

Blacksburg AARP Board

Minutes/Notes

March 4, 2025

Blacksburg Recreation Center

Attendees: Don Creamer, John Burton, Ben Crawford, Pat Ballard, Joy Herbert, Jamie McReynolds, Jackie Jones, and Wilma Dotson.

Co-President Pat Ballard called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

Agenda: **Wilma Dotson** moved that the agenda be accepted as presented. It was seconded and the agenda was **approved** as presented.

The minutes: **Don Creamer** moved the February 4, 2025 board meeting minutes be accepted as posted. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were **approved** by voice vote.

Treasurer's report: **Jamie McReynolds** reported close to \$ _____ in the bank. (A full report is posted on our website). In response to a question from **Ben Crawford** about memberships, **John Burton** agreed to report on memberships at the next board meeting.

Leadership Development: **Don** gave an overview of the leadership problem and a discussion of the relationship between membership and leadership ensued. **Ben moved**, and **Don seconded** that we pursue a change of our Chapter name from Blacksburg AARP #2613 to New River Valley AARP 2613. The motion **passed** on a voice vote. **Don** will continue to take the lead on this issue. **Wilma** reminded the group that changes to our print materials is necessary.

Mission Statement: **Don** circulated a draft of a new mission statement. After some "wordsmithing" and additions, it was agreed that Pat would take all the comments and put them into a clean draft. **John** recommended a zero-budget approach; If we add words we subtract an equal number of words. The ultimate goal is a concise statement of what we do that can form the basis of our future marketing efforts.

Locations for June Picnic: **Don** announced that the summer picnic will be held on the 3rd Tuesday in June at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation. There will be no charge.

Change in Format for Holiday Event: Since **Jerry Niles** was the key person on this and he was absent from the meeting, and, because we had already agreed to survey the membership at the next full meeting, the notion was essentially **tabled** pending further input.

Committee Reports:

Federal Liasson- **Ben** reported that AARP National intends to fight changes to Social Security as a priority issue.

Virginia AARP- **Jackie Jones** reported that the Virginia AARP was successful on 15/22 bills that it supported reaching the governor's desk. The VA AARP is checking in on candidates to get their positions on issues of importance to seniors.

Awards- **Ben** reminded the group of award nominations that are coming up including: Rookie of the Year, Volunteer service to the Community, Volunteer service to the Chapter and the State President's award.

Pat adjourned the meeting at 11:45