

AARP Blacksburg Chapter, Board Meeting May 6, 2014

Present: Margaret Kates, John Hillison, Jim Wightman, Don Creamer, Leslye Bloom, Terry Wildman, Pat Ballard, SallyAnna Stapleton, Ben Crawford, Jennifer Spoon, Joy Herbert, Tina King, Doris Abraham, June Schmidt, Allison Gallaway, Nola Elliott

There were no objections to the Agenda

Motion was made by Don Creamer and seconded by SallyAnna Stapleton to approve the April 1, 2014 Board Meeting minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: It is reported the McDaniels have completed their move and are settling in. Reported that Blacksburg AARP has received a letter from National congratulating us for completed paperwork and a nice ink pen was presented to Pat Ballard.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Bloom took part in an AARP conference call on April 8th, subject was soliciting new members and current member retention. Considering rewards for those who bring in a yet to be determined number of new members. A discussion ensued regarding Christiansburg and/or other New River Valley residents and whether we should recruit outside of Blacksburg.

VICE-PRESIDENTS'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Ballard sent the Treasurer's report via email. Motion was made by Don Creamer and seconded by Terry Wildman to approve the Treasurer's Report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Our Secretary is out after having surgery and reportedly doing well.

OLD BUSINESS: Tina King will be asking the new Virginia Tech President's wife to attend one of our future meetings, perhaps making a short introduction during our Holiday Luncheon. She is an expert on aging and will be joining the Virginia Tech Faculty.

NEW BUSINESS: President Bloom suggested inviting Margaret Day to perhaps our October meeting, or inviting her to one of our Board meetings. She is the National Volunteer Director for AARP. President Bloom also mentioned that committee chairs should be thinking about whether they would like to retain their positions under the 2015 President and to let him know in due time so new chairs or team members can be requested.

AARP – VIRGINIA: Ben Crawford reminds us that we need to apply for state awards, culminates in a free meal, transportation and lodging as needed. Additionally, Ben will seek help for guidelines for local awards, Doris Abraham is getting nowhere seeking help from State.

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG-SENIOR CENTER: Joy Herbert has no report.

VTRA/CARING: Margaret will send a get well card to Virgil and additionally, it was suggested we send a card to Calvin, owner of Kopy Korner. He has had health problems of late and he has done so much for us in the past.

AWARDS: Doris, as mentioned, is having trouble getting information on standards for the local club awards. She gets the run around when trying to get documentation or info. Additionally, she would

like to have a section/form in the newsletter for making nominations for 1). Community Spirit Award and 2). Chapter Service.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: SallyAnna Stapleton wanted to recognize Jim Wightman having his picture in the papers, carrying the Olympic Torch. Also she has been contacted by the Student Volunteer Program who are looking for AARP member volunteers to help the YMCA with end of school year collection locations. (Y-TOSS) The YMCA provides several locations where departing students can bring items they don't want to haul home or otherwise would throw away. This is a crucial money making event for the Y. Don't forget to bring canned/boxed items for the food pantry to the May Meeting at VCOM.

DRIVER SAFETY: No report.

HOSPITALITY: Nola Elliott indicated she would need some strong able bodied folks for help carrying and lifting at the June Picnic meeting. Also the pavilion is reserved for 4 hours, 10AM to 2PM. Jennifer will add a few lines to the newsletter regarding bringing a covered dish and an item/items for the auction. We do have an auctioneer lined up to help with the sale. Plans are moving ahead for the Holiday Luncheon to be held at the Center at Warm Hearth Village.

HEALTH FAIR: John Hillison provided a list of Exhibitors who have already paid, \$6,000.00 total so far. The Health Fair committee will be meeting after the June open meeting to continue planning for the fair.

HISTORY: No report

LEGISLATIVE/FEDERAL ADVOCACY: Ben Crawford shared with the Board info obtained at a meeting in Charlottesville in April. The Advocacy teams are being requested to visit Chapters in our area to present items/programs that are hot topics, including Medicaid, Health Care and other pertinent programs that affect the aging population. AARP National is staying on top of these items. Ben also welcomed Allison Gallaway who will be the Legislative Committee Chair taking over after the resignation of the former Chair. The former chair did submit the report for the May meeting.

MEMBERSHIP: Tom Alston is out of the Country and there is no report. Jim Wightman indicated that he would like to step down as the "Badge" person, perhaps when the new president takes office in January.

NEWSLETTER: Jennifer Spoon confirmed the time for the picnic, reminder to bring canned food for the food drive. She needs any submissions for the Newsletter by May 21st

PROGRAMS: Next meeting will be at VCOMII, annual picnic in June, then a break during July and August. Discussion regarding when would be best for the new Va. Tech President's wife and Margaret Day, the new national volunteer director, to attend. Perhaps even in January or February of next year.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Terry Wildman submitted a sample of a card that we could send out regarding our local chapter, it would be the size 4 x 7 or 5 x 8, and it has been decided that we should include "Serving the New River Valley Area" directly under the Blacksburg AARP Chapter heading whenever we put out a flyer, in the Newsletter and/or on the Web Page. He also submitted the bulletin regarding the Tuesday, May 20, 2014 meeting at VCOM.

WEBPAGE: Folks encouraged to submit or contribute items of interest for inclusion on our WebPage. Congratulations too for a great site created and maintained by Don Creamer.

