



NARFE
MISSOURI
FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD (FEB)
MINUTES OF THE FOURTH QUARTER MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2023
Virtual Via Zoom

President Emerson Kretzer called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. A moment of silent reflection immediately followed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by 2nd Vice-President Laura Cowart.

Secretary Kay Crayton called the roll. All board members except Paul Mosbaugh were present. Also present was Region V Vice-President Cindy Reneé Blythe and Tricia Barrett.

Matt Dooley and Steve Trout, publishers of the quarterly Missouri Federation newspaper, joined the meeting to discuss options for the newsletter since this issue has been delayed from mid-December to still pending as of the time of the meeting. Steve explained that the delays are due to advertising sales being down due to not having enough salespeople. Also printing and mailing costs have increased. Steve proposed that the FEB consider doing an online news magazine instead of a newsletter. The advantages he presented are:

- 1) On line can be used for recruitment as it can be shared with a web link
- 2) On line gives access to all NARFE members
- 3) On line permits having color news magazine format instead of black and white newspaper format
- 4) On line gives more flexibility for length since the newspaper has to have at least 24 pages
- 5) On line can be published much more quickly than a print copy

Elbert asked if the on line option was used, could there also be a 1 to 2 page executive summary newsletter also mailed? The answer was this could be possible.

Matt stated the current newspaper issue was going out in the morning. No immediate change is required although he wanted to raise changing the format for future consideration.

Matt and Steve left the meeting after providing their recommendations and answering questions.

Linda Kurz moved that the minutes from the October FEB meeting be approved as distributed.
Seconded. Carried.

Treasurer Marcy Nelson's reports were previously distributed. There were no disbursements this quarter. There were no fees from the conference account that was transferred to US Bank which is why the account was moved to this bank. Laura noted an error where there is a 6 instead of an 8. Marcy will correct this and submit an amended report. Linda moved that the amended report be approved.
Seconded. Carried. Additional discussion involved transferring funds of a closed chapter when chapter president and/or treasurer cannot be reached. This may involve tracking when funds sent from NARFE headquarters which Cindy will follow up, working with the bank with the account, and perhaps personal visit.

Region V Field Vice-President Cindy Reneé Blythe's report was previously distributed. She stated Bill Shackelford, as the new national NARFE President, was going to Capital Hill today for several introductory meetings. Cindy thanked Craig Pettibone and Linda Kurz for their work in assisting a national NARFE member in Missouri with a health benefits issue.

President Emerson Kretzer's report was previously distributed. He attended the January Northland Excelsior Springs Chapter 1944 and swore in the officers. The Ava Chapter 2283 is in the process of closing. The Missouri Federation annual conference will be held in April virtually via Zoom. National NARFE speakers are being invited, dependent on their schedules.

The Acting National Legislative Chair Craig Pettibone's report was previously distributed. He stated HR 82, the Social Security Fairness Act, legislation to repeal the the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO), has been re-introduced. It's important to write/encourage legislators to support this bill.

2nd VP/Immediate Past President/Membership Chair/FEEA Coordinator Laura Cowart's report was previously distributed. She stated there is a new Social Security group on FEDHub. FEDHub is a great resource for communities on federal topics.

All Congressional District Leaders (CDLs) submitted a quarterly report. See the newsletter for Federation Officers' submitted reports.

1st CDL Craig Pettibone shared the electronic copy, web link, of the monthly NARFE magazine with Congressional staff.

2nd CDL Linda Kurz worked with other NARFE members at a NARFE recruitment event at the Eagleton Building in downtown St. Louis. Although federal employees express interest, they do not sign up.

Craig is planning a recruitment event for April in downtown St. Louis. Linda has been working with Tricia Barrett on redistributing those chapters affected by the congressional district changes made due to the census results.

5th CDL Joanne Collins expressed concerns for NARFE members who do not have and /or do not want to use computers to receive their Missouri Federation news. These members rely on what is sent via the mail.

NARFE-PAC Coordinator Elbert Williams' report was previously distributed. As predicted, funds collected were a bit short of the 2021-2022 goal. Disbursements were also a bit short although NARFE did well with supported candidates. Perhaps the set goals were a bit too high. The NARFE-PAC is bipartisan.

Newsletter Editor Mary Lamping reminded the FEB as a followup to the discussion earlier with the newsletter publishers that she acts as a go between. The publishers also do the newsletters for two other Federations. More information is needed to make a decision about the future of the newsletter. Reaching out and discussing with members is encouraged. Send any leads on possible new newspaper publishers to Emerson.

Public Relations Officer/Webmaster Michele Brown asked the FEB for help with the web site and public relations. Although she will finish out her term, it's time for someone else to take over with new ideas. Laura stated Leslie McCormick is interested and wants to know what is involved. Both Emerson and Michele support moving forward with getting Leslie involved.

Service Officer Will Cooper stated he's available to help members and is willing to research to find answers.

Alzheimer's Coordinator Lois Nowlin's report was previously distributed. Chapter 11 has the highest total donations while Chapter 1859 has the highest per capita donations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1- Align Local Chapters with Missouri's Revised Congressional District Changes – Linda Kurtz reported that her workgroup met in November with the following recommended chapter changes in Congressional Districts:

CD#1- Craig Pettibone: chapter 112- Greater St. Louis and chapter 1240- Florissant - (Rep. Cori Bush)

CD#2- Linda Kurz: chapter 2071- West St. Louis County- (Rep. Ann Wagner), chapter 1278- Jefferson County (CD#3 - Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer), chapter 683- Hannibal, and chapter 1859- Mexico (until officially closed) (CD#6- Rep. Sam Graves).

CD#3- Patricia Barrett: chapter 1843- State chapter and chapter 313- Jefferson City (until officially closed)- (Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer) and chapter 1463- Clinton, and chapter 1944-

Excelsior Springs (CD#6- Rep. Sam Graves).

CD#5- Joanne Collins: chapter 20- Kansas City and chapter 1164-Independence -(CD#5- Rep. Emanuel Cleaver II) and chapter 1980- Pomme de Terre and chapter 1012- Cass County and chapter 2041 Blue Springs (CD#4- Rep. Mark Alford) and chapter 307- St. Joseph and chapter 1915- No. Central Missouri- (CD#6- Rep. Sam Graves)

CD#7- Paul Mosbaugh: chapter 11- Springfield and chapter 19- Joplin - (CD#7- Rep. Billy Long) and chapter 695- West Plains and chapter 694- Poplar Bluff (until officially closed)- (CD#8- Rep. Jason Smith)

Tricia Barrett is willing to be the Congressional District Leader for District 3. Emerson is willing to appoint Tricia as CDL 3. Tricia was sworn in.

Laura reminded Kay that approved changes need to be updated in the Missouri Federation Policy Manual.

Linda moved to approve new chapter assignments. Seconded. Approved.

Elbert requested updated list of chapter officers. Emerson asked Kay to send chapter officer list to CDLs.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1- Delay in Printing of Missouri Federation Quarterly Newsletter. Discussion was held earlier in the meeting with the publishers proposing an online updated version and answering questions.
- 2- Request to reimburse Marcy for providing Zoom account for Missouri Federation use. She originally let the Missouri Federation use her Zoom account which she had gotten for personal use during the pandemic. Since she no longer uses this account for personal reasons, she asks to be reimbursed for its annual cost of \$149.90 if the Missouri Federation chose to use this account. This annual fee covers up to 100 participants per call and there are no time limits on the length of the calls. Joanne moved to pay for the past year since Marcy has not used in within the past year as well as the upcoming year. Renewal of the Zoom account is in April. Seconded. Approved.
- 3- Laura shared that Irene Roth, member of Chapter 11 who passed a year ago, left \$41,000 to NARFE Headquarters.
- 4- Planning for April virtual Missouri Federation Conference. In April the quarterly Missouri Federation FEB meeting will be the 27th at 9:30 a.m. before the conference. Will volunteered to monitor the chat room for questions if he's available. Marcy will serve to monitor the chat room if Will is not available.

The FEB meeting adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Next FEB meeting: April 27, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Kay L. Crayton

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