

**NARFE CHAPTER 869, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES FOR September 10, 2019 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. There were 16 members attending.

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS There was a no new members present.

SECRETARIES' REPORT The chapter accepted the secretary's report for the May 7, 2019 chapter meeting.

TREASURERS' REPORT: The Treasurer's report for the period May 7, 2019 through September 10, 2019 was accepted. We have a balance of \$12,315.85 in our General Fund and in the Charitable Donations Fund have a balance of \$382.00. This gives us a total balance in our checking account of \$12,697.85.

MEMBERSHIP: We have 236 as of 9/10/2019. In May, we had 238.

SUNSHINE: Roger Wallen has returned home after having his knee replaced. If you know of a member in distress please get in touch Mary Pedro.

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

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

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS: The charitable contribution fund has a balance of has \$382.00 after the \$195.00 collected at the June luncheon. The charitable contributions committee made a motion that was approved to donate \$350.00 to the St. Joseph's Soup Pantry. The remainder of the funds, \$32.00, are in reserve.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

Please contact President MacDonald or Secretary Bianco if you know anyone wishing to fill one of these positions or of someone who would like to speak at our meetings.

OLD BUSINESS / CONTINUING EFFORTS:

- Chapter 869 updated its bylaws and sent them to National for review and approval. The update was based on the approved Lakes Region's Federation bylaws. National wants them rewritten and provided the new chapter bylaws template, F-21 (02/19) as guidance. Dave Ferkinhoff volunteered to work with the Secretary on reviewing and revising the bylaws.

NEW BUSINESS

- President MacDonald summarized the efforts a NARFE has been undertaking during our summer break. He talked about the proposed pay raise of 3.1% and read a letter from NARFE's President about the bad policy decision that Washington is making by disparaging government workers and the merger of OPM and GSA. President MacDonald also touched on the Windfall Elimination Provision elimination efforts that are underway in the Congress and the upcoming Federal benefit Webinar
- Ray Chaney supported the NARFE Presidents annual meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona he summarized the topics covered:
 - Headquarters—Issues with the building, Insufficient staffing to support the 35-day shutdown, looking for ideas to celebrate NARFE's the 100th year, unveiling the new Logo and identifying the problem with OPM not providing lists of retiring federal employees.
 - Membership—hiring a new person to combat declining membership, Hiring outside consultant to redesign website, looking for a national spokesperson and NH and VT Federations are merging.
 - New outreach ideas.—Local public access TV, Postal workers, etc.
- President MacDonald is investigating where to hold a membership event. He has prices from Newport Vineyards for a Wine and cheese night, and is looking at other venues.
- President MacDonald reminded the Chapter that there is a ballot in the magazine for voting on NARFE amendments and National bylaw changes.
- The Secretary sought nominations for Chapter elected officers, none heard.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- October 1, 2019 – NARFE Chapter Meeting, United Congregational Church, 1:00 PM
- December 2, 2019 – RI State Federation Executive Board meeting, Warwick Public Library, 1:00 PM.
- May 18 2020 –RI Federation Conference at the Wyndham Newport Hotel, Middletown RI
- 2020 – NARFE Presidents Meeting, Scottsdale AZ
- 2020 – NARFE National Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona

PROGRAM:

Our speaker at this meeting was Mike Kennedy from East Coast Capital. He gave us a presentation about reverse mortgages and answered questions.

Richard Bianco,



Chapter 0869 Secretary

2018-2019 Officers and Committees

- **Officers of the Chapter:**

- President David MacDonald
- Vice-president Donald Hood
- Secretary Richard Bianco
- Treasurer Milena Lepore

- **Committees**

- Executive Committee:
 - President David MacDonald
 - Vice-president Donald Hood
 - Secretary Richard Bianco
 - Treasurer Milena Lepore
- Membership Committee Chair: Mary Pedro
- Legislative Committee Chair: Vacant (Contact Dave MacDonald or Richard Bianco)
- Nominating Committee Chair: Richard Bianco
- Sunshine Committee Chair: Mary Pedro
- Hospitality Committee Chair: Vacant (Contact Richard Bianco)
- Calling Committee Chair: Chair: Mary Pedro
- Charitable Contributions Chair: Mary Pedro
- Service Officer: Vacant (Questions directed to the National Service Officer)
- PAC Coordinator: Vacant (Dave MacDonald acting as Point of Contact)
- Website and Net Coordinator: Dave Ferkinhoff