

AARP Blacksburg Chapter

Minutes

December 6, 2022

Attendees:

Don Creamer, Leslie Pendleton, Jerry Niles, Terry Wildman, Linda Correll, Wilma Dotson, John Burton, Judith Jones, Nola Elliott, Susan Terwilliger

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

The Chapter minutes from November were considered and approved, with the observation that Fred Piercy was not present as reported, but perhaps in spirit as noted by the Secretary.

Treasurer's Report. It was reported that 47 members had registered and paid for the Holiday Luncheon for a total of \$1,170 received. Leslie Pendleton asked if we should send one final notice to the membership regarding the luncheon and Don Creamer agreed to do so. A final deadline for registration was set for 5pm the following Wednesday.

Regarding the luncheon, Leslie reported that Cindy Graham and Julia Fallon would play the harp and sing at the luncheon.

Announcement. Leslie reported that Wendy Baldwin's husband Del Futrell had recently passed. A brief discussion followed regarding setting up a "meal train" arrangement to provide meals for Wendy in the short term. Don Creamer, Judy Jones, Jerry Niles and Leslie agreed to participate and responsibilities were set as to when meals would be provided.

Member Memorials. Leslie distributed Sandy Birch's list of Chapter members who had passed during the current year and would be memorialized at the January member meeting. Two members who had recently passed were added to the list. A brief discussion followed as to which newsletter would report on members who had passed during the year.

Jerry Niles reported that he would arrange a meeting with the chapter's new newsletter co-editors, Fred Piercy and Pam Knox, to discuss when the first electronic newsletter would be published, perhaps as early as January. It was also noted that Beth, our departing newsletter editor, would provide an already written article regarding the mural now displayed at the corner of Draper and College avenue in Blacksburg.

Membership. Following a previous discussion regarding members who may not have email addresses and therefore likely not to be able to receive the newsletter electronically, Leslie reported that of 291 total members 71 do not report email addresses. This number without email addresses was viewed as probably not correct, i.e., many of these members may have email addresses that simply aren't published in our member database.

Leslie also reported that of 175 total households, 76 had paid dues for 2023 and 99 had not yet paid.

Programs. Linda Correll reported on programs scheduled for the first part of 2023, which are as follows:

- January – Ruth Waalkes (invited by Linda). Her topic concerns operations of the Moss Arts Center at Virginia Tech. As the outgoing program chair, Linda agreed to follow up with Dr. Waalkes prior to the presentation.
- February – David Ayares. His program is a make-up of the cancelled (due to weather) November program. His topic is “Xenotransplantation: Overcoming the organ shortage crisis.”
- March – Helen Royal. After a brief discussion about Montgomery County’s recent reassessment letters, Terry suggested that Helen Royal, Commissioner of the Revenue, be invited to speak about tax assessments in Montgomery County. Leslie will make the contact with Ms. Royal.
- April – Jamie Reygale (invited by Leslie). InSpire Mini Communities for Retirees and mindfulness exercises.
- May – Kim Thurlow (Invited by Wendy). Report on projects in the Blacksburg area funded from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds.
- June – Chapter Picnic. Details to be determined

Holiday Luncheon Program. Leslie distributed a draft of the program for the December 13 Holiday Luncheon. Edits were made as needed.

Standing Rules. Linda reported that the draft document is now completed. The new Vice President(s) will need to formalize the document with any updates needed when the new year begins. Linda also responded to a question about access to the Google Drive system and confirmed that access will not be a problem.

Other reports. Jerry Niles reminded the Board of the Financial Review that will occur in January as usual and required by Chapter By-Laws.

Jerry also reported that Spring programs for LLI are set and ready to go. The expectation is that 25-30 programs will be underway during the Spring semester. February 6 is the registration date, and the online program preview will occur on January 31.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Submitted by Terry Wildman, Chapter Secretary

