

Blacksburg AARP Chapter
MINUTES
November 4, 2014

President Bloom called meeting to order at 10:04 am.

Present: John Hillison, Terry Wildman, Sally Anna Stapleton, Pat Ballard, Ben Crawford, Sandy Birch, Nola Elliott, Leslye Bloom, Cecil McBryde, Joy Herbert

Agenda was presented and approved.

Minutes from the October Board meeting were (a) printed so they could be read by everyone and (b) approved at a later point in the meeting.

Officer Reports:

President: Leslye brought to the board's attention an invitation received from Amy Shorter Epperley, Hokie Wellness Health Educator in the Virginia Tech Department of Human Resources, inviting our Chapter to participate in the 2015 Hokie Wellness Health and Benefits Fair to be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 in McComas Hall. Board members agreed this would be a good opportunity to promote our Chapter and showcase the benefits of becoming a member for VT employees who may be eligible. A possible sticking point is the requirement to sign an agreement showing that the Chapter has sufficient liability coverage to meet current exhibitor requirements. A long discussion ensued with a decision finally made to investigate our insurance coverage and definitely participate in the Fair if we are covered.

Vice President: Terry Wildman circulated a draft of our 2014-15 Program of Activities showing Chapter achievement for the current year and how the Chapter is structured for activity during 2015.

Treasurer: Pat Ballard asked if everyone has received this month's financial report. The report was straightforward and there were no questions.

Pat also reported the results of our ad hoc committee on charitable contributions for 2014. For the current year the Chapter has \$2600 for distribution, which will be allocated as follows:

- \$400 - Community Foundation of the NRV
- \$400 - Town of Blacksburg Community Center
- \$300 - Micah's Soup for Seniors at Warm Hearth
- \$300 - Center for Gerontology at Virginia Tech
- \$300 - NRV Agency on Aging—VICAP
- \$300 - RSVP
- \$300 - Salem VA—Community Living Care Vet Nursing Home for Senior Veterans
- \$300 - NRV Meals on Wheels

The board approved this report on charitable contributions. These awards will be made at the Holiday Luncheon.

Finally, Pat Ballard recommended that the Chapter pay for some of the supplies for volunteers participating in the Tax Aid Program. She suggested that the Chapter allocate \$100 for selected supplies. Sally Anna moved Pat's motion; Terry Wildman Seconded, and the motion was passed.

Secretary: No report.

Liaison Reports:

Ben Crawford – no report regarding AARP Virginia

Joy Herbert – Mentioned that copy would be needed during the week of November 17 if the Chapter wants to advertise 2015 programs.

Committee Reports:

Awards: Ben reported on several state level awards the chapter would be receiving in November. Of the three main awards, education, service, and advocacy, our chapter will be receiving the education and advocacy award. Additionally, Virgil Cook will be receiving an individual award for his long time service.

Community Service: Sally Anna reported again that the Christmas Store is still looking for donations of coats and blue jeans. Anyone having either to donate should contact Sally Anna.

Caring: no report

Driver Safety: Cecil mentioned that new driver safety classes will be starting again in January. It was noted that in 2014 six driver safety courses were conducted for 68 participants total for courses held in Roanoke, Blacksburg (2), Draper, Radford, and Pearisburg.

History: Sally Anna mentioned needing a special plastic container to hold collected items of historical significance in an orderly fashion. Leslye has such a container she will provide to Sally Anna.

Legislature: Allsion Gallway was not available for a report.

Membership: No report, except it was noted that we need a new chair for 2015.

Newsletter: Leslye noted that she will be producing the next newsletter as Jennifer Spoon has completed her obligations as newsletter editor and is currently out of the country. The chapter is currently negotiating with someone to possibly take over the newsletter for 2015.

Program: Ben Crawford noted that he has a full committee in place for 2015 including Dale Oliver, Jule Richie, Allison Galway, Sally Anna Stapleton and possibly John Cantrell. Ben mentioned that for January he has a program in the making that deals with the increasingly popular idea of a "home staging" strategy when selling one's home.

Public Relations: Terry Wildman distributed copies of a newly developed "postcard" designed to highlight features of the Blacksburg Chapter and to be used for recruiting purposes.

Financial: The Finance committee will meet late December or early January to put together a budget for 2015.

Website: no report

Other reports:

Ben Crawford will check into whether the Chapter will be able to enter a suitable car in the Blacksburg Christmas parade .

Nola Elliott reported on plans (including some changes in menu) for the holiday Luncheon to be held on December 9 at Warm Hearth. A sign-up will be included in the November newsletter; price this year will be \$18.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.

Respectively Submitted,

Terry Wildman, Interim Secretary