

AARP Blacksburg Chapter Minutes

December 7, 2021

Meeting held in-person and by Zoom Conference

Attendees:

Don Creamer, Leslie Pendleton, Carolyn Rude, Todd Solberg, Chuck Burrell, Kai Duncan, Ben Crawford, Jerry Niles, Doug Feuerbach, Terry Wildman, Carolyn Rude, Wendy Baldwin, Tom Hohenshil, Pat Ballard, Linda Correll, Sandy Birch, John Burton, Fred Piercy, Judy Jones, Sue Hossack, Beth Grabau, Joy Herbert

President Leslie Pendleton called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

The Minutes for November were considered and approved.

Budget. Pat Ballard reported that 40 reservations for the December 14 AARP Blacksburg Luncheon have been received thus far. Given possible additions to this count the board approved guaranteeing 45 as the official count and requested that Terry Wildman inform the Warm Hearth chef.

Pat also informed the Board that we have \$9,039 in the bank including \$554 which are LLI funds.

January Memorial: The board briefly considered a list of members who passed in the current year. Sandy Birch, Chapter Chaplain compiles the list each year in preparation for her memorial presentation early in the following year. This year the chapter lost 14 members. Sandy asked the board to report any others not on the list.

Holiday Luncheon Program: Leslie Pendleton presented a tentative agenda for the upcoming holiday luncheon. A number of details were considered and decisions made concerning some of the fine details of the agenda and sequence of activities. Carolyn Rude is updating the program and chapter highlights.

There are two important changes from previous events. First, recipients of charitable donations have not been invited to attend due to chapter financial restraints. Second, folks arriving for the event can proceed directly to tables where they can find the agenda and blank nametags to complete. This will cut down on the gaggle of folks normally waiting to receive nametags at the reception table.

Newsletter: Beth Grabau, our new newsletter editor (co-editing with Sue Terwilliger), discussed plans for the newsletter going forward. One change is that the newsletter will now be published quarterly. As to content Beth requested feedback on when and how to report on

various details of current and planned chapter activity. The January issue covers the months of January, February and March. Beth and Susan have set a December 15 deadline for content submissions.

Chapter Documents: Sue Hossack led a discussion illustrating how the chapter will be able to handle a variety of documents (e.g., membership, committee activities, working documents) using a Google drive and documents. While the discussion was somewhat technical the promise of a more streamlined and powerful set of tools for handing documents was interesting and quite promising. Sue also discussed setting up a Google Group using the gmail account “AARP Blacksburg” for board member communication. This would allow communication between and among board members and also guarantee privacy of email accounts. This preliminary discussion will be followed up with more details during a report at the January board meeting.

Program Committee: Linda Correll reported that monthly chapter programs for 2022 have been set or in process through September. The January newsletter will carry details of programs for the first half of 2022.

Standing Rules: Linda Correll reported that this committee met on December 6 and that the document is being edited and will go back to committees for any additional feedback.

American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA): Wendy Baldwin reported that the Town of Blacksburg will proceed to solicit ideas for projects that may be funded given a \$13 million allocation from ARPA. These details are provided in a document prepared by Kim Thurlow, Housing and Community Development Initiatives Manager. Wendy shared this information in the context of our potential application for both an ARPA grant and eventual AARP Challenge Grant. Wendy invited board members to be involved in the collaboration. The Town is looking for input on project ideas by January 7, which provides an opportunity for the Chapter to suggest something that might be dovetailed with a Challenge Grant. Leslie Pendleton suggested that the board can discuss this further at our January 4 Board meeting when Wendy’s committee will present plans for an ARPA proposal.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:58am.

Submitted by Terry Wildman, Chapter Secretary