

**NARFE CHAPTER 869, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES FOR September 4, 2018 MEETING**

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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 and Treasurer Milena Lepore. A quorum was present with 27 members attending.

President MacDonald introduced George Areson, the RI Federation Vice-President and Chapter 0998 member. The chapter warmly welcomed him.

Vice-President Areson spoke to the members and proposed that with the ageing of the chapter members that the chapters seek to involve the family members who can be invited to the meeting and provide transportation for the older members. This idea has been added to the agenda for the next RI Federation Executive Board meeting.

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS: There were no new members present.

SECRETARIES' REPORT: The Secretary's report for the May 1, 2018 chapter meeting was accepted.

The Secretary also read the RI State Federation Convention meeting report from May 18, 2018 for information, this report is on the agenda for approval by the Federation's Executive Board at its next meeting scheduled for September 17, 2018.

TREASURERS' REPORT: The Treasurer's report for the period May 1, 2018 through September 4, 2018 was accepted. We have a balance of \$3,617.01 in our General Fund and in the Charitable Donations Fund have a balance of \$355.00, with the \$145 collected at the June Luncheon, for a total balance in our Checking account of \$3,972.01.

The treasurer received a check for \$8,795.64. This is the funds passed to us by the closing of Chapter 13 Pawtucket.

MEMBERSHIP: As of September 5, 2018 we have 260 members on June 3, 2018, we had 269 members. The Federation has 465 chapter members plus national members.

The Secretary took an action to check on the membership of Ken Mingola. He renewed as a chapter member but he believes that membership is listed erroneously as a national member. It is possible that the renewal forms are not as explicit as they can be and default to national vice chapter membership.

SUNSHINE: Roger Wallen is recovering from knee surgery and preparing for further surgeries. Bob White is home recovering heart problems. Madeline Beaucage a past President of this chapter has passed away in May; many of our chapter members attended the funeral mass held in August. Lee Viveiros is away taking care of a sick relative. If you know of a member in distress please get in touch Mary Pedro.

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 proceeds from the June Luncheon's Raffle, \$145.00 have been added to the Charitable Donations fund. The committee chair, Mary Pedro, made a motion to donate \$25.00 to the Potter Animal Shelter in memory of Madeline Beaucage. The motion was accepted, and this will leave a balance in the fund of \$330.00.

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:

- Dave Ferkinhoff is working on procedures to utilize e-mail and websites to conduct the Federation nominations and voting for the RI non-chapter members.
- Linda Schilder expressed an interest in the legislative officer position.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussions focused on:

- The Chapter Holiday luncheon is planned for December 4, 2018. We will discuss the location and choice of entrees at our next meeting in October.
- The NARFE PAC will donate \$1000.00 to the reelection campaign of Congressman Jim Langevin (D-RI) this is in recognition of his 100% voting record on bills supported by NARFE. There will be a reception for the Congressman at the Capitol Grill on Saturday 22, 2018 the Federation will send four representatives to greet the Congressman and brief him on our interests. Currently President David MacDonald, Secretary Richard Bianco, Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Hood and Carole Regan have volunteered.

- The RI Federation could not support the 2018 National Conference due to the illness of our President's father. The chapter members are encouraged to read the articles about this conference on the NARFE web site.
- The chapter members were also encouraged to watch the webinars hosted on the NARFE web site, especially the new one on retirement planning.
- President MacDonald touched on:
 - The decision by President Trump to not approve the 1.9 % pay raise. This needs to be addressed by Congress.
 - The voting for President of NARFE is continuing until 30 September 2018 due to no candidate getting a plurality.
 - The 15% tax relief on RI State tax for the elderly.
- The results of the financial audit of Chapter 869 accounts conducted by Federation Treasurer David Ferkinhoff on 4/3/2018 noted no discrepancies.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 17, 2018 –RI State Federation Executive Board meeting, Warwick Public Library, 1:00 PM.
- October 2, 2018 – Chapter Meeting at the United Congregational Church in Middletown, at 1:00 PM (Christmas Luncheon planning, our guest speaker will be Gerry LePage, Information & Referral Specialist at Child & Family Services of Rhode Island. He will provide information on updates/changes to Senior Services.
- November 13, 2018 – Chapter Meeting at the United Congregational Church in Middletown, at 1:00 PM
- December 4, 2018 – Chapter 0869 Holiday Luncheon at TBD at Noon
- 2020 – NARFE RI Federation Conference at TBD
- 2020 – NARFE National Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona

PROGRAM: Our guest speaker Gerry LePage, Information & Referral Specialist at Child & Family Services of Rhode Island could not make the meeting. He has rescheduled for the October 2, 2018 meeting.

Richard Bianco, Chapter 0869 Secretary