

Blacksburg AARP Chapter
MINUTES
January 6, 2015

President Terry Wildman called meeting to order at 10:10am

Introductions were made of all the new members.

Present: Terry Wildman, Sally Anna Stapleton, Nola Elliott, Margaret Kates, Jerry Niles, Tom Alston, Ben Crawford, Carolyn Rude, Don Rude, June Schmidt, Joy Herbert, Pat Hyer, Shirley Peterson, John Hillison.

Agenda was presented and approved

Minutes from December Board Meeting approved

President Report:

- Sandy Birch requested list of all folks that should be remembered,.
- John Hillison and Sally Anna Stapleton presented notes and thank you's from community donations recipients.
- Jim Montgomery asked that 1.) AARP take up the cause of the new restrictions for 70+ drivers. 2.) that AARP legislate hotels for better & safer bathrooms.
- National AARP presented a new opportunity to honor an individual within a chapter, with the annual AARP/NRTA Community Service Award. Nola Elliott made a nomination. Nominations are due by Jan. 31.
- January 14, 2015 is the Annual Health & Wellness Fair at VT Tech. Terry Wildman and Jerry Niles will man our Chapter booth.
- Terry Wildman introduced Carolyn and Don Rude as the new folks that will be doing our chapter newsletter in 2015. There was a discussion about deadline dates and articles, ended with the Rudes setting her dates for submission based on their availability. All articles should be sent to Carolyn.Rude@Comcast.net .

New Business:

- A discussion was conducted about open committee chairs needed for the Awards Committee, Health Committee & Public Relations Committee.
- Terry lead a discussion about a restricted Board Meeting. Members submitting issues related to the chapter that we feel are important and would like to work on.
- Pat Hyer & Jerry Niles gave an update on the "Living Well @ 50+ Conference. Currently looking at the INN at VT Tech as a location, with a tentative date of Sept. 8, 2015. A motion was made to accept the Sept 8 date or any other date that the committee deems acceptable.
- Membership & Recruiting, Tom Alston provided membership info: 296 current members,193 households out of which 64 have paid 2015 dues & 71 have not. Challenge made to members to recruit new members.

- AARP VA, Ben Crawford handed out “Real Possibilities” booklets to new members and membership cards. Ben suggested a tri-fold card be developed for new recruitment.
- Joy Herbert stated that the new Winter/Spring “About Town” activities booklets are available. ‘Senior Programs’ has been changed to “Active Adults”.
- Margaret Kates sent out one sympathy card this month.

Committee Reports:

- Finance – June Schmidt and committee were meeting today (1/6/15) to finalize 2014 and put together 2015 finance report.
- History – Sally Anna Stapleton stated that there needed to be a better table at the Holiday lunch to display Chapter Information.
- Hospitality – Nola Elliott said that Thais Beams is taking over this committee and will be serving at the January 20 chapter meeting.
- Legislative – Terry Wildman presented the State 2015 Policy Priorities, they are: Support Family Caregivers, Retirement Security, Fair Redistricting, Home & Community Based Services, and Make Sure Budget Decisions are Fair to all Generations. Alison Galway will continue to support the Federal Legislative issues and Val Coluni will once again support the State Legislative issues.
- Programs – Ben Crawford said the January program has to do with helping Seniors prepare for moving, downsizing and/or upgrading. 2015 will focus on the positive – ‘Life Reimagined’.
- Website – Don Creamer sent out e-mail notice about the reformat of our Chapter Website.

Minutes submitted by Sally Anna Stapleton 1/8/2015.