

Minutes

Meunier-Perry Chapter, NARFE

Thursday, June 21, 2018

- President Marci Vogel called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.
- Marci Vogel led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- John Hughes (Chaplain) led us in prayer.
- Marci Vogel introduced the members present that are transferring to our chapter from the Pawley's Island Chapter:
 - Charlotte Downey
 - Bruce Lake
 - Sue Day
 - Emily Aspel
 - Marjorie Ricker
 - Gail Seavey
- Blake Crawford (Vice-President) handed out Edward Jones backpacks left from the March Federation Conference as game show prizes. He also noted that speakers for the October and/or November business meetings will be Anne Marie Usher from Blue Cross Blue Shield and Shamyra Parker-Winston from Government Employees Health Association.
- Joyce Jones (Secretary) read the minutes from the April 19, 2018 business meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's minutes. The motion passed.
- Joe Arsenault (Treasurer) gave the Treasurer's Report.
 - The beginning balance on May 17, 2018, was \$1,753.12. Receipts totaled \$62.86 for dues from the national office. There were no disbursements. The ending balance on June 21, 2018, was \$1,815.98.
 - He also noted that we have not yet received our share of the funds from the NARFE Federation Conference in March. It is expected to be around \$1,750.
 - A letter has been sent to the IRS to reestablish our Tax ID number. Once reestablished, Joe can file our chapter Form 990 (which is an informational return).
- Lynn Vos (Sunshine Officer/Membership Officer) asked members to consider providing food and other items for Backpack Buddies, which are given to kids going back to school. Members can bring items to our business meetings and she will make sure they get to where they need to go.
 - Lynn sent get well cards to Marci Vogel, Mary Brady, Marjorie Ricker, and Linda Pagani, as well as a sympathy card to John West's widow.
 - She also acknowledged chapter members who had a birthday in April.
 - If you have any to share, Lynn would like copies of past NARFE magazines to place in locations where potential members might see them.

- Cathy Linta-Leader (Legislative Officer/Webmaster) reported on both our local website and a variety of legislative issues.
 - Federal issues include:
 - President Trump has signed three Executive Orders that impact federal employee collective bargaining and personnel management practices. The Executive Orders do not apply to Postal workers, however. Several lawsuits have been filed to stop the implementation of the Orders.
 - A Task Force has been charged with looking at the Postal Service's operations, including its workforce.
 - Jeff Pon, Director of the Office of Personnel Management, has proposed changes to the Federal employee retirement system similar to President Trump's 2019 budget proposal. Some members of both the House and Senate have voiced opposition to Pon's proposal.
 - A House Budget Committee is expected to come up with a budget resolution similar to the one the President proposed, which would require \$32 billion in deficit reduction over 10 years.
 - President Trump is proposing to reorganize the Office of Personnel Management by transferring its policy functions to the Executive Office of the President and health care and retirement services to the Government Services Administration.
 - It is important that members remain vigilant and send letters to our Congressional representatives.
 - State and local issues include:
 - June 12 Primary election results were James Smith (Democrat) for Governor, Mark Hammond (Republican) for Secretary of State, and Tom Rice (Republican) for U.S. House of Representatives from the 7th District.
 - Because no candidate received a majority of the vote in the June 12 Primary, a June 26 Primary runoff will be held between the two candidates receiving the most votes for Governor (Republicans Henry McMaster and John Warren), Attorney General (Republicans Alan Wilson and Todd Atwater), and U.S. House of Representatives from the 7th District (Democrats Robert Williams and Mal Hyman).
 - Remember that we have a local chapter website (www.1015.scnarfe.org). Cathy has been working hard to keep it updated. The most recent chapter newsletters and business meeting minutes are located there. Also provided on the chapter website, among other things, are links to local congressional contacts, how to join NARFE, and legislative issues.
- Billie Nichols (Newsletter Officer) noted:
 - The most recent Pawley's Island Chapter roster says there are 26 members. Billie sent 18 newsletters to these members by email and the rest by mail. However, National NARFE members (including lifetime members) who have not paid local chapter dues would not show up on the roster. Further, it can take several months for the roster to be updated after changes are made.
 - The merger of the Pawley's Island Chapter members with our chapter is underway. Pawley's Island Chapter members should have already received a letter offering them the option of transferring to our chapter.
 - Our most recent local chapter roster says there are 151 members, for which Billie has 132 email addresses, 14 mail addresses, and 5 who can't be contacted or never call back.

- There will be no newsletter for July or August.
- Billie asked for ideas for future business meeting speakers. One member suggested a local author. Please get other ideas to Billie Nichols, Blake Crawford, or Marci Vogel.
- Barbara Bryan conducted the 50/50 drawing. Winners received a share of the donated funds or Blue Cross Blue Shield gift bags left from the March Federation Conference.
- The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by Joyce Jones, Secretary