



**Meeting Minutes of the  
South Carolina Combined Federation Executive  
Board (FEB) and Chapter Presidents' Meeting  
via Zoom connect**

**September 17, 2020**

The South Carolina Federation Executive Board (FEB) and Chapter Presidents' meeting was called to order at 12:07 by President Lotz. Twenty-four (24) members were present.

**Introductory observations, respects, and logistics:**

- A prayer and moment of silence was observed.
- President Lotz led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Parliamentarian Harry Brown confirmed a quorum had been established.
- President Lotz made a request for any changes or additions to the agenda. None were forthcoming.
- A copy of the meeting agenda is provided, see attachment.
- Joy, concerns and goodwill offerings were provided to include:
  - Myrtle Beach chapter reported no COVID cases amongst their members.
  - Spartanburg chapter reported the death of Ellen Rollins, a long-time chapter member.
  - Columbia chapter advised during their Sept 27 meeting the state Immunologist provided a brief.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Federation Treasurer Betty Hawkins spoke to and provided a budget addendum, see attachment which is self-explanatory. Treasurer Hawkins advised no new expenses had been incurred since the last meeting due to COVID. A motion was made to accept the addendum figures and was seconded. All voted in favor.

**National Secretary/Treasurer Remarks:**

National Secretary/Treasurer Kathryn Hensley provide brief remarks to include her thanks for the turnout in South Carolina during the recent national elections. President Lotz provided congratulations on her successful re-election. The election results are provided as an attachment.

**Region III Vice President Remarks:** (from Clarence Robinson's notes)

I would like to thank the South Carolina Federation for inviting me to their Zoom meeting. The past year has brought about a lot of changes due to COVID - 19. The way we operate and meet has changed and we are operating in what is called the "NEW NORMAL".

I would like to congratulate Kathy Hensley on her reelection to the position of NARFE National Secretary/Treasurer. She is very deserving and is a hard worker. She can be counted on to do the right thing and make decisions that are in the best interest of NARFE.

I would like to briefly talk about the vote that was just held at the end of August. The number of members who voted was about the same as 2018. I would like to congratulate South Carolina as having the highest percentage of ballots returned (11.15%) in Region 3. The South Carolina Federation returned 271 ballots out of a total of 2,430 ballots sent to the Federation.

The 10% fund vote (Federation Payments) was rejected and did not pass. The 10% funds will continue to be sent to the Federations as they have in the past. The proposal was to reduce the 10% funds to 5%.

The Chapter payments vote passed by 9,927 votes (79.07%). This means that when a member joins NARFE, the Chapter will receive 1/6 of the membership fee (\$6.67) instead of 1/3 of the membership fee (\$13.33). This was a shock especially since we are having problems keeping Chapters open and viable. The effect of this vote remains to be seen.

The dues increase passed by 8,646 votes (67.75%). The new dues of \$48.00 will be effective on January 01, 2021. Headquarters is in the process of getting the new rates set up in the computer system. NARFE currently has 26 dues categories. We are losing members at an unacceptable rate in 2020 and in past years. Normally when we have a dues increase, we lose additional members because of the increase.

NARFE is at a point where we need to reinvent itself. The 'NEW NORMAL' dictates that we need to look at how we are operating and at what costs. We need to make the changes needed and understand that we can't be everything to everyone. Our mission needs to be clarified and we need to focus on those areas that will make NARFE successful.

Please continue to work to make South Carolina NARFE successful. All of us working together will achieve more results than a few members carrying the load.

**President's Remarks:**

President Lotz advised the treasury (budget) looked good in that no travel, meetings or related expenses were incurred since circa March. Next year's budget and expenses cannot be predicted at this time and the 2021 annual federation conference might have to be conducted via a zoom connect evolution. More will be known after the first of the year.

President Lotz encouraged the chapters to use Zoom connections for their meetings. The connectivity is relatively easy. Additionally, President Lotz also urged everyone, including Chapter Presidents, to contribute articles and content to the federation newsletter. Insure "chapter news" articles get submitted which will benefit all federation-wide chapters. This will also help to get the National Only Members involved in the chapters. An October 10<sup>th</sup> deadline has been requested for newsletter article submissions.

**Old Business:**

Topic 1 – *Historical Records/Document Destruction Request*. Federation Secretary/Historian Toevs petitioned the Federation Executive Board to provide a "Yea or Nay" vote to authorize the destruction of certain historical records and documents. Secretary/Historian Toevs put forth a motion to destroy the following historical records/documents:

- 167 NARFE magazines - various long-term dates
- 10 PR News & Views - from 2003-04 - a National produced product
- 13 Quarterly News - from 2009-11 - a National produced product
- 16 Manhattan - Bronx Chapter 23 Newsletter - from 2003-04
- 27 Recruiting & Retention Journal - from 2010-13
- 11 Headquarters Highlight - from 2003-04 - a National produced product
- 22 Recruiter's Journal & Quarterly - from 2006-10 - a National produced product

A motion was made and seconded. This motion passed unanimously. Destruction is set for October 3, 2020.

Topic 2 – *2021 Federation Annual Conference Update*. Executive Vice President (EVP) Whitely, the 2021 Conference Chair, reported the following:

- Blaine will engage with Jason at Hilton Hotel to indicate our interest in holding a live-in person conference at the hotel - rather than cancel
- will re-engage speakers who had committed to the 2020 conference to verify they are interested in attending in 2021
- would like to have a 100 NARFE anniversary program at the banquet
- want to also honor Margaret Baptiste (2020 Judy Kemp Award winner) in addition to honoring the 2021 winner
- need to find a local printer for program printing
- will restart our fundraising efforts by early January 2021 - and requests for gift bag donations
- if anyone has ideas for speakers or programs for the conference, please contact me or any conference committee member
- will no doubt we need some additional volunteers to assist, I think the members who have already volunteered will still be available to assist for the 2021 conference

**New Business:**

Topic 1 – *Discussion of Access and Authorized use of National Only Members List by the Chapters*. Joe Kohut advised an invitation would go out to the national only members of the federation notifying them the (Summerville/Goose Creek) chapter was to have an audio meeting. Information provided would include meeting time/dates, Alzheimer's walk, agenda, and guest speakers. It was decided to contact them one time. President Lotz then asked if this was appropriate and legal. R-III Robinson advised it might be more appropriate for this effort to come from the federation president versus the chapter. National Secretary/Treasurer Hensley then said there was no rule, policy, and no by-laws exist that prevents chapters from using the national only member list to invite national only members to their federation chapter meetings. It was recommended by Hensley that a letter should go out from the federation president to the membership department at National explaining what is requested and maybe they can help with a way around that. Hensley stated a reasonable request from the federation president to the national membership department would be good. President Lotz advised this was a reasonable suggestion. Also recommended was to make this a blanket invitation to all the national only members to participate. President Lotz advised he would look at the possibility of writing to the national membership department stating what the federation wants to do.

Topic 2 – *Federation and Chapter By-laws Updates Based on Election Results*.

President Lotz advised changes need to be made to the federation's by-laws. Regarding term limits, the federation president serves a one term session and can only serve for two terms. President Lotz is term limited by the end of April. No term limits exist for EVP, Secretary or Treasurer positions. The by-laws committee will have to look at this.

## **Five Minute Updates:**

### *Best Business Practices and Up-dates by Area Vice-Presidents and Chapter Presidents:*

- Summerville will hold their first meeting since March on Sep 21...it will be a virtual meeting using "Freeconferencecall.com" audio only technology. Going to try it for September, may switch to Zoom later. Ann Marie Usher, BC/BS Marketing Representative made contact to indicate she will be doing "drive bys" so that she can distribute open season materials to members who want them.
- Clemson is not currently conducting live in-person meetings. The chapter is exploring the possibility of having their meetings via Zoom.
- Hilton Head advised they had just finished their first Zoom meeting and it went off well. President Lotz had joined the meeting and the feedback from the attendees was positive. Next meeting is scheduled for October 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Greenville has not been having meetings. They are looking at term limitations but there are no volunteers to accept current positions.
- Beaufort is utilizing the "free conference call" program for their meetings. It was found to be a good tool and easy to use.

### *Legislative Update:*

Deborah Riley advised the LEGCON conference is scheduled for June which might be a virtual one. There may not be a possibility of going to Capitol Hill. The state tax exemption law is on the website and breaks down the states with no income tax and other information.

### *--NARFE-PAC Update:*

Bill Greenhill advised the most recent SC NARFE-PAC data is on the NARFE webpage which shows the contributions, sustainers, and other information. Our Region is making substantial contributions. Please see the webpage for detailed information and data on SC.

### *--Alzheimer's Coordinator Update:*

Committee Chair Olivia Williams provided a brief. Chapter Alzheimer Coordinators should make a report on the activities they have supported. The semi-postal Alzheimer's stamp has been re-initiated and will continue for six years. President Lotz urged all chapters to get their material and information to Olivia so she can complete her reports.

## **Adjournment:**

President Lotz advised the next meeting will occur sometime after the first of the year. The meeting was adjourned at 2:01.

**Proposed Agenda of SC NARFE Federation Executive Board  
and Chapter Presidents' Meeting, Thursday, September 17, 2020 (Zoom)**

- Call to Order
- Moment of Silence
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Quorum Determination (Parliamentarian Harry) (per Federation by-laws Article VI, Section 2C)
- Treasurer's Report - Betty and FEB members (accept)
- National Secretary-Treasurer Remarks – Kathy
- Region III Vice President's Remarks – Clarence
- Federation President's Remarks – Blaine
  
- Old Business:
  - Vote on disposition of Federation's historical records, discussion held at last FEB meeting (recommendations on Federation website) - Kevin and FEB members
  - Update on 2021 SC NARFE Federation Conference - Pat and committee members
  
- New Business:
  - Discussion of access and authorized use of National Only Members list by chapters – Joe, Clarence, Kathy and Blaine
  - Federation and Chapter By-laws Updates based on election results - Robbie Ann, Betty, Blaine, Kathy
  
- 5-Minute Updates (please keep time limit in mind)
  - Best Business Practices and Updates by Area Vice-Presidents and Chapter Presidents ( per Federation Operating Guidelines 1.5.2)
  
  - Legislative Update - Deborah, Bill, John
  - NARFE-PAC Update – Bill
  - Alzheimer's Coordinator Update – Olivia
  
- Adjournment

**SOUTH CAROLINA FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD (FEB)/  
CHAPTER PRESIDENTS' MEETING – VIA ZOOM – SEPT 17, 2020**

**South Carolina Federation Treasurer's Report  
June 1 to August 31, 2020**

Beginning Balance	\$16,967.91
Income	\$2,995.92
Expenses	<u>0.00</u>
Ending Balance	<b>\$19,963.83</b>

Note: Income includes money owed the federation from 2019.

Submitted by Betty Hawkins, Treasurer

**For National President**

Ken Thomas	12,672	
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**For National Secretary/Treasurer**

Cindy Reneé Blythe	5,038	39.67%
Kathryn Hensley	7,661	60.33%
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	12,699	100.00%

**For Region 4 Vice President**

Donald F. Wiese	632	44.48%
Robert L. Helfrich	789	55.52%
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	1,421	100.00%

**For Region 9 Vice President**

Richard Wilson	373	42.00%
Linda Silverio	515	58.00%
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	888	100.00%

**For Region 10 Vice President**

Robert Allen	820	39.92%
William "Bill" Shackelford	1,234	60.08%
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	2,054	100.00%

**Bylaws Proposals**

**B-2002: Ballot Design Standards**

Adopt	5,665	44.76%
Reject	6,991	55.24%
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	12,656	100.00%

**B-2004: National Executive Board Authority**

Adopt	11,644	92.00%
Reject	1,012	8.00%
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	12,656	100.00%



**B-2005: National Officers' Vacancies**

Adopt	11,807	93.30%
Reject	848	6.70%
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	12,655	100.00%

**B-2006: Bylaws Revision**

Adopt	11,916	94.17%
Reject	738	5.83%
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	12,654	100.00%

**B-2007: Voting**

Adopt	11,398	90.06%
Reject	1,258	9.94%
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	12,656	100.00%

**B-2008: Equality in Proposing Amendments**

Adopt	5,211	41.46%
Reject	7,359	58.54%
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	12,570	100.00%

**B-2009: Federation Mergers**

Adopt	11,525	91.06%
Reject	1,132	8.94%
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	12,657	100.00%

**B-2010: Secretary/Treasurer Term Limits**

Adopt	11,952	94.00%
Reject	763	6.00%
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	12,715	100.00%

**B-2011: National Officer/RVP Office Terms**

Adopt	11,555	91.58%
Reject	1,063	8.42%
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	12,618	100.00%

**B-2014: Simplify Voting Process**

Adopt	4,982	39.50%
Reject	7,632	60.50%
	<u>12,614</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

**B-2015: Executive Director Duties**

Adopt	11,721	93.44%
Reject	823	6.56%
	<u>12,544</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

**B-2017: Voting Member Privileges**

Adopt	5,411	43.20%
Reject	7,115	56.80%
	<u>12,526</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

**B-2018: Add Spousal Members**

Adopt	4,267	33.83%
Reject	8,347	66.17%
	<u>12,614</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

**B-2020: Dues Increases**

Adopt	8,648	67.75%
Reject	4,116	32.25%
	<u>12,764</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

**B-2021: Federation Payments**

Adopt	4,281	34.20%
Reject	8,237	65.80%
	<u>12,518</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

**BRC-01: Membership Categories (Combines B-2003, B-2012 and B-2019)**

Adopt	10,777	89.05%
Reject	1,325	10.95%
	<u>12,102</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

**Standing Rules Proposals**

**S-2002: Ensure Committee Diversity**

Adopt	5,227	41.58%
Reject	7,343	58.42%
	<u>12,570</u>	100.00%

**S-2003: NARFE Audit Publication Deadline**

Adopt	11,298	89.65%
Reject	1,304	10.35%
	<u>12,602</u>	100.00%

**S-2005: Chapter Payments**

Adopt	9,927	79.07%
Reject	2,628	20.93%
	<u>12,555</u>	100.00%

**Resolutions****R-2001: Eliminate WEP**

Adopt	7,496	58.97%
Reject	5,216	41.03%
	<u>12,712</u>	100.00%

**R-2002: Increase Social Security**

Adopt	7,205	56.97%
Reject	5,441	43.03%
	<u>12,646</u>	100.00%

**Standing Rules Proposals****NEB-01**

Adopt	9,191	74.42%
Reject	3,159	25.58%
	<u>12,350</u>	100.00%

**Election Summary**

Total Returns by Internet	9,784	72.96%
Total Returns by Mail	3,627	27.04%
Total Returns	13,411	100.00%
Total Ballots Distributed	180,552	
Percent Returned	7.43%	




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Certified, Frank Fatone  
 President and CEO  
 Election Services Co.

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