

# AARP Chapter 2426

Minutes from the February 11th, 2021 Board Meeting  
(Note: Meeting was held by Video conferencing on *Zoom*)

## **NOTE: Due to technical difficulties, there was no March Board Meeting**

President **Crespin Guzman** called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance at 10:10 am.

### Roll Call

#### Present:

President: **Crespin Guzman**  
Vice-President: **Nancy Crowther**  
Secretary: **Ed Gonzales**  
Assistant Secretary: **Marilyn Totten**  
Treasurer: **Bill Nicholson**  
Board Member: **Maria Martinez**  
Board Member: **Wanda Hasley**

#### Absent:

Assistant Treasurer: **Rosie Perez**

Also in attendance were **Randy Hsi** and **Laura Dutton** of the of the Program and Health Committee, **Pat Thomas** of the Community Service Committee, **Mary Ragland** of the Legislative Committee, **Diane McGowan**, Webmaster and Newsletter Editor and **Connie Flores** of the Hospitality Committee.

A quorum was established for business purposes.

**Ed** made a motion that the minutes from the January Board of Directors meeting be approved as submitted. Seconded by **Wanda**. The motion was approved by unanimous consensus.

**Cres** said that a notice should be placed saying that Board meetings are to be held the Thursday before the general meeting/program.

**Nancy** reported that she has been busy participating in various AARP related meetings and will keep the Board updated on issues discussed.

**Bill** reported he emailed out on January 20th to the National AARP Association treasurer the annual report titled: "AARP Chapter Treasurer's Report for Calendar Year 2020." Bill also emailed out the Chapter treasurer's report and Membership roster to the Board. In the report, he detailed that there are 177 members, 16 of which are exempt. Of that number, 68 have paid current dues. We need to discuss how we would like to address the payment of dues from the delinquent members.

**Bill made a motion that his treasurer's report be approved as presented. Seconded by Pat. The motion was approved by unanimous consensus.**

There was more discussion of the issue of delinquent dues. One suggestion was to send out a copy of the roster and follow up with a call to those behind in payment. Another suggestion was to put the roster in the newsletter showing payment status.

**Mary** reminded the board that AARP bylaws do not allow the publication of member's information to the general chapter membership, so publication of the roster would not be a wise choice. **Diane** suggested that we add a letter specifically to those who have not paid similar to the mailed out newsletters currently being mailed to those who do not have an email account. **Pat** remarked that maybe we should be satisfied with the paid members we do have as some have expressed that they feel that without the on site meetings, community fellowship, celebrations and snacks, they feel that they would be paying for nothing. **Randy** said that even though we have not held on-site meetings, we have been averaging 25-30 attendees at our *Zoom* presentations.

**Bill** agreed with **Pat**, about being glad to have as many members as we have had paying dues. Possibly we could call those members who have not paid to see how they are doing and as an aside, remind them of the dues. There were various suggestions about how to delicately approach the non-dues paying members about this year's dues.

**Cres** said that this whole dues issue needs to be handled very carefully as we would never want to offend anyone and so maybe we should continue to remind members to pay dues in the monthly newsletter even though the deadline for payment for this year has passed. **Cres** also said we need to compose a short notice to also be included in the newsletter as to what you do get for your dues. **Bill** reminded everyone that the dues help to provide *Zoom* programs.

**Cres** further said that this issue need to be addressed at the next Board meeting. **Nancy** said that our chapter should be commended for having a double outreach (e.g. newsletters and *Zoom* programs) as we are doing much better than other Chapters.

**Nancy** also said that the State AARP office will be having no in-person activities until at least the end of March and that they wanted to make sure that every chapter got the forms for the annual report to the National AARP offices.

**Diane** revisited the issue of the mailed newsletters and whether we should continue to send them to delinquent members.

**Randy** discussed his previously distributed schedule of upcoming programs, such as “Matters of the Heart” during national Heart Health Month. He said that the program has a dynamic speaker who will address emotional issues affecting the heart, such as Depression, Sadness, Healthy Relationships and Connecting to Other People. **Laura** added that in March, **Tony Plohetski**, award winning journalist will be the presenter.

On the issue of going on socially responsible guided tour to places such as the Ladybird Wildflower Center, **Cres** further suggested that it might be wise for participants to have had both vaccines before participating in group activities. **Bill** asked whether the Wildflower Center can provide a virtual program. **Laura** said she will check and she will also check with Austin Parks and Recreation about presentations concerning how the current pandemic has affected park attendance and whether they could provide a presentation from a park ranger about the new hiking trails.

**Pat** addressed the board regarding the homeless issues in Austin and **Nancy** reminded everyone that the municipal election in May has this issue on the ballot.

**Mary** said that not much is going on down at the Legislature, but that a speaker from the League of Women Voters would be a good choice for a presenter, especially on the issue of “Redistricting and Voting problems”. **Nancy** we should look more to “Silver-Haired Legislators” more closely for topics more attuned to our needs.

**Pat** said the because of the pandemic, nothing much going on in the Community Service Committee and she has no future plans for any outings at this time.

**Maria** said she will give **Diane** information concerning “Tax-Aide“ at SASAC for inclusion into the newsletter.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15a.m.

Approved 4/18/2021

Ed Gonzales, Recording Secretary