



NARFE
MISSOURI
FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD (FEB)
MINUTES OF THE 2020-2021 FOURTH QUARTER MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2021
(Held via the online platform Zoom.)

President Emerson Kretzer called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. A moment of silent reflection immediately followed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Secretary Gary Andrew called the roll. Absent was Elbert Williams.

Linda Kurz moved to approve the October FEB minutes, but with corrections to what was previously distributed. The motion was seconded and carried.

The correction was to delete the sentence on page 2: “Emerson requested that Linda also contact the chapter to see if she could advise.” This was in reference to Chapter 991.

Treasurer Marcy Nelson’s reports (narrative and spreadsheet) were previously distributed. The Federation account as of 12/31/20 stands at \$36,880.70. She advised NARFE HQ of new memberships. The HQ report has yet to be updated. The Federation sent out the ten-dollar recruiting bonuses. There was a discussion with regard to errant treasury figures published in the newsletter. Mary Lamping will speak to the publisher about the issue.

Region V Field Vice-President Cindy Renee` Blythe’s report was previously distributed. Upcoming National Executive Board (NEB) (virtual) meetings are slated for February 12 and 26. One must register to observe. One of the issues for the board to discuss will be the new Policy Manual. There was a discussion about the drop in membership. Due to a number of factors, NARFE is running a deficit budget. One reason is that costs pertaining to FedCon and LegCon were paid. Barbara Sido, NARFE Executive Director has done an admirable job of cutting expenses. It may be several years before NARFE sees a balanced budget. As for the national website, NARFE is working on a membership report that will iron data compilation issues. There was a discussion about NARFE-PAC. A number of members are reluctant to contribute due to politicalization despite NARFE-PAC contributing funds to both parties.

President Emerson Kretzer's report was previously distributed. He advised the board that President Biden rescinded the Schedule F executive order that had been signed by the previous administration. (Schedule F created a new federal employment category that threatened to politicize federal jobs.)

1st VP/National Legislative Chair Sherry Haskins' report was previously distributed.

2nd VP/Immediate Past President/Membership Chair/FEEA Coordinator Laura Cowart's report was previously distributed. She reported that despite great effort by the Federation, only sixteen new members were signed up, recruited by just eight current members. The Federation will pay first-year dues for these new members. One renewing member reported to Laura that he had a less than easy experience with NARFE HQ in that he felt pressured to pay via dues withholding instead of making a single annual payment. Laura advised the board that she has replaced Dennis Grossnickle as the Region V representative to the Configuration Advisory Board (CAB). The change came at the request of Region V VP Cindy Renee' Blythe and approved by NARFE President Ken Thomas. The CAB interfaces with NARFE HQ IT with regard to resolving problems with the national/federation website.

1st CDL Craig Pettibone's report was previously distributed. Craig informed the board that he placed recruiting ads in local community newspapers, but received no responses. He has been in contact with the Operations Director for Representative Cori Bush. He is hoping for a meeting in the near future. There was a short discussion about the NES (NARFE Email System) and its many problems. Laura told the board that NES does not work with the outgoing AMS system.

2nd CDL Linda Kurz's report was previously distributed. She informed the board that she receives email on a daily basis from Ann Wagner's office with regard to campaigning for other representatives. To encourage easier membership renewal, Linda advised that we communicate with members just prior to the expiration of their membership and suggest that they sign up for dues withholding. Chapter 2071 will meet in person (if able) on February 4.

3rd CDL/State Legislative Chair Stephen Price's report was previously distributed. Stephen has been in contact with Chapter 991, Washington, MO with regard to its closing. Once closed, members will transfer to the State Chapter. Stephen has received chapter financial records from Treasurer Roger Davis covering the years 2018 and 2019. He asked the board what additional steps he needed to perform to finalize the closure. Cindy advised that only the Federation President could close chapters. Emerson will now take the necessary steps to close Chapter 991.

4th CDL Maxine Rodriguez's report was previously distributed. Maxine has contacted chapters in her district, but has not received any responses.

5th CDL Joanne Collins' report was previously distributed. She reports that District 5 is doing well.

6th CDL Joseph Manno's report was previously distributed. Joe has been in contact with the chapters in his district. He states that many people are scared to go out (due to the pandemic).

7th CDL Paul Mosbaugh did not submit a report. He has been having problems with his email service. He sent newsletters out to members on his mailing list. Six were returned unopened most likely due to the NARFE website member list not being up to date. He received no responses from his newsletter.

8th CDL Walter Cowart's report was previously distributed. At the last meeting of Chapter 11 via Zoom, a dozen people attended. There are three chapters in District 8. He attempts contact with them, but does not hear back.

Alzheimer's Coordinator Lois Nowlin's report was previously distributed. She reported that NARFE has contributed \$13,700,196.60 in support of Alzheimer's as of 12/31/20, just short of the \$14 million goal. Updated figures will be reported in March 2021. The 2020 Walk To End Alzheimer's brought in \$2,695, considerably less than the year before. Federal Research funding has reached \$3.1 billion. Research drug Aducanumab is before the FDA hoping for approval. This drug would be the first to aid in treatment and suppression of the disease. With regard to donations made by federation chapters in the reporting period ending 12/31/20, Chapter 1915 contributed the highest per capita in the amount of \$5; highest total in the reporting period went to Chapter 11, contributing \$600. Total donations by the federation came to \$1,796. Contribution amounts found the Missouri Federation ranked 3rd in Region V and the region ranked 5th.

NARFE-PAC Coordinator Elbert Williams' report will be distributed post-board meeting.

Newsletter Editor Mary Lamping did not submit a report. She will check with the publisher with regard to making sure financial figures published in the newsletter are the same as what is reported by our treasurer. Mary believes that the late arrival of the newsletter to members' homes is due primarily to the current slowness of mail delivery being experienced throughout the nation.

Public Relations/Webmaster Michele Brown did not submit a report. She informed the board that the latest newsletter is now on the federation website. There was a short discussion about website management. As a follow up, Michele will research who uses our website and how often. The last analysis of this data was in July 2020. Currently, the Federation pays only for the domain name.

Service Officer Ronny Lenzy's report was previously distributed.

NEW BUSINESS

1- 2021 Annual Conference – There was a lengthy discussion with regard to our April conference. The conference (virtually held due to the pandemic) and our 1st Quarter Executive Board meeting will be the same day. Cindy reminded the board that the only reporting requirements for the conference are reports from the president, treasurer and secretary. Cindy described how the Kansas Federation presented a virtual conference last year. The federation used the NARFE NES email system and newsletters to communicate with members. Discussion continued focusing on the technological aspects of putting on such a meeting. The board believes that the Zoom platform will suffice. Gary informed the board that he has already received email from possible sponsors. He is the contact person for the federation as it relates to communicating with interested sponsors for the conference. Gary also requested that the board look into establishing a conference committee to address the logistics of presenting an interactive annual conference. The board meeting would take place after the conference and federation members could observe online. The Annual Conference Committee consists of Laura Cowart, Sherry Haskins, Michele Brown, Marcy Nelson, Mary Lamping and Gary Andrew. President Emerson Kretzer will be kept apprised of conference planning and actions.

2 – Board Reports in Federation Newsletter – Discussion was based on timing of the when the newsletter is received by members and the submission of board reports. The newsletter is sent to members about two months after a board meeting, making the reports in the newsletter old news. A number of members complained that they received their newsletter late including one member who missed the opportunity to tell a friend about the free 1-year membership for new members offered last fall by the board. Discussion then went on to how the timeline between getting reports to Mary Lamping (Newsletter Editor) and the publication of the newsletter could be shortened. Gary brought up the point that as Federation Secretary, he would have the brunt of the responsibility to shorten the timeline because his board minutes are the last writing forwarded to Mary (after writing them and getting them approved by the board) before the newsletter goes to press.

Linda Kurz moved to change the publishing date (two weeks from today (2/11/21)) to decrease the time between submission of reports by board members and executive board minutes to the newsletter and their publication. Laura seconded the motion and it carried.

Mary will confer with the publisher at the request of President Kretzer.

3 – Chapter Per Capita Payments – The issue here was why chapters are required (per By-law) to pay Per Capita dues (to the Federation) when most chapters are not meeting and membership is down. Additionally, the Federation has cut expenses dramatically in part by not meeting in person.

Joe Manno moved to waive the Per Capita requirement. The motion was seconded with further discussion.

A revised motion was introduced.

Marcy Nelson moved to set the Per Capita payment at \$0 for 2021. The motion carried.

Marcy will send letters out to chapters explaining this change.

4 – Archiving Update – Gary updated the board with regard to his progress of scanning and digitally archiving executive board minutes and reports from years past. So far, documents have been archived back to 2000 and backups have been made. This project is ongoing.

Motion by Joe Manno: Call to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.

Next FEB meeting and Annual Conference: Online via Zoom on April 22, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

Gary Andrew

Gary Andrew
Secretary, Missouri Federation
bizorgsetal@gmail.com

FINAL 2/5/2021
Approved