

**NARFE CHAPTER 869, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND
MINUTES FOR March 7, 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 and Treasurer Milena Lepore. Twenty-five (25) members attended. A quorum was present.

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS: One new member was present, Bill Peresta. Bill retired for NUWC Newport.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Secretary's report for the February 7, 2017 meeting was accepted as read.

- The Secretary acknowledged a thank you note from the American Lung Association for the \$100.00 donation
- The Secretary will file the IRS 990-N postcard for the 2016 tax year.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report for the period February 7, 2017 through March 7, 2017, was accepted as read. We have a total of \$3,530.08 in our accounts.

MEMBERSHIP: As of March 7, 2017, we have 212 members.

SUNSHINE: Madeline Beaucage has given up the Sunshine committee, if you know of a member in distress or wish to chair this committee please get in touch with the Secretary.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- The Chapter Service Officer and a PAC Coordinator positions are open.
- Dave Ferkinhoff volunteered to assume the RI Federation Treasurer position. This is an Officer level position within the Federation and we are pleased to welcome Dave to the fold.
- 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:

- Mary Pedro and Milena Lepore volunteered to serve as the Charitable Contributions committee. They will assess the motions for charitable donations made during the meeting and recommend whom to distribute the money raised by donations too. We currently have \$196.00 left to distribute.

NEW BUSINESS

- The NARFE PAC donated \$1500.00 to the Sheldon Whitehouse campaign.
- The Secretary took the action the contact the Newport Chamber of Commerce and reserve a half-table at their upcoming Business Expo and Job Fair on the 14 of March. This table will be “manned” by Dick Bianco and Carol Regan.
- The Legislative conference in March 2017 in Crystal City VA is this weekend and is too late to send a representative for RI.
- The Federation Executive Board was held on held on 27 February 2017:
 - The Executive Board voted to reduce the number of chapters to two (2) and align our remaining chapters with congressional districts. Currently, two RI chapters, Pawtucket and Providence, are lacking active members, and their officers have resigned.
 - The Secretary is looking into the Officers manuals for guidance as to the closing of chapters.
 - The Secretary is reviewing the current Federation Bylaws to insure that they are in agreement with the new National Bylaws adopted at the 2016 National Convention, and account for National members who can vote but are not members of a Chapter but can still vote and hold Federation Officer Positions.
 - The Secretary is also looking at the methods to be used to achieve the one-man one vote resolution passed at the last National convention.
 - It was noted that the Federation President Dave MacDonald has served two consecutive terms as President and can't run again for a third.
- President MacDonald addressed the G-Fund and identified how the government can use this fund as its “piggy bank”. This use of the G-Fund should be a concern to Federal employees who use it as a safe haven for their money.
- Having no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- June 5, 2017-- NARFE Executive Board Meeting, Warwick RI
- May 2018 – RI Federation Convention hosted by South County Chapter 998
- 2018 -- NARFE National Convention will be held in Jacksonville, Florida.
- 2020 -- NARFE National Convention will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona.

PROGRAM: There was no speaker for this meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Bianco, Chapter 0869 Secretary