

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 27, 2014

President Don Binder called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Board members present: Lorie Bennett; Don and Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Bill Darke; Steve Howes; Pat Turner. Absent: Carl Gallion; Pam Griffin; Mable Rutt; Larry Williams.

The board reviewed and discussed upcoming chapter meeting programs, reviewed the program ideas/suggestions survey results from the March chapter meeting, and discussed other potential options for monthly meetings and group activities in 2014 and early 2015. The overall focus is to have interesting programs and activities that will increase attendance, participation and membership.

PROGRAMS – Upcoming

04/02/14 Guided Patient Services – Tiffany Cochrane, Kadlec Regional Medical Center

(confirmed; POC: Nancy Crosby)

05/07/14 Mid-Columbia Libraries – programs and services, Tom Moak, librarian and manager, Kennewick Branch (confirmed; POC: Pat Turner)

06/04/14 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Mid-Columbia region missions

(confirmed; POC: Steve Howes)

(Note: brief May WSFC convention summary besides a monthly program.)

09/03/14 Elder law attorney presentation (tentative; POC: Johanna will pursue)

(Note: brief August NARFE convention summary besides a monthly program.)

10/01/14 Emergency management representative (tentative; POC: Don will pursue)

11/05/14 White Elephant Auction Fundraiser for NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund

(confirmed; POC: Bill Darke)

12/03/14 Rolling Hills Chorus of Sweet Adelines International (Don will pursue w/Faye Vlieger)

(Note: holiday goodies besides a monthly program.)

01/07/15 Music therapy presentation (POC Mary will pursue)

02/04/15 Hanford Reach project update (POC Lorie will pursue)

PROGRAMS – Future Ideas (New; brought forward)

Umatilla Chemical Depot – closure update (POCs: Mary Binder/Debbie Lopez; final update in 2014, depending on closure activities and the schedule)

Blue Mountain Wildlife (POC: Steve Howes; *he'll explore for spring, 2015*)

Central Basin Audubon Society (POC: Steve Howes)

POPP (Pet Overpopulation Prevention) (POC: Mary Binder)

Service dogs – training and types of service (POC: Mary Binder)

Washington State Native Plant Society, Columbia Basin Chapter (POC: Steve Howes)

Carousel of Dreams – past, present, future (POC: Mary Binder)

Other ideas/suggestions?

CHAPTER GROUP ACTIVITIES – PLANNED AND FUTURE IDEAS

Spirit of Portland, Saturday, April 26, dinner cruise, 6:30-8:30 p.m. (POC Lorie will have sign-up sheet/information at April chapter meeting) [Note: Changed to exploring day options.]

Dust Devils baseball game, Saturday, June 21 (POC Lorie will have sign-up sheet/information at April chapter meeting)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – activities at Mid-Columbia Wildlife Refuge Complex; and/or Hanford Reach National Monument; and/or Arid Lands Ecology Reserve (Rattlesnake Mountain) (POC: Steve Howes; possible group activities or program ideas; possibility for a group picnic in July or August with a boxed lunch,, and maybe a way to recruit members at USFWS); per Steve, the POC is enthusiastic about the chapter visiting in the spring or fall)

MCBONES Research Center foundation, Coyote Canyon Mammoth Sire (Lorie exploring options for another trip to the site in 2014)

Maryhill Museum – bus trip/tour (Per Nancy, the Kennewick Senior Center is not planning a trip to the museum this spring/summer)

Pacific Northwest Regional Observatory (POC: Mary Binder)

Lamb Weston – tour (POC: Lorie)

Mariner Ball Game – May 25, Mariners vs. Houston Astros (POC: Nancy; \$89/bus and game tickets for Kennewick Senior Center members; dinner on own)

UW vs. WSU baseball game (Steve Howes suggestion)

Tour of Mid-Columbia Library (POCs: Mary Binder and Pat Turner)

St. John the Forerunner Greek Monastery, Goldendale – trip/tour, June 18, through Kennewick Senior Center, \$65, including lunch (POC: Nancy Crosby; save \$5 w/KSC membership)

Chihuly Glass Garden and Space Center – trip/tour with Kennewick Senior Center, June 28, \$103 (POC: Nancy Crosby)

Broetje Farms/Warehouse Tour (POC: Mary Binder/Lorie; new contact info received; Lorie will pursue)

NOTE: Changes and new items in red.

OFFICERS

President: Don Binder.

- Region IX VP Lanny Ross has announced he will not run for re-election at this year's NARFE National Convention, a change from his previous announcement.
- Future of NARFE (FON) report:
 - Don provided a general overview and the board had a preliminary discussion. He'll briefly mention this at the chapter meeting.
 - The NARFE Executive Board voted to reduce the number of regions from 10 to 5. Our region goes from 5 states to 9 plus Guam and the Republic of the Philippines. With concern for the size, the chapter board moved and approved Don exploring submitting a bylaws amendment resolution for the August National Convention that would reverse this decision at least for the next 2 years.
 - Delegates at the National Convention will be voting on aspects of the FON plan.
- 2014 WSFC Convention, May 13-15, Silverdale Beach Hotel, Silverdale, Washington.
 - Mary has submitted the list of delegate names. Some are still projected; Mary will amend, if needed. [Note: The chapter has 11 delegates and 2 at-large delegates.]
 - The board had no resolutions they want to submit.
 - Nancy reported there will be a caucus at the convention to elect DVPs. For District V, to date, she is the only candidate.
- **PROTECT America's Heartbeat** – Don updated the board on the M+R reports, which highlight contractor activities, initiatives, etc. Don said he would be discussing further with Lanny Ross the contractor's activities, especially in light of the FON report.
- Backups for positions; training for replacements – this remains an ongoing initiative. Pam is a backup for Bill; Don a backup for Steve. Don and Nancy will be meeting with Johanna after the meeting to discuss a membership committee and backup for her membership chairman position.

1st Vice President/Special Programs/Service Office: Lorie Bennett.

- Service Office is nice and tidy. Nancy said there are bags with outdated material for recycling.
- Johanna said she'd make more labels for the extra NARFE magazines used for recruiting.

2nd Vice President: Larry Williams. No report.

Secretary/Sunshine/Newsletter/Public Relations: Mary Binder

- May/June newsletter articles are due to Mary by Friday, April 4. Johanna asked if the names of the recently recognized chapter NARFE "distinguished" members could be listed. Mary suggested an option to listing the names – mentioning that those eligible were recently sent a letter from President Don with a NARFE certificate and pin, and anyone not receiving this who believes they meet the criteria should contact Johanna. The board concurred with this approach.
- NARFE 2014 Scholarship Program – applications must be postmarked by April 25. Details are in the *narfe* magazine.
- Senior Life Show – June 12, Three Rivers Convention Center. Mary said the booth space is reserved. Nancy and Lorie volunteered to coordinate staffing the booth. Sig has also volunteered to help, if needed.
- Senior Times Expo, April 22, Red Lion Hotel, Pasco – Mary reported that the booth fee is \$375; no break for non profits. She said she'd discuss that with the new event coordinators at the *Tri-Cities Area Journal of Business*. Nancy said she was planning to attend and will provide feedback on the event at the next board meeting. May be an option for a chapter booth in 2015.
- Sunshine – former member Edith Stoltz passed away recently. Without an address, Johanna recommended just listing her name in the next newsletter as there are members who knew her. Mary suggested that she could contact both the funeral home taking care of the burial arrangements and the nursing home where Edith had been asking if she could send a condolence card to the family in care of them and have them pass it to the family. Johanna also mentioned having chapter service office cards at local funeral homes; she said this is something the chapter used to do. Lorie said she'd follow up. [Note: subsequently, Johanna obtained a family member address; Mary sent a card.]

Next Board meetings:

- o May 7, immediately following the chapter meeting.
- o June 3, noon, Tri-City County Club

Treasurer: *Nancy Crosby*

- February report provided at March chapter meeting.
- 2013 chapter expenses now summarized/in spreadsheet for comparison with 2014.
- Sent board members an email from Antonia Vallario at NARFE explaining how members can opt out of receiving notecards and calendars. Nancy will highlight this at the chapter meeting; Mary will include the information in the next chapter newsletter.

Directors at Large: *Steve Howes, Pat Turner* No report. One item tabled until the next board meeting.

District V Vice President: *Nancy Crosby*

- Will be visiting the other district chapters in April.
- 2016 Convention – proposed contracts received from the Three Rivers Convention Center and Spring Hill Suites. Nancy, Mary, Don reviewing them.

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer's Chairman: *Bill Darke*. No report.

Caller Coordinator: *Pam Griffin*. No report.

Hospitality: *Carl Gallion*. No report.

Legislative: *Don Binder, Mary Binder*

- Encouraged members to continue sending letters to members of Congress via the templates on NARFE's web site. Non-NARFE members, e.g., spouses who are not members, friends, relatives, can also send letters using the templates. They just need to use their names.
- Will not invite any candidates for U.S. Rep. Doc Hasting's seat to speak at a chapter meeting until after the August primary. That will determine the 2 who will move on to the general election.

Membership: *Johanna Caylor* Back from snowbirding!

- Nancy reported she has been sending out membership renewal reminder postcards.
- Johanna reported she has been trying to reconcile NARFE membership information and has found many inconsistencies. She provided a spreadsheet she had developed. Discussion followed regarding using the new NARFE Online Activities Module (OAM) vs. the reports as the OAM is updated daily and has the most current information. The reports are always behind.
- Drawing for one-year free memberships – names from the M-2 cards received at the June 2013 Senior Life Show and the summer and fall health fairs, and who did not receive free 6-month memberships from NARFE, were entered into a drawing. Six names were drawn: Martin Smith; Vickie Spitz; Gloria Garcia; Patty Wehrle; Cindy Anderson; Debbie Carlson. Don will call the individuals to verify they are, in fact, interested in the membership and then will follow up with a letter. If all 6 accept, the applications will be completed and include recruiter numbers; Nancy will provide a check for NARFE for \$240 (6 x \$40 = \$240).

NARFE-PAC: *Steve Howes*

- \$150 contributed in March. Check sent to NARFE-PAC.
- Don received 5 Walla Walla chapter cookbooks from Anna Good. She said the chapter could sell them, \$10/each, and contribute the money to NARFE-PAC.

Parliamentarian: *Mable Rutt* No report.

FUTURE MEETINGS: Wednesday, May 7, after the chapter meeting; Tuesday, June 3, noon, Tri-City Country Club

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1:40 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary