1st Vice President Pat Turner called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m., at the Zintel Creek Golf Club, Kennewick, Washington.

Members present: Pat Turner; Mary Binder; Larry Williams Liz Bowers; Nancy Crosby; Bob Stewart; Pam Griffin; John Cavanaugh; & Faye Vlieger.

Absent: Johanna Caylor; Lorie Bennett.

**President:** *Lorie Bennett.*

* Chapter bylaws revision – The revisions to the bylaws that were discussed at the February Board meeting were reviewed in a working copy provided by Mary.
* Mary will finalize the few remaining changes and provide a copy of the revised bylaws to the Board for electronic approval.
* Copies will be available to members at the April Chapter meeting, and posted on the website.

NARFE Federal Benefits Institute webinars, 2 p.m., EDT:

March 22, Social Security and Feds: What You Need to Know

April 26, TSP: Maximizing You Retirement Savings

May 24, How Much Do YOU Need for a Secure Retirement?

June 21, Steps to a Speedy Federal Retirement

July 26, Survivor Benefits: Ensure Your Peace of Mind

January thru July 2018 webinar schedule – on NARFE website

* Hospitality: It has been confirmed that we can continue to meet at the Zintel Creek Golf Club restaurant for the foreseeable future.

**1st Vice President:** *Pat Turner –* Nothing to report.

**2nd Vice President/Service Officer:** *John Cavanaugh* –

* Received a call from Dale West on the Service Office voicemail requesting a retirement seminar. Mary returned his call but did not receive an answer. Dale West has still not returned any calls.

**Director at Large:** *Nancy Crosby* – Nothing to report.

**Director at Large:** *Bob Stewart –* Nothing to report.

**Secretary/Sunshine:** *Faye Vlieger* –

* Reminder to provide feedback on emails regarding agendas and minutes.
* Minutes will be recorded as bulleted statements, and not as a verbatim transcript.
* A Get Well card was sent to Sig Preston.

**Newsletter/Public Relations:** *Mary Binder* –

* Newsletter submissions for the May/June newsletter are due by April 6, 2018.
* The calendar photo contest entries are due by April 15th.
* 2018 NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Awards Program – applications are due by March 21st.
* We have decided to have a table at the Senior Life Show on Wednesday June 13, 2018. The non-profit rate is $100. Setup is from 7 – 9:30 am, and the event will the start at 10 am.
* We have volunteered to run the Wine Festival Coat Check on Saturday November 10, 2018 for NARFE donations.

**Treasurer:** *Liz Bowers* –

* The transition to the new treasurer is complete. The new bank account that was opened is still not receiving the direct deposit dues payments. The old bank account will be left open until it is confirmed that the direct deposit dues payments are depositing correctly.
* It was agreed that an agenda item will be added to the Chapter and Board meetings concerning the requirement that members who do not cancel a confirmed reservation for the Chapter meeting luncheon by 10 am on the Monday before the meeting will be charged for the cost of the meal.
* It was also agreed that Mary will put a standing notice in the Chapter newsletter regarding the same.

**WSF President:** *Nancy Crosby* –

Federation Bylaws –

* At NARFE headquarters for approval.

NARFE Communications Committee –

* Nancy received information that there may be a Communication Survey.

***WSF May 15 – 16 Conference/Convention at the Mirabeau Hotel in Spokane Valley, WA.***

* WSF is providing a $50 scholarship for any federation member Chapter member who attends the May 15 – 16 WSF Convention/Conference. Members need to make their reservations.
* The Chapter will provide a scholarship for Chapter members of $100 who attend the WSF May 2018 Conference/Convention.
* A 2016 – 2018 Deceased Member List is being compiled for the Convention/Conference program.
* Our Chapter ad for the program is being created by Mary, and a copy of the ad will be circulated the Board.
* Two gift baskets are being requested; one for Alzheimer’s and one for the Chapter. It was agreed that we will provide the two baskets not to exceed $25 each.
* Booster List Donations were started at the March Chapter meeting, and continue to be requested at the next two Chapter meetings, at $1 per person. We will need to request an extension to deadline for submitting the Booster money. Nancy said she will check on the website for the forms.

***NARFE FEDcon 2018 Conference is August 26 – 28 at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront, Jacksonville, FL.***

* Registration opened on February 1, 2018 and is ongoing. The registration information is on the website.
* NARFE WSF Board voted to provide a $500 scholarship for each elected Chapter officer who attends the National Conference, and a $250 scholarship for each Chapter member who attends the National Conference.
* The Chapter Board recommended a $500 stipend to each Chapter member who attends FEDcon18.

**WSF District V VP:** *Mary Binder* –

* Walla Walla Chapter: Mary is scheduled to meet on March 9th with the Chapter president to discuss closing the Chapter.
* Yakima Chapter: Mary will be working with this chapter on its bylaws.

**WSF Chairman Alzheimer’s:** *Lorie Bennett* – Absent.

* Lorie would like the Chapter to put together a team for the Walk to End Alzheimer’s on October 13, 2018.

**Committees**

**Alzheimer’s/ Webmaster:** *Larry Williams –*

* $21 was collected at the March 7, 2018 Chapter meeting.
* $10 was collected from the 50/50 drawing at the same meeting.
* The mailing address needs to be updated with the National Alzheimer’s office.
* Mary noted that there is an Alzheimer’s postage stamp.

**NARFE-PAC:** *Bob Stewart* –

* At the March 7th Chapter meeting, a total of $65 was collected, bringing the total for 2018 to $102.
* Donation totals, including the amounts given by Sustainers, will be reported as soon as that information is provided on the NARFE website, which is anticipated in early April.

**Legislative:** *Mary Binder* – Nothing to report.

**Membership:** *Johanna Caylor* - Absent*.*

* There was no report on Chapter or WSF membership. Nancy will put together a letter which will remind annual renewing members to select the Chapter membership dues box.
* A list of members who have received a second renewal notice will be prepared.

**Call Coordinator:** *Pam Griffin* – Absent.

There were some updates to the upcoming programs and future planning:

**PROGRAMS – Upcoming**

**04/04/18 *Tom Steinert, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones*** (confirmed,POC: Mary Binder)

**05/02/18 May WSF Conference/Convention Voting Information** (Nancy Crosby/Mary Binder)

**06/06/18 May WSF Conference/Convention Voting Ballots** (Nancy Crosby/Mary Binder)

**09/05/18 Recap of National Conference** (Nancy Crosby/Mary Binder)

**10/03/18 *Slips, Trips, & Falls presented by a Pasco Police Officer*** (Mary Binder)

**11/07/18 *Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund –***

 ***members bring items for the*** *auction* (confirmed; remind members to bring items,

 cash/checkbook; POC: Larry Williams)

**12/05/18 *Holiday Music Program by Jeff*** (Liz)

**2019 Prospective meeting information,** (not confirmed).

**1/04/2019**

**2/06/2019 *Jason Mercier director, Center for Government Reform***

**03/06/19 *Bill Kitchen, director, Tri-Cities Food Bank* – *presentation, it is noted that we would prefer***

***cash or check donations due to weight and transportation considerations*** (confirmed; POC: Pat Turner)

**PROGRAMS –** January 2017 chapter meeting brainstorming results (*Mary)*

**1st PNNL and Projects – update** *(last presentation, January 2013; contact Pam Larsen; POC: Mary)*

**2nd Hanford: Advisory board; Resource Center; EEOICP; Toxic Substances & Worker Health –**

 **update** *(last presentation, February 2011)*

**3rd Benton-Franklin Dial-a-Ride Service** *(new presentation)*

**4th Manhattan Project National Park – update** *(last presentation, May 2016, WSF convention)*

**5th Habitat for Humanity – update** *(last presentation date, unknown; Linda Bauer, point of contact)*

**5th TRIDEC** *(new presentation)*

**6th Audubon Society** *(new presentation)*

**6th CBC Observatory** *(new presentation)*

**6th Richland Citizens Police Academy** *(new presentation; Cerise Peck, 509.528.0245, point of contact)*

**6th Tri-City Union Gospel Mission** *(new presentation)*

**6th Uber Services** *(new presentation)*

**6th Veterans Coalition** *(new presentation)*

**6th VFW – Veterans’ Benefits** *(new presentation)*

**7th LIGO** *(new presentation; chapter made a site visit, October 2014)*

**7th The Reach** *(update; last presentation, January 2012)*

**7th Young Marine Program** *(new presentation)*

**8th Animal Rescue – program overview; where to make donations** *(new presentation)*

**8th CBC Planetarium**

**PROGRAMS – Future Ideas** (New; brought forward)

**Estate planning, wills, powers of attorney – time for another presentation?** *(POC: Liz Bowers)*

**Aviation History in the Tri-Cities – presentation by Malin Bergstrom, president, Bergstrom Aircraft,**

 **Pasco** *(Note: Check if this can tie into Pasco Old Airport Tower restoration; POC: Mary Binder)*

**Pasco Old Airport Tower – restoration** *(POC: Mary Binder)*

**Franklin County Historical Society – newly remodeled museum** *(POC: Mary Binder)*

**Vista Field – reuse plans** *(POC: Mary Binder)*

**Local/Regional Wine Industry/Wine Programs – WSU/Walla Walla programs; vineyard – how, what,**

 **why, where; winemakers – careers, background, successes, etc.; starting a winery**

*(Liz Bowers suggestion)*

**Local Micro Brews** *(Liz Bowers suggestion)*

**Local Distillers** *(Liz Bowers suggestion)*

**Decluttering – challenges and tips** *(POC: Mary Binder)*

**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)*

**City of Kennewick’s “Bridge to Bridge” Redevelopment** *(POC: Larry Williams; Larry pursuing for a possible May program)*

**Drones – uses and challenges** *(POC: Larry Williams)*

**Port Directors –** update on port activities

**CBC’s Culinary Arts Program**

**Women Helping Women – a women/children focused program**

**CHAPTER GROUP ACTIVITIES/SPECIAL PROGRAMS – PLANNED AND FUTURE IDEAS**

**Dust Devils – 2018 schedule has been published and is ready for the March meeting.**

**White Bluffs/Ringold – history and current status** *(POC: Steve Howes; Lorie will talk with Steve)*

**Hanford Reach National Monument** *(POC: Steve Howes; Lorie will talk with Steve)*

**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** *(re-contacted; awaiting a reply; POC Lorie)*

**WSU Wine Science Center** *(tour; possibly before or after the WSF May convention; POC: Mary Binder)*

**Registering Voters** *(Johanna suggestion; she updated the board on the feasibility of doing this as a way*

*to provide NARFE/the chapter exposure; volunteers would be needed; she’ll continue to get more information, e.g., would this be feasible before the November elections)*

**Moore Mansion tour –** *Based on input from some chapter members after Brad Peck’s May presentation,*

 *Larry suggested a tour of the Moore Mansion with a chapter donation to the mansion’s restoration*

 *fund. Mary said she’d contact Brad to see if this would be possible.*

**McNary Wildlife Refuge Tour** – *POC Lorie Bennett*

**Columbia Sternwheeler Cruise –** *POC Lorie Bennett. Options for the cruise being investigated are an April 28th 4.5 hour cruise. The costs are potentially $74 plus tax, $4.00 landing fee. The meal options depend on the time of the cruise.*