



Embassy Suites Hampton Roads, 1700 Coliseum Dr, Hampton, VA 23666

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VFN BOARD OF DIRECTORS FALL MEETING, OCTOBER 3, 2022

Monday, October 3, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

ATTENDEES

Robert "Bob" Martin, President
Doris McAdams 1st Vice President
Frances E. Boatman, 2nd Vice President
Esther L. Nash, Secretary
Thomas A. "Tom" Rachele, Treasurer
Kathy Apra, Editor
Constance Bails, Ph.D., Immediate Past Pres
William Shackelford, Region X Vice Pres
Gaston L. Gianni, National Legislation
Deborah "Debbie" Fisk, State Legislation
Arlene Arthur, Service Officer
Stan Palen, VFN Web Master
Joe Murray, Nominating (A)

Marilyn Riddle, Area I Area VP
Julia Hobbs, Area II Area VP (A)
Wynn Hasty, Area III, Area VP
Graylin Taylor (Acting) Area IV Area VP
Luther Santiful, Area VII, Area VP
Leslie Ravenell, Area VIII, Area VP
James R. "Jim" Little, Area IX, VP
Theodore D. Ted" Pasek, Area X, Area VP
Linda Smallwood, Parliamentarian (A)
Larry Mcilwee, Chaplain
John Bails, Net Coordinator
Donna Shackelford, Alzheimer's

Attendance Status - (A) Absent

Call to Order **President, Robert Martin**

Invocation **Chaplain, Larry Mcilwee**

Pledge of Allegiance **Sergeant at Arms, John Bails USN-RET**

Installation of Area 4 VP **Robert Martin**

Delayed until Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Roll Call **Secretary, Esther Nash**

Treasurer Vacancy **Robert Martin**

Discussion - Still in the process of searching for a new Treasurer.

Approval of Agenda **Robert Martin**

Change of lunch period, meeting will reconvene at 2:00pm., instead of 1:30pm

All were in agreement.

President's Comments

Robert Martin

At the FedCon 22 meeting in Scottsdale, AZ Presidents of Federations from across the country was held and topics of concern were discussed. Bob stated that procedures will be distributed of how to contact National only members; Bob will forward information to the board upon receipt. Shared topics that were covered during the conference. Members that attended shared their experience with the board. Kathy Apra stated that Mark Apra had taken pictures and a slide presentation would be available after the session. Discussion followed.

Parliamentarian Comments

Linda Smallwood

Absent

April and July Board Meeting Minutes

Esther Nash

April Meeting -Dr. Bails motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Gaston Gianni. Motion carried.

July Meeting - Motion made by Thomas Rachele to accept minutes with stated correction. Seconded Leslie Ravenelle. Motion Carried

Ms. Nash provided a summary of October 2, 2022, Executive Board meeting.

Region X Vice President's Report

RVP 10, Bill Shackelford

Bob introduced Region X Vice President William "Bill" Shackelford the newly elected NARFE National President. Bill Summarized FedCon 22 meeting, and forthcoming retirement seminars. He presented a short summary on the following: Scholarship and Disaster Fund, Chapter dues, IT issues, chapter closers, manuals update, consolidation of regions, dues revenue and membership. Also, a VISA credit card with Signature Federal Credit Union Card as an NARFE affinity partner. Encouraged members to use FedHub as it probably will *become* the main source of communications. He provided a general breakdown of the election results etc. Bill will send Chapter election participation to the Board. Spoke about the status of WEP -GPO, bill in Congress. Discussion followed.

President Martin spoke on behalf of VFN Board, thanking William Shackelford the newly elected NARFE National President for all his dedication and support when he served as VANARFE Region X Vice President and wished him well in his new position.

Treasurer's Report (subject to audit)

Treasurer, Tom Rachele

Discussed report distributed to the board members. Balance Sheet \$151,424.00. Provided Federation expenditures for the FEDCon 22 Conference: budget \$13,000.00, amount spent \$8,456.00, under spent \$4,500.00. Accounts have been reconciled. Report has been filed with the State Election Commission as required by law in a timely Manner. State PAC has \$6,000.00. Dr Bails motioned that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as submitted. Seconded by Stan Palen. Motion Carried

Lunch

2:00 pm

Resume VFN Board Meeting

1st VP Comments & AVP Reports

Doris McAdams

1st Vice President

Doris reported chapters that she visited this quarter and attended FedCon22 Conference. Welcomed Graylin Taylor as the Area IV Vice President to the board.

Area I

Marilyn Riddle

Ms. Riddle discussed the percentage statistics for her Area in membership. Visited all her chapters, Attended Memorial Services for Tom Yeager in support for his dedication for all ten years to NARFE. Spoke of the importance of the local membership to the overall success of the organization. Concerned about the loss of members to Chapter 682, Newport-News. Discussion followed.

Area II

Julia Hobbs

No Report

Area III

Wynn Hasty

Mr. Hasty provided the meeting status of his chapters and their activities. Louisa Chapter is working on a memorial plaque in honor of Bill Martin. Richmond Chapter 60 has not meet since the beginning of Covid-19 due to health concern. Piedmont Chapter 28 has not been active for an extended period of time, its status will be researched. Note: Mr. Hasty announced Jack McMurchy, Past President of Petersburg Chapter 28 and Past Area 3 VP (see atch 1)

Area IV

Graylin Taylor

Delayed

Area VII

Luther Santiful

Mr. Santiful stated that all chapters are meeting in person. Chapter Harrisonburg 164 lost their president due to Covid-19. Winchester Chapter was presented with a Alzheimer's Award Certificate, Charlottesville Chapter 135 severely hit by Covid-19 and they have not been attending meetings. Roanoke Chapter 111 no issues, Luray annual picnic raised \$1,500 for Alzheimer's.

Area VIII

Leslie Ravenell

Ms. Ravenell Four chapters have been meeting in person for a year. Leadership positions are full in all chapters. Chapters all have bank funds and some have alternating meeting schedules. Suggested the realignments of the chapters to be equal in responsibility and workload.

Area IX**Jim Little**

Mr. Little stated that there were four chapters in Area IX, Annapolis the smallest, Springfield is one the largest in the country with Annandale being very active and Woodbridge. Jim presented the status of each chapter and their activities. Covid -19 still playing a large part in attendance. Manassas Chapter 356 is again conducting general membership meeting, they participated with Woodbridge in its Annual Alzheimer's Annual Walk. Annual picnic guest Congressman Robert Whitman was a guest at the annual picnic. Woodbridge meeting in person since 2021.

Area X**Ted Paske**

Six chapters: Provided activities for each chapter and their special guest speakers. Arlington 7, with new leadership, increased their activity with improvement in attendance. December 8th celebrating their 75th Anniversary. Fairfax resumed in person meeting attendance they were negatively affected by age of membership and Covid-19. They are looking for new leadership, President is presently located in Wisconsin. Vienna Chapter 1116 meeting in person, he noted good speakers at meetings. Kathy Arpa, President stated the next speaker forthcoming from Department of Emergency Management and Security. Chapter is very active with Congressman Connelly, workshop being advertise for December.

Dulles Chapter 1241 publishing Special Edition of Newsletter in celebration of their 50th Anniversary back in June 2022. Metro Northern Chapter 1665 will start to meet in person. All chapter have found a suitable place to meet in person.

2nd VP Comments & Program Chairs Reports**Frances Boatman
2nd Vice President**

Attended training sessions, provided program chairs developed a budget tracking form. for the Program Chairs. Annual reports sent in timely from all chairs. No Program Chairs meeting in October.

Alzheimer's**Donna Shackelford**

A new drug being used during trail period (not approved by FDA) (Letamamad) cost unknown at this time. First two quarters of this calendar year Virginia raised \$13,427 and \$11,019 for third quarter, Total collected from Virginians for Virginians was \$24,447.00 as of September 30, 2022. Donna announced that the \$15 million goal had been accomplished.

Bob presented Donna with awards for second and third place. Second place in national donations and third place in per capita dues. Suggestion was made for thermostat to be used as a visual aid chart to reflect amount of donations received. Debbie Fisk offered to assist with the develop of diagram with Donna.

Electronic Communications

Deborah Fisk

Newsletter headed by Kathy Apra comes under the ECC and presents no issues, Website has some issue, (with security and also need to take the vanarfe.com site down because of security and cost) Virginia has WordPress Site. Difference between Chapters with VANARFE site and ones using the NARFE AMS will be charged \$50.00 per month (correction this is an annual estimated cost). Four sites using the NARFE site Chapters using this site will be called Micro sites. She went into detail about the sites and related issues. Debbie is available for assistance and she is in communication with Chairman Martha Raup who has stated that Linda Riler will be in charge of training. Debbie was instructed by the President to delete Sidney Sachs email account due to non-communications. She explained some issues with the email accounts. She explained the cost of the system. (the cost of the security software is \$199 annually) Stan will help Doris to set up her email account. Facebook page access, was discussed. (The current facebook presence is locked/private and it is difficult to market. We essentially market to ourselves, we need more exposure and more members involved in social media.)

National Legislation

Gaston Gianni

Mr. Gianni stated that WEP-GPO is being NARFE PAC has supported events in every congressional district except three. NARFE PAC Funds through third quarter Virginia chapters raised \$ 59,000 and National members \$ 39,800 NARFE both 38 sustainers

Distributed between chapter and nat. Distribution though the end of September \$20,500. Provide breakdown distribution. This morning an additional \$9,500 was disbursed.

Encouraged everyone to vote and then the SL and CDL after election will be rearranged if necessary. Mr. Gaston sent letters to the leadership of Congress encouraging them to take up the bill -82 by the full house.

Public Relations

Doris McAdams

Ms. McAdams continues to visit chapters and attend their special events, update social meetings with interest to VFN. She attended all program meetings. Ms. McAdams continue to requested short video from the program chairs. She asked that they be submitted in jpg and she may be contacted for further information. Report will be sent to the secretary after the board meeting.

Note: Bill Shackelford stated that the following NARFE Headquarters personnel have departed within the last period: Erin Carter, Dave Bowman, Helen Moser and Jessica Clemons.

Service Officer

Arlene Arthur

She received referral from several Areas including FedHub. She reflected how Service Officers can receive referrals. Ms. Arthur continues to attend monthly program chair meetings. Guest speaker at Woodbridge Chapter 1270 and in November guest speaker in Annandale Chapter 1159. Presently the VFN has twenty-five Service Officer, still looking for additional officers. F100 is downloadable and has been updated.

State Legislation

Deborah Fisk

Spoke of the problem with update the data system for Chapter Officers.

Membership

Frances E. Boatman

Ms. Boatman stated that as of September 30, 2022 Chapters Members: 4,837 National Members: 6,287 Total Members 11,124

Provided breakdown of each membership category and sent report to chapter program chairs. She also sent eighty-eight potential new members with information and encouragement to contact and those who dropped for non-payment. Posted on website, and sent President Area Vice Presidents. Attend program chair meetings and board meetings. Community service at events promoting NARFE membership,

All Program Chair reports are submitted in a timely manner. She continuously contacts Headquarters on behalf of member who forget to identify the section on the renewal forms as chapter members. She requests Headquarters invoice them for their chapter dues and they are placed back on their respective chapter. Provide a picture to Public Affairs of membership table set up at Postmasters Convention.

She continues to have a disagreement with the total-on-total membership numbers continue to be a problem with Headquarters (Dave Bowman). The discrepancy has been reported every month and still no correction have been made. She will contact Dave's replacement.

Membership improvement: conducting membership drive and is available to assist chapters by sitting up a membership table at their event.

1. As an incentive offering conference free registration to the person who recruits the newest members from the July 1,2022 to April 20, 2023 the most member.
2. Membership Chair whose chapter has the highest percentage will receive free registration to the highest number of recruits.
3. Headquarters incentive - Sept 1 to Dec 31 is offering a reward of \$10.00 for any new member.
4. Membership outreach. Discussion followed.

Ms. Boatman will send out the above incentives to the Area Vice Presidents to be distributed to their chapters.

Jim Little stated Julia Hobbs is not coded correctly in the system. Esther Nash stated that she is only able to act on irregularities and correct them with Headquarters when she is notified Discussion followed.

FOR THE RECORD:

Treasurer, Tom Rachele

Mr. Rachele provided a copy of an Engagement Letter of how to complete the audit, approximate cost \$2,000 or more. It will provide a written report to the board covering it findings. The board must provide the President of VFN the authority to sign on behalf of the organization to enter into the contract.

Ms. Leslie Ravenelle motioned that the President be authorized to sign the Letter of Engagement on behalf of the VFN and to approve the funds of such. Seconded by Doris McAdams Discussion followed. Motion Carried

Mr. Mark Apra presented FedCon 22 slide presentation.

Meeting Recess until 9:00 am, Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Dinner on your own or join a group - sign up with the coordinator

Attachment 1

Note: Mr. Wynn Hasty announced Jack McMurchy, Past President of Petersburg Chapter 28 and Past Area 3 VP passed after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease. Celebration of Life, Thursday at 6 PM at the Hopewell Moose Family Center ,4701 Western Street, Hopewell Va.23860. His wife, Sandy McMurchy is also a NARFE member. Their address is 3917 Jefferson Park Road, Prince George, VA,23875-1406. Please pass this information on to those who may have known Jack. Her phone number is 1-804-931-1135.