



NARFE
MISSOURI
FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD (FEB)
MINUTES OF THE SECOND QUARTER MEETING
JULY 27, 2023
Virtual Via Zoom

President Emerson Kretzer called the meeting to order at 2:38 p.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 Joanne Collins, Lois Nowlin, Patricia Barrett, and Mary Lamping were present. Also present was Region V Vice-President Cindy Reneé Blythe.

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

Treasurer Marcy Nelson's reports were previously distributed. Laura questioned on the submitted report why there was money from Kansas. Because Marcy was not in the meeting at that time, Cindy responded that the members in the closed North Kansas City chapter lived in Kansas chose to be in a Missouri chapter. Kay, as past president of that chapter when it closed, confirmed that there were members who lived in Kansas and members, who could be contacted, were offered their preference of what chapter they'd like. When Marcy joined the meeting, she reported she filed 8 990-N forms with IRS for individual chapters. The Treasurer reports were accepted.

Region V Field Vice-President Cindy Reneé Blythe's report was previously distributed. In addition to what is in her report, FEDCon 2024 will be in St. Louis, Missouri next August with Region V and the Missouri Federation hosting. Late this August 2023, there will be a joint meeting of the NARFE National Executive Board (NEB) and the Federation Presidents at Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia. President Kretzer is presiding over the meeting of the Federation Presidents.

President Emerson Kretzer's report was previously distributed. He emphasized the goals of maintaining membership and supporting legislation benefiting federal retirees including WEP/GPO reform, full COLAs, and protecting earned federal benefits from being cut. The new Republican Study Committee (RSC), composed of 150 lawmakers, want to cut federal benefits. The national NARFE website has additional information. It's important to contact Congressional members to let them know that taking federal benefits away is not acceptable. President Emerson encourages each member to try to recruit at least 1 new member to NARFE as it's important to have the greatest number to make our voices heard. He emphasized that the squeaky wheel gets greased.

The Acting National Legislative Chair Craig Pettibone's report was previously distributed. He urged everyone to keep an eye on the RSC proposal. It's important to keep contacting Congressional members so they clearly hear our concerns.

2nd VP/Immediate Past President/Membership Chair/FEEA Coordinator Laura Cowart's report was previously distributed. Due to delays in the quarterly MO Federation newsletter publication, she encourages those who use computers to check out the MO Federation website, monarfe.org, to get current updates. MO Federation elections are coming up and she encourages members to run for our offices.

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

1st CDL Craig Pettibone shared that he visited legislative offices. He also went to a pre-retirement seminar with the goal of trying to get back into the agencies to share information about NARFE and recruit new members.

2nd CDL Linda Kurz said she had nothing to add to her submitted report. Her concern is that following in person legislative office visits, there are no responses or follow up.

7th CDL Paul Mosbaugh shared that there was no July meeting nor activity to report. His federal contacts are not interested in NARFE.

NARFE-PAC Coordinator Elbert Williams' report was previously distributed. The current numbers in the report show that collections are up from last quarter. However, since the 1st quarter collections were so much lower, the upswing this quarter leaves the collections lower in total than last year. There have been no disbursements to Missouri legislators.

Public Relations Officer/Webmaster Michele Brown stated the latest newsletter is going onto the Monarfe.org website. Leslie McCormick, who is willing to be appointed by President Kretzer as the Public Relations Officer/Webmaster, will start working with Michele this fall to start the transition. Cindy recognized Michele for the great job she has done for the website.

Service Officer Will Cooper reminded everyone that there is no cost for the Service Officer's help. An average of 1.5 people each month are being helped. Most of the time assistance is requested due to deaths and surviving spouses needing help.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1 - Delay in printing the MO NARFE Quarterly Newsletter.

1) Mary resigned as editor with the July-September issue. Although she could not attend, positive comments expressed appreciation for her contributions while serving as newsletter editor.

2) The current newsletter publication agreement contract expires October 2023. Since this is a free publication (the publisher solicits advertising and keeps the money raised from that) for the Missouri Federation, the FEB voted to renew the contract. (6 voted for and 2 against)

3) Mary's recommendation of having the Missouri Federation secretary send reports and articles to the publisher in Word format (files ending with .doc or .docx) was approved.

2 – Missouri Federation Conference 2024 - Time and Place

Suggestions were made to combine the in-person Missouri Federation conference with FEDCon 2024 scheduled for August 2024 in St. Louis, Missouri. Marcy made the formal motion to combinethe MO Federation conference with the national meeting. This passed with 8 voting for and 0 against.

Missouri Federation elections need to be included in the next newsletter. These forms also shared with Michele for the Monarfe.org website.

NEW BUSINESS

1- GEHA Webinar

Sandy Douglas, GEHA representative, contacted President Kretznzer about the MO Federation hosting a statewide scheduled Zoom call. Questions arose about the need to reach out to other federal health care providers such as Blue Cross/Blue Shield to see if they would like the same opportunity.

Will suggested an online health fair which would benefit Missouri NARFE members.

The FEB meeting adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

Next FEB meeting: October 26, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Kay L. Crayton

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