

AARP Chapter 2613
Board of Directors
January 14, 2014
Board Minutes

Call to Order--President Leslye Bloom called the meeting to order.

Officers Present: President Leslye Bloom, Vice President Terry Wildman, Secretary Virgil Cook

Board Members: Nola Elliott, John Hillison, Mary Ann Hinshelwood, Sally Anna Stapleton

Non-Board-Members, Committee Chairs and Appointees: Val Coluni, R. B. "Ben" Crawford, Margaret Kates, Cecil McBryde, Jim Wightman

Adoption of Agenda—John Hillison move that the agenda be adopted. The motion passed.

Announcement—Mary Ann Hinshelwood will be moving to Wytheville. Leslye and Terry will work on a replacement.

Approval of Minutes—John Hillison moved that the minutes be approved as distributed. The motion passed.

Announcements—President Leslye Bloom proposed that the December minutes be placed on the Web site. We will try putting the minutes on the Web site for a while.

Leslye passed out a report on the Holiday Luncheon. Many color pictures are on the chapter Web site. The luncheon went quite well. Links to the report are stored on the chapter Web site.

There has been an issue on how much information about board members should be available on the chapter Web site. All that is on the Board list is the email or landline phone if the person does not have email.

Audit Committee—John Hillison Reported that there were No problems. All in all, the Audit Committee was well pleased with the books. The committee recommended that the treasurer keep material on a spreadsheet.

Old Business

National AARP office—Ben Crawford. The national AARP office is still concentrating on Social Security.

Holiday Brunch--Sally Anna Stapleton. The brunch was very successful, although attendance was less than expected. About 40 people attended. We plan to hold the event again next year.

Proposed Budget--John Hillison. Last year we had only 148 dues-paying units, thereby reducing income. Income from the auction at the picnic was higher than expected, over \$600. The Health Fair brought in about \$2300 in 2012. Bulk rates will probably go up. The bulk-mailing permit went up from \$190 to \$200. Box rental is \$65; we share the box with the Consumer Funeral

Alliance. The newsletter is some 64% of the budget. Mary Ann Hinshelwood moved that the budget be accepted. The motion passed.

Bylaws--Leslye reported that Don Creamer asked whether we need to change the bylaws. Ben reported that there will be a meeting at Don Creamer's house on February 3 to discuss the bylaws.

Leslye reported that there will be a workshop on social media in Richmond on February 19. Leslye has been invited. Val said that she should share her experience with the membership; the national office is stressing the use of Face Book and Twitter.

Postponement Policy.--Leslye Bloom. We now follow the school system. When the schools are closed, the Rec Center is closed to senior activities. Should our policy be changed? For the time being, if the schools are closed, the board meeting will be postponed for a week.

National AARP Legal Counsel.--Ben Crawford raise the issue of free legal advice. Every AARP member is entitled to free legal advice once a year. Like other organizations, however, AARP lacks the personnel to make the service universally available. Jim Montgomery has applied to AARP to provide advice in this area of the state. The larger urban areas have it. Val asked whether AARP pays the attorneys. No one knew.

Committee Reports

Membership--Jim Wightman. We need people to recruit. He would like to have someone at Kroger on Senior Days to solicit for membership. Val observe that national AARP has lost many members. Some think the drop is because of AARP's endorsement of the expansion of Medicaid. Leslye suggested that we put recruiting on the agenda at the next meeting.

Programs--Ben Crawford. Ben outlined upcoming programs. In May we will meet at VCOM. September 17 is the date for the Health Fair; the date falls on a Wednesday. The fair will take the place of the September general meeting. Big Event is in Boston on May 8, 9, and 10. There will be many prominent speakers, including Laura Bush and her daughter Barbara. The Holiday Luncheon will be on either December 2 or 9, and the picnic will be on June 17.

Legislation--Val Coluni. The Governor will probably have to do a tradeoff to get Medicaid expansion. There are no regulations covering check-cashing shops. There is a scam of stealing checks from seniors. One person keeps the attention of the senior while another person finds the checkbook and steals a check from the back of the checkbook and then cashes the check at a check-cashing shop. Val and 20 others met with legislators to discuss AARP-supported objectives. He will be in Richmond on Rally Day, January 28. There were some 140 AARP members visiting legislators on Rally Day last year. Weaknesses in the Affordable Care Act on birth control and dental insurance have surfaced.

Governor's Budget Hearing--Sally Anna reported that Tina King from the Agency on Aging spoke on Medicaid expansion at the governor's budget hearing on January 3. Angela Little from RSVT also spoke. Some also spoke on pay increases for teachers.

Public Relations--Terry Wildman. Terry likes to get notices of chapter meetings out at least three weeks in advance.

Health Fair--John Hillison. The fair will take place on September 17 at VCOM. Gold sponsors bring in at least 50% of the revenue.

History--Sally Anna Stapleton. Doris is still organizing the material that she has collected. Sally Anna wants a scrapbook for each year.

Caring--Margaret Kates reported that she sent out one card.

Driver Safety--Cecil McBryde. The program needs publicity. The course has undergone considerable change because of new regulations. Taking the course every three years gives you a 5% discount over and above any other discounts; this is a requirement in Virginia.

Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned at 12:04. □

Virgil A. Cook, Secretary