

AARP Blacksburg Chapter, Board Meeting June 3, 2014

Called to Order at 10 A.M.

Present: Margaret Kates, John Hillison, Leslye Bloom, Terry Wildman, Pat Ballard, SallyAnna Stapleton, Ben Crawford, Joy Herbert, Tina King, Doris Abraham, June Schmidt, Tom Alston, Cecil McBride, Nola Elliott

Motion made by Tom Alston and Seconded by Pat Ballard to accept the Agenda. Motion passed.

Motion was made by John Hillison and seconded by Ben Crawford to approve the May 6th, 2014 Board Meeting minutes as corrected. (Incorrect date for Health Fair Committee meeting was listed in the minutes)

ANNOUNCEMENTS: RSVP-VA Has been awarded 2014 Best Practices Award for their work with Seniors in the area. Congratulations to them. Ben Crawford reminded us of the wonderful service that Micah's Back Pack program provides to area needy students. They should be considered for funding from our Chapter. Tina King announced a new program sponsored by The Area Agency on Aging and the Health District. The programs will be held at two locations on different days, Mondays starting June 16th for 6 weeks from 2PM to 5PM at Warm Hearth Village. Also every Thursday beginning June 19th for 6 weeks from 9AM to Noon at the NRVAOA in Pulaski. The workshops will focus on Chronic Disease Self Management Program. Free to the public.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Leslye Bloom Remarked how useful and on topic the presentation by Dr. Ronna New of Abingdon was. Very well presented and appreciated. Presentation was given at the AARP May meeting held at VCOM.

VICE-PRESIDENTS'S REPORT: Terry Wildman Nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Ballard Nothing to report. (Financial report for May was approved.)

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Our Secretary is out after having surgery and reportedly doing well. Please hurry back.

OLD BUSINESS: Tina King will be asking the new Virginia Tech President's wife to attend one of our future meetings, perhaps making a short introduction during our Holiday Luncheon. Discussed further under Program report.

NEW BUSINESS: Brief discussion regarding whether or not an August Board Meeting should be held. Typically the Board and the General meetings are not held in July and August. It was determined if the need arose for an August Board meeting, President Bloom will notify us. Otherwise, no Board Meetings and no General Meetings in July and August.

AARP – VIRGINIA: Ben Crawford mentioned the Focus Group manned by Va. Tech Students and retained by the Town of Blacksburg to project Senior needs in the town for the future. Among their conclusions was the need for a separate facility for Senior Citizens Programs and Events. They sent a note of thanks for the AARP participation. Additionally Ben reported on a group of folks who are

volunteering at the Dublin Veterans Cemetery. They may be a worthwhile project to be considered for funding from our Chapter.

TOWN OF BLACKSBURG-SENIOR CENTER: Joy Herbert Suggested that our Agenda/Calendar be included in the Publication "About Town" and the upcoming Fall Calendar of Events. Also, because of the closeness to other festivities, perhaps the Christmas breakfast that is provided by the Chapter for the Senior Citizens Center be replaced with another activity or program. Further discussion as to what that may be later.

VTRA/CARING: Margaret Kates Margaret reports that the recent tours guided by Sandy Birch of the New Signature Engineering Building and Dining Facilities at Virginia Tech was fantastic. The facilities are both amazing.

AWARDS: Doris Abraham, Doris continues to advertise requests for nominees, Local Chapter, Community Spirit and Program awards. We also have a nominee for the Andrus Award, Virgil Cook.

CARING: Margaret Kates, Margaret reports a get well card has been send to Calvin Dove of the Kopy Korner as he has not been well lately. Reported that Virgil recently went for his checkup and received a good report. And it has been reported both the Wightmans are dealing with an illness, we will keep them in our thoughts.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: SallyAnna Stapleton The annual Virginia Food Drive will be September 13th, Volunteers needed at both Blacksburg Kroger locations. It was then brought to our attention that September 13th was a home football game starting at 12:00 and it has been decided to do it at another time. We need volunteers to assist with the tables and deliver the food to the Food Banks. Please let Sally know if you can help.

DRIVER SAFETY: The next Driver program will be in Christiansburg on June 17th. Cecil also modeled his Smart Driver Shirt to display for us, one can order same from the AARP store, Additionally he brought a sample safety bag which contains a tool to break windows in case of an emergency, a telescoping cup among other items.

FINANCE: June Schmidt No report.

HOSPITALITY: Nola Elliott Reports that Delegate Yost will be attending if not called to Richmond Congressman Griffith will not be able to attend as he will be in Washington, but they will send a representative for him to attend. The Blacksburg Town Council was invited but they are having a Council Work Session at that time and will not be able to attend. Tom Alston will obtain a sound system for the program. Those helping with set up should be at the park at 10 AM. It is suggested that we move the auction along a bit quicker than in the past, perhaps bundling some items to help speed things along. John Hillison and Terry Wildman will act as helpers and try to keep things moving. Pat Ballard will be in charge of the winning bidders and the \$ collections. Don Elston will bring some of his antique cars and friends if the weather cooperates. Clean up volunteers will be cheerfully accepted.

HEALTH FAIR: John Hillison provided an updated list of Exhibitors who have already paid, \$7,600.00 total so far. Planning continues.

HISTORY: SallyAnna Stapleton SallyAnna has purchased a Scrapbook for 2014 articles, newspaper clippings and any other print materials. Please keep a look out for items appropriate for inclusion in the scrapbook. It will be displayed at the Christmas Dinner.

LEGISLATIVE/FEDERAL ADVOCACY: Allison Galloway (absent) Per Ben Crawford. Allison submitted a very helpful and comprehensive report covering information from Federal, State, and Local items of interest to AARP and Senior Citizens. Very well done.

MEMBERSHIP: Tom Alston Tom reports there are 127 paying households with 181 on the membership roll. There is a declining membership. Need ideas to bring in new people. Seems there is simply non interest that is felt during recruitment attempts. Suggested a committee to discuss membership enhancement, ideas include branching out into the county, and nearby towns. The committee of volunteers: Tom Alston, Don Creamer, Ben Crawford and Terry Wildman.

NEWSLETTER: Jennifer Spoon. Although Jennifer is out of town, the Newsletter was completed and sent out early. Discussion regarding the Post Office Automated System and the number of copies. Currently printing 230, Ben suggests more copies and distribute more widely, especially local libraries.

PROGRAMS: Ben Crawford. June – Picnic, July and August no meetings. Sept. 17th, Health Fair, October Political Candidates Forum, Nov. 18th, Funeral Alliance and Dec. 9th, Holiday Luncheon. It has been mentioned that the new Va. Tech President's wife be invited to attend the Health Fair, and then also invite her to the Holiday Luncheon. Tina King will be in touch with her to see what her schedule will allow.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Terry Wildman we again mentioned inclusion in the "Good Times" publication of the Town of Blacksburg, and perhaps a link on Montgomery County web page. Please submit ideas.

WEBPAGE: Don Creamer No report

Respectfully submitted by Nola Elliott for Virgil Cook.

June 5th, 2014.