AARP Chapter 2426

Minutes from June 20th, 2018 Meeting

President Petr Skalnik called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. Vice President Elaine Benton led the pledge to the flag.

*Announcements: The next regular Chapter meeting will be on July 18th, 2018 @ 1:00PM at the South Austin Senior Activity Center. The next Board meeting will be on July 17th, 2018 at the Manchaca Road Branch of the Austin Public Library @ 10:00 am.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes: The minutes of the May 16th, 2018 meeting were read and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Pete reported that he will need around 10 volunteers to help with the next AARP Day to be held Thursday, August 16th at the Bethany United Methodist Church on Anderson Mill Road. In addition to Pete, the following graciously volunteered to assist: Danny and Barbara Fetonte, Crispin and Maria Guzman, Jose Saenz, Nancy Crowther, Katherine Stone, Diane McGowan and Doris Thorne.

Jose Saenz announced that the program for July will be an ice cream social and the program for August will be a presentation by the 360.org

PROGRAM

The June program was an in-depth and highly personal presentation on Immigration by Lilliana Mendoza, a mother of three children, who came to the U.S. as an undocumented child with her mother. She is now a citizen and very active in her community. She is with JOLT, an immigrant rights organization. She has spoken to many civic groups around Austin explaining the process and problems facing immigrants trying to become documented and citizens. She has been especially active with DACA recipients and works closely with Raíces (Spanish word for “Roots”) which is A Pro Bono Project launched in 2014 by a group of attorneys committed to serving the legal needs of women and children in family detention. Ms. Mendoza was asked to return sometime in the future to give even more insight to the current situations not only on our southern borders, but to U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Policies and Procedures as a whole.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Attendance and Membership Committee

Margaret Hughes reported that there were 70 attendees not including 18 guests at today’s meeting. The guests were: Marge George, Domingo Herrera, Imogene Mitcham, Mary Elizando, Barbara Rennert, Lana Rodriguez, Janie Aguilar, Hank Leithner, Yolanda Delgado, Pam Kosobud, Terry Kosobud, Hector and Annie Hinojosa, Tom Herrera, Mark Knox, Lilliana Mendoza, Martha Garza, Robi Pacheco and Mary Hernandez. There have been 11 new members since May.
Treasurer’s Report

Barbara Fetonte reported that the Checking Account balance was $2,519.16; the Travel Account balance was $1,645.31; and the Savings Account balance remained at $25.00.

Community Service Committee

Pat Thomas reported that there are many new trips coming up, such as a trip to the Harry Ransom Center Library and Museum with a lunch at Matt’s El Rancho and a return trip to the new Central Public Library on June 30th. Pat is also trying to coordinate an evening trip and dinner at the Hula Hut on Lake Austin in August. Pat also reminded everyone many new changes have occurred to established bus routes, so more on this will be reported at a later date.

Sunshine Committee

There was 3 birthday celebrants: Danny Fetonte, Eleanor Carr and Deborah Fennell and 4 Anniversaries: Pete and Marie Skalnik, Doris and Mario Macaluso, Crispin and Maria Guzman and Chinelle Williams.

Travel Committee

Mario Macaluso reminded everyone that the next trip will be to visit the George H.W. Bush Museum in College Station on September 11th. Self-guided tour at your leisure of the Library and Museum with lunch on your own at Abuelo’s Mexican Restaurant. In the afternoon, there will be a “Mystery Stop” before returning to Austin. Price: $45 per person based on 35-38 people (It includes bus ride, bus driver tips, admission to the Library and Museum, water, treats, raffle gifts and the “mystery stop.”). Bus will leave SASAC at 8:15am sharp, members have first priority before space is given to other guests.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.

Ed Gonzales, Secretary

APPROVED July 18th, 2018

*Not read at the meeting, for informational purposes only