check on this.
- Board members discussed having the "opt out" option for pins, tote bags, etc., for their contributions.

Legislative: *Mary Binder.* In the interest of time/other issues, Mary said she would forego a legislative report.

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

- Mary reported that she sent welcome letters to 18 prospects receiving a one-year complimentary NARFE/chapter membership. Johanna provided the names from the M-1 cards completed at last year's FEHBP health fairs.
- The 2015 NARFE recruiting incentive ended December 31. Johanna submitted 18 names to NARFE December 31 and previously reported that she was assured they would be counted for 2015. She will be working with her NARFE point of contact in this regard as the names had not yet been reflected in NARFE membership reports.
- WSFC 2015 recruiting incentive ended December 31. The chapter received \$120 for 6 new members (\$20/each new member). The WSFC board has approved the incentive for 2016. [Note: New member names Johanna submitted to NARFE December 31 will be reflected in 2016 for WSFC and paid in January 2017.

Caller Coordinator: *Pam Griffin.* Nancy reported that Pam recently updated the callers' lists. She'll be working with Pam on reformatting/modifying the caller forms as they have some outdated information.

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

03/02/16 Janelle Downs from the Columbia Basin Chapter, Washington Native Plant Society, will provide a presentation focusing on the society's mission, the importance of preserving native ecosystems, and using native plants in home landscaping

(confirmed; POC: Steve Howes)

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 Heidi Newsome, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will give a presentation on USFWS Management activities in the Hanford area. (tentative; POC: Steve Howes will pursue)

09/07/16

10/05/16

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

12/07/16 Holiday Program and Goodies

PROGRAMS – Future Ideas (New; brought forward)

Manhattan Project Historical Park (DOE/National Park Service; POC: Nancy Crosby)

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)

Local Distillers (Liz Bowers suggestion)

White Bluffs/Ringold – history and current status (Steve Howes 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)

Hanford Cleanup – presentation from Washington State Department of Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program (POC: Mary Binder; email to Don from Regina Lundgren with State DOE)

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

Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler, April 14-24, Tri-Cities (POC: Lorie Bennett)

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

Hanford Reach National Monument (POC: Steve Howes)

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 (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)

Other ideas/suggestions – none

FUTURE BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, March 23, noon, Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 2:25 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary