

AARP Blacksburg Chapter
November 6, 2018
Minutes

Attendees: Jerry Niles, Peter Magolda, Terry Wildman, Don Creamer, Wendy Baldwin, Val Coluni, Jeanneane Bame, Pat Hyer, Tamara Hodsden, Joy Herbert, Pat Ballard

Approval of October minutes: The minutes of the October 2, 2018 meeting were approved.

Officer and Board Nominations for 2019: Don Creamer reported on proposed new members for the Board. While he was successful in recruiting some very good recruits to the board, he was unsuccessful in finding someone to serve as Vice President and eventually as President. Don has agreed to serve in this role, although he has been President twice already and would prefer that someone else take the leadership role. The proposed slate was approved and will be presented at the November member meeting. If Don becomes VP, we may need to find someone to handle the Program Committee and/or other roles that Don currently manages.

Inclement weather policy for AARP Meetings: Open meetings of the AARP chapter will follow the Montgomery County Schools policy *for closure*; however open meetings will proceed when there are delayed openings. The Board will meet regardless of school closure or delays.

Annual Reporting: Wendy Baldwin distributed the national AARP annual reporting form and requested that board members identify the number of volunteers and amount of time involved in chapter-organized community service projects.

Health Fair: no report

Newsletter: no report

Food Drive: There will be a pet food drive at the November open meeting. The Soup for Seniors program will deliver the pet food to their participants with pets.

Whitebarrel Winery event: Don Creamer estimates that about 40 people attended. We have not yet received a final report from the winery. The winery owner suggested we consider moving our event to earlier in the fall and retain a band, which might attract more participants and garner some newspaper coverage. Terry Wildman, as Hospitality Chair, will handle the Fall 2019 event, possibly scheduled for late September.

Website Update: Don Creamer, Lisa Moose, and Peter Magolda are working on a “shopping cart” function so that we can take online payments for events. Members will need to pay by check for membership renewal and holiday luncheon until these issues can be resolved.

Treasurer’s Report: Pat Ballard reported on the committee’s selections for charitable donations; a total of \$3,000 will be donated. Three groups will get \$400 each: Community

Foundation, Town of Blacksburg Community Ctr, and Christiansburg Recreation Center. Six organizations will receive \$300 each: Micah's Soup for Seniors, NRV Agency on Aging, Mont Co Christmas Store senior programs, RSVP, NRV Time Bank, and the Aging in Place Taskforce (through the Community Foundation).

Holiday Luncheon: The meal has been set and included in the newsletter. The Board meeting will be in the Woodland Studio at 10:00-11:30. Programs will be on the table. Need to give Warm Hearth chef a final count on Monday, Nov. 26. Pat Hyer and Jeanneanne Bame will serve as greeters, take last minute payments if needed, and check off attendees and guests. Peter will take a new board photo at the start of the board meeting and prepare a rolling slide show to play as people are entering. Awards will be presented to Jennie Reilly (Chapter Service) and Coreen Mett (Community Spirit). Pat Hyer's Andrus Award will also be featured.

Program Committee: Meetings have been set up through March 2019 and Don Creamer has a meeting with Ila Schepisi at Adult Day Services to talk about possible program. Val Coluni recommends that we consider having presentations from John Edwards and Chris Hurst.

VTRA: Wendy Baldwin attended the recent VTRA luncheon. She made a brief presentation on behalf of AARP and passed out membership brochures.

Awards: Tamara Hodsden announced that nominations for NRV Leading Lights is now open. The deadline is March 3. Several people will be attending the AARP Virginia All Volunteer Assembly in Charlottesville, where Pat Hyer will be given the Andrus Award.

Legislative Issues: Val Coluni met with both representatives, John Edwards and Chris Hurst. They both signaled that we are facing an important issue around I-81 safety. Traffic load has more than doubled in the last 20 years and the highway has 50% more traffic than it was designed to handle. Our legislators strongly encourage the AARP membership to push for improvements with the General Assembly. Uranium mining case is going to the Supreme Court.

Minutes prepared by Pat Hyer
November 2, 2018