

NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
MEUNIER-PERRY CHAPTER 1015
MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA
Minutes of January 10, 2025 Chapter Meeting

The January 10, 2025 Chapter meeting was called to order at Damon's Bar & Grill, Myrtle Beach SC, by President Joseph Arsenault at 11:38 a.m. Officers present were President Arsenault, Vice President Rebecca (Becky) Hyman and guest, Treasurer Mary Brady, and Secretary Cathy Linta-Leader. Also present were Billie Nichols, Debbie Arsenault, Charlotte Downey, Morris Zupan and guest, Joyce Jones, Carol Parker, Earl Eastwood, Marty McKenrick, Ray Forcier, Ray Poutre and guest, and Evanna Kemble-Teller. A quorum was reached.

Joe Arsenault led members with the Pledge of Allegiance. Earl Eastwood led us in prayer.

Prior to the meeting, Secretary Cathy Linta-Leader distributed via email a draft copy of the December minutes to members who were in attendance during the December meeting. Three changes were made, the omission of one and deletion of another member's name and a correction to the year of the SC Federation Conference. Becky Hyman made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Members will be notified when the approved copy is recorded.

President Arsenault welcomed new member, Evanna Kemble-Teller.

Morris Zupan - Legislative Report

- President Biden signed The Social Security Fairness Act into law on January 6, 2025. Payment will be made retroactively to January 1, 2024 and remitted in a lump sum. The Congressional Budget Office predicts receipt before October 2025; the Social Security Administration has not yet committed to a date. Morris suggested members who never applied and are eligible for Social Security do so. He stated members should ensure their contact and financial institution (direct deposit) information are correct.
- More information to follow as to whether CSRS retirees with 5 years of service who changed to FERS are eligible for Social Security.
- All bills that were introduced in 2024 and not passed will have to be reintroduced in the new Congress. Morris expects one of them to be the Fair COLA Act regarding equal COLA for both CSRS and FERS retirees.

Treasurer's Report dated January 10, 2025, Mary Brady (see attachment)

Beginning Balance	\$5227.28
Receipts	340.84
Disbursement	<u>520.00</u>
Balance on Hand 12/17/24	\$5048.12
(per bank statement)	

Outstanding check #1120 of \$100 payable to President Arsenault represents reimbursement of his cash outlay for the holiday luncheon Giving Tree. As such, the checkbook balance as of 12/17/24 was \$4948.12.

Receipts included the Chapter's share of 50/50 (\$50), HQ autodraft of \$50.84, and cash received from members/guests for the December holiday luncheon, \$240. One disbursement was for payment of the December holiday luncheon.

Joyce Jones reminded BS/BS Basic members to apply for their \$800 Medicare reimbursement.

Charlotte Downey - Web Administrator – Experiencing difficulty with the website. Cathy Linta-Leader

offered to help.

Billie Nichols - Membership and Public Relations – 106 Chapter and 152 national members. The October 2024 BC/BS seminar helped recruitment efforts. Requested suggestions for recruiting. Billie offered to call and/or visit libraries and senior citizen centers about placement of NARFE literature. He does not want to provide his phone number based on previous experience when he received nearly 1000 scam calls. Cathy Linta-Leader reminded members the website allows visitors to contact us directly.

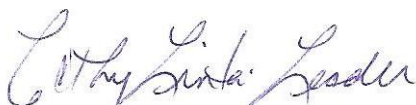
Becky Hyman – Vice President - Speakers are needed for February through May, and September. October and November are reserved for health insurance reps, and December for the holiday luncheon. Several suggestions were made. Charlotte Downey offered Culligan to discuss water quality. Cathy Linta-Leader has tentative commitments from the Horry County Museum and Carol Osborne, SALT (travel agency). She also plans to meet with an insurance broker to discuss Medicare Advantage plans, and will provide an update to the membership after said meeting. Ray Poutre offered to contact Store House Tours and will check his files for information on a police official who previously spoke about scams. Carol Sallas would like someone to educate us on the duties of a sheriff versus a police officer. Becky suggested Tideland's Hospital to discuss hospice care. Joyce Jones offered several suggestions, MB fire department (home safety), a financial advisor, Freedom Readers, OLLI, Neighbor 2 Neighbor, Freedom Readers, and DHEC (opioids). Another member suggested someone from the Alzheimers Association. Members agreed that Cathy should finalize speakers from the Museum and SALT for the February and March meetings.

Joseph Arsenault, President

- Mentioned changing the number of yearly meetings from 10 to 9, eliminating June, July and August rather than July and August. Mary Brady made a motion to change the number to 9. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.
- Members agreed to hold the December holiday luncheon at the Sons and Daughters of Italy.
- Discussion was held on how or whether members should pay for their December luncheon. Becky Hyman made a motion that all members wanting to attend must pay in advance and a member will get fully reimbursed if (s)he attends 6 of the 9 meetings. Guests pay for their own meal. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Collection will begin in September 2025.
- The SC Federation is offering \$135 grants to three Chapter members. Of the \$135, \$85 is applied to registration and \$50 for travel expenses. To qualify, a member must meet one of the following criteria: be a new member attending his/her first conference, be a current member attending his/her first conference, or be a member who agrees to serve as the Chapter President, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, or Membership Chair. Interested members should contact him before the February 14, 2025 reservation deadline.
- Members voted not to combine the newsletter and minutes as suggested by Morris Zupan. Members voted to exclude funny quotes and book summaries from the newsletter. Members agreed that Sunshine Committee Chair, Lynn Vos, include the type and member name of cards she sends.
- Refer to Cathy Linta-Leader's newsletter article on open positions and respective duties.
- Mary Brady made a motion to provide \$100 for placement of an ad in the SC Federation conference booklet. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

Deb Arsenault announced \$70 was collected for the 50/50 drawing. The Chapter received \$34; two members received \$18 each. A 50/50 volunteer is needed.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mary Brady. It was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 pm.



Cathy Linta-Leader, Secretary