



Delaware Federation of NARFE Chapters - 11/12/2019 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:05am by President Vinnie Warr. A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by our President.

Attendees

Phyllis Meyers, Chapter 1174

Vinnie Warr, Chapter 1174

Kathy Adams, Region II VP

Celeste Briddell, Chapter 85

Richard Bennett, Chapter 1992

Richard Stec, Chapter 1992

Oriest Ginsiorsky, Chapter 85

Carl Bouchard, Chapter 1690

Mark Oliver, Chapter 1992

Mary Sordi, Chapter 1922

Tom Sutor, Chapter 1922

Pat Schwinegruber, Chapter 85

Jim Blakeslee, Chapter 1690

President's Report -

1. Vinnie Warr reported that she attended the Maryland Federation's Training Day on October 31, 2019. She said they had some very good speakers on membership and leadership and the Maryland Lt. Governor.
2. She also reported that we are looking at June 2, 2021 at Maple Dale Country Club for the Federation's Conference.

Secretary's Report - Phyllis Meyers reported that she had sent out (via email) the September minutes. She also reported that the Federation Board minutes are now on the Delaware Federation website. The September minutes are on file.

Treasurer's Report - Jim Blakeslee reported:

1. Balance of \$7035.00, as of October 31, 2019.
2. Areas of discussion included moving our bank account location (decision move to local bank), the need to update the account signatures (decision put Vinnie Warr, Celeste Bridell, Jim Blakeslee and Richard Stec on the account), and concern with National's AMS system and the delay in obtaining funds due to problems with AMS.
3. The full Treasurer's report is on file.

Comments from Kathy Adams, Region II VP - Kathy Adams reported:

1. The Region II Training Academy will be held June 1-2, 2020 at the Wyndom Gardens Hotel in York, PA. The cost is \$99 for the registration (includes 3 meals) and a room rate of \$90 plus tax. A discussion was held on how much the Federation will pay and how much the chapter will pay for the attendees. Federation has budgeted \$100 per person for up to 12 people. Federation is looking at \$100 per person no matter how many attend.
2. The NARFE General Store is open and ready to go.
3. All the proposed National Bylaw changes were passed by a large margin of 90%.
4. NARFE Brand guidelines 2019 manual is now available on the National website.
5. The annual membership drive is ongoing. Runs from September 1 through December 31, 2019.
6. The NEB met from November 6 through 8, 2019.
7. The AMS 1st round of fixes/changes are be worked on. The priority list is: M-112, A-220, M-130, M-131C, M-100 and the Congressional Districts reports. The 2nd round is being prepared by the Regions for submission to National.
8. Open season is ongoing. The health insurance average increase is 5.6%.
9. On September 27, 2019, a continuing resolution for 8 weeks was signed.
10. Kathy Adams is in charge of NARFE's Centennial festivities. She is looking for a hotel this event and for LegCon 2021. She is also on the audit committee. They found that NARFE has used the same audit firm for 12 years (unheard of in the industry), that NARFE paid \$125,000 for this year's audit, and that the report went to the staff before the audit committee. The committee finally got the report and NARFE now has a new audit firm for \$55,000.
11. National is working on 2020 bylaw recommended changes.
12. NARFE National is the RED. The NEB is pushing for a balanced budget.
13. National HQ building is for sale for \$8M?
14. The magazine is costly to print and send, about \$1.4M/year. Reduced to \$838K in new budget. National is looking for someone else to do the magazine and save money.
15. National is proposing a National dues increase to \$48. This will need to voted on by all members.

Past President's Report - No report.

Chapter Reports - All Chapter reports were given. The written reports are on file. Still need copy of report from Chapter1992, Western Sussex for the files.

Committee Chair Reports

Alzheimer's Report - Pat Schweinegrube reported: in April, 2019 donations were \$32,471.20, in May donations were slightly over \$43,000, and during June and July Delaware chapters donated \$493.00. There are also various donations that are NOT on the reports (due to AMS issues at National). The full report is on file.

Membership Report - Elizabeth Kramarck reported that the total of current Federation voting chapter members is 652 and the Delaware Federation National-only membership was 406 for a total of 1058. The full report is on file.

NARFE PAC Report - Mark Oliver reported: from July through September, 2019 there were 20,285 contributors (up 58%) who contributed \$975, 019 (up 79%) for any average of \$48.07 (up 13%). Additionally there were 778 sustainers (3.8% of all contributors). Region II continues to lead all other regions' in contributions. Delaware totalled \$4913 and the average was \$52.27 (up 4%). The full report in on file.

Legislative Report - Tom Sutor reported on concern about the "graying Federal workforce", the push to use CPI-E for COLA determination and the bill before Congress to do so, the USPS price increases for 2020, and a bill to protect Federal Scientists from undue political pressure. His full report is on file.

Old Business - A short bylaws discussion was held. We decided to table any Federation bylaws changes until National makes their 2020 changes.

New Business - Our 2020 Federation Board meetings will be: January 14, 2020, March 10, 2020, May 12, 2020, September 8, 2020, and November 10, 2020. All are on Tuesdays.

NOTE: The next Federation meeting is Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at Luther Village, Building 3 at 10am. Chapter 85 is in charge of the refreshments.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Meyers, Secretary