

# Vancouver Chapter 131

## General Membership Meeting

### Minutes of the January 2, 2024

**Officers attending:** President Mike Teefy, Vice-president Charlie Caughlan, Treasurer Jim Ellis, Secretary Linda Wallers.

**Members and guests attending** included Gordon Anderson, Lowell Kenedy, Larry Moller and spouse, Lou Miranda, and Dave Mason.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Charlie and Mike began the program for the day. Using a computer, projector, and screen, they demonstrated how to access the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) website, where to find Services Online, and log in. They “toured” the site for various documents and other information and demonstrated how to maneuver through the site to find documents and other information. For more information on [Services Online check out the YouTube video](#) and transcript, which runs just under 20 minutes, created by former Region IX VP, Linda Silverio. It is a step-by-step overview of what can be viewed, printed and changed online by federal employees with an account.

Following the presentation, Mike introduced Lowell Kenedy to officiate at the new officer installation. President Mike Teefy, Vice-president Charlie Caughlan, Treasurer Jim Ellis, and Secretary Linda Wallers were called to the front and took the oath of office for 2024.

Mike called for officer reports.

**Secretary report:** Linda handed out the minutes from the December meeting and asked the members to review them and make suggestions for corrections or deletions. Hearing none, Mike asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Lowell made the motion and Dave seconded it to approve the minutes of the December meeting as written. The vote was unanimous.

**Treasurers report:** Jim went over the December treasurers report. He stated that he had not yet received the 50% matching funds reimbursement of \$254 from NARFE National, for the 2024 Open Season Health Fair ad. The WSF 50% Matching funds was received during December. Annual dues received from National totaled \$109.84, slightly more than November’s receipts.

Jim itemized expenditures for December including 200 stamps (\$131.50) for the newsletter mailings, reimbursement to Charlie for the new projector (\$82.04), a donation to the American legion for use of the hall, (\$100), a donation to Kings Way High School (\$50) for the holiday program, and reimbursement to Linda for the newsletter printing (\$74.87 – no discounts this time and a longer newsletter). Jim mailed a check to the Alzheimer’s Research Association in Chicago for \$161 collected since September from the Alzheimer’s raffle fund and he reported that the CD quarterly reported interest was \$53.74 (Oct-Dec) as of December 31, 2023.

Jim asked for any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Mike asked for a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. Linda made the motion and Lowell seconded to approve the report. The vote was unanimous.

**Legislative report:** Mike didn’t have much to add to the legislative report. Part one of the Congressional continuing resolution (CR) runs out in January 19<sup>th</sup> and part two runs out in early February. The White House and Congress are working towards an agreement but it was not

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approved at the time of this writing. {UPDATE: 1/8/24 the House and WH appear to have reached an agreement to fund the entire government until the end of the year. It will still need to be voted on.}

**Vice President/Programs/Service Officer Report:** Charlie will provide updates on Survivor Benefits at the February meeting and briefly discussed NARFE-PAC, sustainers, and why NARFE-PAC is perceived to support Democrats and not Republicans. At any time, this could switch, but for now, very few Republicans support measures that provide improved benefits for federal employees.

**Webmaster/membership:** Linda provided a brief membership report. For the month of December, there was one new member, one prospective member, two deceased members (Blanche R Bowyer and Susan M Barr), and five membership renewals. The chapter also discovered that Dave Seesholtz had passed away in December.

The next general membership meeting will be on February 6th. The Chapter Executive Board will meet virtually on February 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM.

Submitted by Chapter 131 Secretary Linda Wallers