



Delaware Federation of NARFE Chapters - 9/10/2019 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10am 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
Ronald Byrd, Chapter 1992
Richard Stec, Chapter 1992

Carl Bouchard, Chapter 1690
Larry Trombello, Chapter 1990
Mary Sordi, Chapter 1922
Tom Sutor, Chapter 1922
Elizabeth Kramarck, Chapter 1174
Jim Blakeslee, Chapter 1690

Secretary's Report - Phyllis Meyers reported that Vinnie Warr had sent out the May minutes. Celeste Briddell moved and Mary Sordi seconded the motion to approval the minutes. The motion passed. The May minutes are on file.

Phyllis also asked people to fill out the attendance roster fully if they want to receive the minutes and other emails from the Federation. Do not put in your email address if you do not wish to receive those items.

Treasurer's Report - Jim Blakeslee reported:

1. Balance of \$7693.63 as of August 31, 2019.
2. Jim presented the proposed 2-year budget for FY2020-2021. Discussion followed on various items such as reducing the mileage for Federation meetings to 25 cents per mile and limiting stipends for FedCon 2020 to \$3600 and to chapters for the Regional Conference to \$1200 . It was moved by Carl Bouchard and seconded by Ronald Byrd to approve the proposed budget. The motion passed.
3. Other areas of discussion included moving our bank account location and the need to update the account signatures and concern with National's AMS system and the delay in obtaining funds due to problems with AMS.
4. The full Treasurer's report and FY2020-21 budget are on file.

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

1. Her surprise how few members read the NARFE magazine.
2. Be sure to vote on the National ballot, either online or via the ballot contained in the National magazine.
3. The new membership application does include (in a red box) a place to fill in to become a chapter member. Note that the first year new members have free chapter membership.
4. Please support NARFE-PAC. It should be your priority donation to NARFE.
5. The new AMS computer system at NARFE HQ is having much trouble. The contractor will not get paid if they do not fix it. Kathy is collecting a list issues which she will pick 6 to turn into HQ. She received a number of issues from our members at this meeting.
6. Use our NARFE sponsors for your events. See them listed in the NARFE National magazine.
7. She is working on the Centennial celebration for 2021. She waits ideas.
8. She spoke about the Webinars available and how good they are, especially for active members. Webinars are free for any NARFE member.
9. The new NARFE logo is available for use.
10. The photo contest for the 2021 calendar is in progress.
11. The Region II training conference will be held on June 1 and 2, 2020 in York, Pennsylvania.

Past President's Report - Larry Trombello reported that he was happy that his term was over. He also stated how much he enjoyed his emcee duties at the June, 2019 Conference.

Chapter Reports - All Chapter reports were given. The written reports are on file.

Committee Chair Reports

Alzheimer's Report - Pat Schweinegruber could not attend so Celeste Briddel gave the report. As of July 31, 2019, NARFE National has raised \$13,195,818.25. During July 2019, Our Region II members raised \$21,220.20 which down is \$5770.12 from the same period in 2018. Please remind your members to support Alzheimer's Research. The full report is on file.

Membership Report - Elizabeth Kramarck reported that the total of current Federation voting chapter members is 659 and the Delaware Federation National-only membership was 404 for a total of 1063. The full report is on file.

NARFE PAC Report - Mark Oliver could not attend and he sent his report in. Unfortunately, due to AMS problems at HQ, he had no contribution reports. Distribution for the 2nd Quarter was reported as \$284,500, an increase of 45% over the 1st Quarter. The full report in on file.

Legislative Report - Tom Sutor gave his usual interesting and complete report. He reported on the WH recommended 2.6% pay raise, the 2019 Open Season dates and options, the expected stopgap spending measure needed to avoid an October shutdown, and the TSP summary of returns for 2019. His full report is on file.

President's Report -

1. Vinnie Warr reported that she attended the Federation Presidents Conference in August, 2019. She received interesting information there, such as wanting to do away with chapter and Federation banners and having table covers instead. Additionally the new NARFE logo is in place and is to be used. Also there is now 1 year free membership for new NARFE chapter members.
2. She also encouraged all to use dues withholding - it is cheaper and easily handles renewals.
3. She suggested that you should always meet and introduce yourself to all new members and potential new members.

Old Business - The final report on the 2019 Federation Conference was delivered and all materials were past to the Dover chapter (President Elizabeth Kramarck) who will be hosting the 2021 Federation Conference.

New Business -

1. There was a discussion of having a newsletter for National-only members to give upcoming information. How to best do it? How often? Email it to them? Put our Federation Board minutes on our Web site? The Board approved putting the Federation Board minutes on our Web site. Further discussion will be held on the other alternatives for keeping National-only members informed of our activities.
2. There was a discussion on updating our Federation bylaws. We decided to table this discussion until after the results are known about the September, 2019, voting/changes approved for the National Bylaws.

NOTE: The next Federation meeting is Tuesday, November 12, 2019, at Luther Village, Building 3 at 10am. Chapter 1992 is in charge of the refreshments.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Meyers, Secretary