

NARFE
MISSOURI
FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD (FEB)
MINUTES OF THE 2018-2019 FIRST QUARTER MEETING
July 26, 2018
Baymont Inn & Suites, Jefferson City, Missouri

President Laura Cowart called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked for a moment of silent reflection.

The Pledge of allegiance was recited.

President Laura Cowart reminded everyone to submit expense reports.

Before we got into our agenda, current VP Region V Carol Ek introduced newly elected VP Region V, Cindy Reneé Blythe. Cindy is retired from the Coast Guard and will take office November 1. Carol asked that we begin copying Cindy on correspondence so she will be aware of upcoming issues.

Treasurer Marcy Nelson called the roll. Absent: Sherry Haskins, Secretary; Maxine Rodriguez, 4th CDL; Joseph Manno, 6th CDL; Melvin Sanders, Service Officer. Guests: Carol Ek, current Region V VP and Cindy Blythe, incoming Region V VP.

Secretary's April FEB and Conference minutes (previously distributed): *Linda Kurz moved that both sets of minutes be accepted as distributed. Seconded. Carried.*

Treasurer – Marcy Nelson. Report as distributed was filed for audit. Marcy reported that she had received the 2018/2019 Liability Insurance Policy booklet. She has also filed three IRS Form 990N tax returns, one for the Federation and two for Chapters 1229 and 1926 which closed last year.

Region V VP - Carol Ek. Report previously distributed. Carol urged the Board to emphasize to chapters the importance of the preferential voting in the upcoming second vote for NARFE National President. Voting for only one candidate will mean your vote will not count if no candidate gets a majority and there is a second count. Members must rank their choices 1-2-3. Carol requested \$100 from the Federation to be included in the FEEA drawing at the National Conference, as has been done in previous years. *Walter Cowart moved that the Federation provide \$100 for the FEEA drawing at the National Conference. Seconded. Carried.*

President - Laura Cowart. Report previously distributed.

1st VP/Legislative – Gregory Campbell. Report previously distributed. Gregory offered to send all CDLs his monthly report to forward to their chapters.

2nd VP/Membership - Emerson Kretzer. Report previously distributed. Emerson offered to attend Health Fairs for a NARFE booth if notified of them.

Immediate Past President/FEEA – Robert Hagedorn. Report previously distributed.

1st CDL – Craig Pettibone. Report previously distributed. Craig mentioned that the proposed government reorganization includes the breakup of OPM and that NARFE should be addressing it in lobbying and legislative meetings. Members should be encouraged to write and call Congress on issues even if they aren't on the NARFE Legislative Alert page.

2nd CDL – Linda Kurz. Report previously distributed. Linda mentioned that since she will be gone most of August, Craig will be covering her local Congressional visits.

3rd CDL - Mary Ann Stegeman. Report previously distributed. Mary Ann reminded board members to mention NARFE when making hotel reservations for the FEB meetings.

4th CDL – Maxine Rodriguez. Report previously distributed.

5th CDL – Joanne Collins. Report previously distributed. Joanne showed us her VOTE business cards.

6th CDL – Joseph Manno. Report previously distributed.

7th CDL – Walter Cowart. Report previously distributed. Walter mentioned that he was scheduling a visit to Rep. Billy Long's office.

8th CDL – Virginia Crafford. Since she now has more chapters, Virginia hopes to have more activity.

Alzheimer's Coordinator – Lois Nowlin. Report previously distributed. Lois mentioned the MONARFE Team for the Alzheimer's Walk. Anyone can sign up to walk or donate. A new drug, BAN2401, shows promise in slowing the progression of the disease.

Legislative (state) Coordinator – Stephen Price. With the new governor, Stephen says there is no activity in the state regarding Federal employee issues. Nobody is certain yet what Gov. Parsons will want to do.

NARFE PAC Coordinator – Elbert Williams. Report previously distributed. There is a new PAC Coordinator at National HQ. A new questionnaire has been developed for Congressional candidates. Federations should not be sending the questionnaire to candidates, National will send it. Elbert handed out a chart of Missouri PAC contributor goals and the status of each chapter on meeting the goals.

Newsletter Editor – Mary Lamping. The publisher has suggested a new Member Forum section for the newsletter and Mary distributed copies of examples from the Oklahoma Federation newspaper. Topics include personal stories, such as what I'm doing in retirement; something

inspirational from your life; a neat hobby or vacation. A “Who Is It?” feature has a photo of a member in their earlier years and a bit of a bio so people can guess who it is. The Board agreed that we would like to add this type of content to our newsletter as long as the Editor retains control and can edit as necessary. Mary can add a piece in the next edition explaining the Member’s Forum and soliciting submissions. Perhaps a board member could be an inaugural feature as an example. Deadline for submission to the next paper is August 17.

Public Relations Coordinator/Webmaster – Michele Brown. Report and newsletter article previously distributed. Michele mentioned that we should be making sure chapter members are aware of the September 1 – December 31 recruitment contest.

Service Officer – Melvin Sanders. Report previously distributed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Federation Policy Manual – Update of the Federation Policy Manual had been tabled pending the first round of new voting procedures. Formatting throughout was cleaned up and changes were made in the relevant sections to reflect one-member-one-vote, the change from convention to conference, and voluntary payment of Federation dues. Section VIII was added to reflect chapter alignment with Congressional districts. Lois raised the issue of proper handling of Alzheimer’s donations since some chapters handle it differently. She believes the Alzheimer’s coordinators have instructions to send donations in monthly. The Board agreed that the Policy Manual was not the place to address this. At this point, we discussed the change in reimbursement for Federation conference registration committee members, which is listed under New Business. Since there is no longer a need to verify credentials, reimbursement for one night’s lodging for registration committee members was removed in this revision of the manual. Other committee members arriving early, i.e. to stuff bags, would normally be local and not traveling. Unaware of that change, Patricia Barrett did arrive to the St. Louis conference early and has inquired about lodging reimbursement. *Robert Hagedorn moved that the Policy Manual, as revised, be approved, and that Patricia Barrett be reimbursed for her lodging expense. Seconded. Carried.*

2. Recoupment of improperly donated funds – In April, the Board agreed that we should request return of funds improperly donated to various charities by a chapter that has since closed. However, no one was tasked with carrying out that action. There was discussion that the requests should go on letterhead from the Federation Secretary. We will not take any further action if the funds are not returned.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Conference travel/expense reimbursement for registration committee members – addressed during discussion of the Policy Manual.

2. CDL training – planning (including coordination with NARFE HQ): The Board felt that this training should be on the program for the April Federation conferences. *Emerson Kretzer moved that CDL training be included as a program item for the April 2019 conference.*

3. Fall Membership Recruitment – In the past, the FEB has offered a \$10 bonus for recruiters who enroll new members during the September 1 through December 31 membership drive. *Emerson Kretzer moved to approve a \$10 bonus for recruiters who enroll new members during the September 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 membership drive. Seconded. Carried.*

3. \$500 seed money for the 2019 conference –Marcy relayed Chapter 2041's request for the \$500 advance for the conference bank account. In addition to expenses that may be incurred, there is a monthly service fee for any month where the account balance is below \$3,000. Since the bank account will be transferred to the next host chapter each year, the \$500 advance can be repaid to the Federation or transfer with the account. Linda stated that the Federation needs to give the host chapter the \$500, and that this amount should be transferred (along with the conference bank account) to the next host and stay in the conference account. The \$500 should be returned to the Federation when no further conferences are planned. *Mary Lamping moved that the Federation advance \$500 to the 2019 Federation Conference host, Chapter 2041, and that section II A. of the Federation Policy Manual be amended to reflect that the \$500 remain in the Conference bank account as it is transferred to each successive host chapter. Seconded. Carried.*

4. Laura shared information she has received on other topics.

- The Online Activities Module (OAM) is being redesigned and will be called the Association Management System. The work is just starting in HQ. Those who regularly use the OAM for Federation and Chapter reports and activities should share any suggestions for changes with dgrossnickle@cox.net.

- To date, there are only 17 members from Missouri Federation registered for FEDcon18.

5. The former MONARFE resolution on how NARFE PAC should respond to Federation requests for campaign donations was brought up again. With new leadership and new PAC employees at HQ, Carol Ek said if we want to pursue the issue, the language of the resolution should be put into a letter and sent to Jessica Klement, Director of the NARFE Legislative Department, for a response. As the author of the original resolution, Robert Hagedorn will draft the letter and circulate to the Board for review.

Emerson Kretzer moved for adjournment at 1:00 p.m. Seconded. Carried.

Marcy Nelson, Missouri Federation Treasurer

Next FEB meeting: Baymont Inn & Suites, Jefferson City, 9:30 a.m., on October 25, 2018.