

NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
MEUNIER-PERRY CHAPTER 1015
MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA
Minutes of March 14, 2024 Chapter Meeting

The March 14, 2024 Chapter meeting was called to order at Logan's, Myrtle Beach SC, by President Joseph Arsenault at 11:43 a.m. Officers present were President Arsenault, Vice President Rebecca (Becky) Hyman, Treasurer Mary Brady, and Secretary Cathy Linta-Leader. Also present were Billie Nichols, Dene Nichols, Debbie Arsenault, Linda Jo Pagani, Bill Fizet, Charlotte Downey, Ken Trinkley, Morris Zupan and guest, Ray Forcier, Sam Quade and guest, Jim Edert, Grace Contino, Jane Queen, Tina Calo and guest, Alice Villavicencio, and Tim Hyman, guest. Headquarters recently approved the revised bylaws and the new quorum requirement of ten (10) members was reached.

Ken Trinkley led members with the Pledge of Allegiance; Chaplain Linda Jo Pagani led us in prayer.

Prior to the meeting, Cathy Linta-Leader distributed via email a draft copy of the February minutes to members who were in attendance during the February meeting. In the essence of time, she suggested we dispense with the reading of the minutes. Bill Fizet made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Members will be notified when the approved copy is recorded.

Tammy Braithwaite spoke about her organization, "Gifts from the Heart," founded in 2018, which provides needy dementia and Alzheimer's patients in nursing homes and assisted living facilities with everyday items. Many of these patients never receive any visitors. Items in need are shampoo, conditioner, tissues, socks, toothbrushes, doll babies, baseball caps, blankets, stuffed animals, large print word search books, large-piece puzzles, soft peppermint candy, individually wrapped chocolate candy, and liquid hand soap. Monetary donations are also welcome as are volunteers to assist her in December. Ms. Braithwaite may be reached at 843-457-6400 and/or rossistlb@yahoo.com

Treasurer's Report dated March 14, 2024, Mary Brady (see attachment)

Beginning Balance	\$5156.17
Receipts	71.92
Disbursements	<u>0.00</u>
Balance on Hand 11/9/23	\$5228.09

Receipts include the Chapter's share of 50/50 and Headquarter's reimbursements. There were no disbursements.

Joseph Arsenault, President

- Our revised Chapter bylaws were approved by Headquarter's earlier this week.
- March 20, 2024 is the Federation's conference meeting via ZOOM.
- Members should have received ballots for the SC Federation officers. Ballots must be received by March 15, 2024.
- Tax planning webinar scheduled for March 21, 2024.
- March is NARFE-PAC month.
- National conference scheduled for August 18 -20, 2024 in St. Louis.
- Table reserved for October Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BC/BS) informational meeting at the Horry-Georgetown Technical College. Chapter members will avail attendees of NARFE-related literature. BC/BS representative, Ann Marie Usher, is the scheduled Chapter speaker for November.
- Bill Fizet made a motion to donate \$100 each to "Quilts of Valor" and "Gifts From the Heart". Motion passed unanimously.

- There are two applications available for NARFE membership, a hard copy and an online version. The hard copy requests your income and birth date; the online copy does not. Either use the online NARFE application or do not complete the income and birth date portion of the hard copy.
- Vacant positions exist for the Alzheimer's Coordinator, NARFE PAC, and 50/50.
- Members said there is not ample socializing after the meeting.
- April meeting location not yet known. Damon's should let us know this week.

Becky Hyman, Vice President – Provide her names of possible speakers. As of this date, the following speakers are scheduled: April: Surfside Beach Branch Librarian Kim Cantley; May: a life insurance agent; October: AETNA; November: BC/BS. Linda Pagani will confirm if she has a speaker for June.

Cathy Linta-Leader, Secretary – Announced she is resigning as Secretary at the end of the year.

Legislative Report – Morris Zupan referred members to the March newsletter for more detailed information on H.R. 82, The Social Security Fairness Act, and H.R. 866, The Equal COLA Act. The former bill addresses the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset. The latter bill addresses the inequity between COLA amounts for FERS retirees vs. CSRS.

Billie Nichols- Membership, Newsletter, and Public Relations

- 110 members. Gerald Miller, former Pawleys Island Chapter President, recently passed away.
- Most members receive the newsletter via email. Those who do not and authorized Billie to do so receive theirs via USPS mail. Joe Arsenault made a motion to approve \$66 for Billie to purchase 100 stamps. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
- Payment has not been requested for the newspaper ads seeking members.
- Revised bylaws approved by Headquarter's.
- Joe Arsenault mentioned there was a lot of positive feedback regarding Dene Nichols' newsletter article regarding women's rights.

Website – Charlotte Downey agreed to become the Chapter's Web Administrator. Cathy Linta-Leader will train her.

Alzheimer's Report – No report; the Alzheimer's Chair position is vacant. Former Chair, Alice Villavicencio, will help anyone who volunteers. She said our Chapter took 1st place in the Federation for the amount of monies raised.

Sunshine Committee – In the absence of Lynn Vos, Billie Nichols informed members, who have not already done so, to contact him if they want their birth month announced in the newsletter.

.Deb Arsenault announced \$85 was collected for the 50/50 drawing. The Chapter received \$41; two members received \$22 each. Volunteer needed to replace Deb.

A motion was made to adjourn by Charlotte Downey; seconded and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 pm.



Cathy Linta-Leader, Secretary