

**NARFE CHAPTER 869, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES FOR September 5, 2017 MEETING**

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Chapter President David MacDonald opened the meeting at 1:00 PM with the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our deceased members. Officers present were, President David MacDonald Vice-President Donald Hood, Secretary Richard Bianco. Treasurer Milena Lepore was excused. A quorum was present with 26 members attending.

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS: No new members were present

SECRETARIES' REPORT: The Secretary's report for the May 2, 2017 meeting was accepted.

TREASURERS' REPORT: Secretary Bianco read the Treasurer's report for the period May 2, 2017 through August 23, 2017 and it was accepted. We have a total of \$3,787.70 in our General Fund.

With the \$196.00 in the Charitable Donations Fund combined with the \$155.00 contributed at our June luncheon, we now have a total of \$351.00 available for donations.

MEMBERSHIP: As of September 4, 2017, we have 185 members. In April, we had 207 members. Chapter 13 has 170 members.

SUNSHINE: If you know of a member in distress please get in touch Mary Pedro who has taken over the Sunshine Committee.

HOSPITALITY: President MacDonald thanked everyone involved in bringing in the refreshments.

CALLING: President MacDonald thanked Mary Pedro, Amy Medeiros and Lee Viveiros for notifying members of the meeting.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS: The committee will make a recommendation on where the \$351.00 will be donated at the next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- The Chapter Service Officer and a PAC Coordinator positions are open.
- The Federation is also looking for someone to coordinate the Alzheimer's program.

Anyone wishing to fill one of these positions should contact President MacDonald or Secretary Bianco.

OLD BUSINESS / CONTINUING EFFORTS:

- President MacDonald is making plans to set up a booths at both the Senior Resource Fairs held by Congressman David Cicilline. One will be in East Providence on September 19 and the other will be in Woonsocket on October 29. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Dave MacDonald or Richard Bianco.
- President MacDonald is also planning to recommend that the National PAC contribute to Jim Langevin's campaign. We donated last year and attended the Fund Raiser given at the Capitol Grille in Providence during the Water Fire event. Langevin's next fundraiser is on September 23, 2017.
- The Secretary working on an update to the RI Federation Bylaws to add amendments to cover the one man one vote change and to add a requirement to audit the Financial accounts annually. This will put us in agreement with the new National Bylaws adopted at the 2016 National Convention.
- There will be a Health Fair at NUWC in Newport in November. The Chapter should plan to take a table at this event.

NEW BUSINESS

- President MacDonald addressed the meeting:
 - The National association has developed templates to vote for National Officers and Bylaws Changes on-line. We should look into this for our Federation and Chapter. Additionally National will augment the on-line voting with mail-in ballots.
 - There are 21 Webinars available on the NARFE website and they contain valuable information. These are free for members.
 - Members were encouraged to go on the website and contribute to the Hurricane Harvey relief fund that NARFE has set up to aid Federal workers affected by the storm.
 - Currently we are anticipating a 1.9% increase to our COLA.
 - There is a Fraud warning. Callers are identifying themselves as being from OPM and asking for personal information. Do not give them any.
 - New Federal employees are being required to contribute more to their retirement accounts. Those hired in 2013 had to pay 2.3% more than before and those in 2014 had to pay 3.6% more.
- Having no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 18, 2017— NARFE Executive Board Meeting, Warwick RI
- September 19, 2017— Senior Resource Fair, East Providence 5:00-7:00 PM
- September 23, 2017— Fundraiser for Congressman Jim Langevin, Capitol Grille, Providence RI
- October 19, 2017 — Senior Resource Fair, Woonsocket 5:00-7:00 PM
- December 5, 2017—Chapter 869 Holiday Luncheon,
- May 2018 – RI Federation Convention hosted by South County Chapter 998, Cowesett Inn, West Warwick, RI
- 2018 -- NARFE National Convention in Jacksonville, Florida

- 2020 -- NARFE National Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona

PROGRAM: Our speaker today was Lynne Tungette the Editor and Owner of Newport This Week. Newport This Week has been serving the communities of Newport, Middletown and Jamestown, R.I. for the last 40 years. You can view a new issue of every Thursday online or pick up our print edition at retailers and businesses throughout Newport, Middletown, Portsmouth and Jamestown. Lynne told us about she came to own the paper and how it is run. She encouraged us to tell the advertisers that we saw their ad in the paper.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Bianco, Chapter 0869 Secretary