

AARP Chapter 2426

Minutes from the March 11th, 2020 Board Meeting

President Crespín Guzman called the meeting to order and led of allegiance at 10:00am

Roll Call

President: Crespín Guzman-present; Vice-President: Nancy Crowther-present ; Secretary: Ed Gonzales-present ; Assistant Secretary: Marilyn Totten-present ; Treasurer: Bill Nicholson-present; Assistant Treasurer Rosie Perez-present; Board Members Wanda Hasley-present and Maria Martinez-present. Also in attendance was **Former President** and long time Chapter member **Mary Ragland.** With the attendance of all Officers and Board members, a full quorum was established for business purposes.

Cres said that in lieu of an agenda, the major topics to addressed today will be a) Incomplete Chapter documents; b) AARP by-laws; c) Chapter standing rules; d) Chapter budget and finally the impact of the Covid-19 virus on future meetings.

Guest presenter **Mary Ragland** detailed a history of the formation of the chapters back to the early 1960's. Additionally, she had several specific recommendations for our chapter to follow:

1) The Chapter needs to follow closely the rules set out by the state to be in compliance with AARP Guidelines. 2) Every year, we should check to see if indeed our chapter is still in compliance. If not, reinstatement carries a nominal penalty but a substantial expenditure of time to get back in to compliance. 3) **Mary** stated that several training videos were produced in the past detailing duties of Chapter officers and also ways to stay in compliance. They are still on YouTube and essentially have not changed through the years. 4) There should always be documentation from the previous officer to be transferred to the incoming officer on the procedures of the last term of service. 5) Our chapter is still under the aegis of the national office and does not receive any budgetary allowances at the state level. As such, we should not expect nor do we receive much support from the state office. However, there is now a new state director who may help chapters if so influenced. 6) **Mary** recommends inviting state officers to our meetings to see a robust and thriving chapter and how it is vital to their own existence. 7) **Mary** also reported that there are only **three** things that can be changed at a chapter level in the general by-laws: **the dates of the annual meetings; the amount that dues can be charged and the number of which decides a quorum.** In the issue of the standing rules, **Mary** suggested that they are fairly comprehensive and are fine as they exist so we should not waste any time trying to change them. 8) **Mary** recommended that the Articles of Incorporation be reviewed every 4 years at a minimum just to eliminate any further complications later. Finally, **Mary** urged the Board to participate in the Chapter Advisory Team phone calls as an aide in helping Chapters to thrive.

Another topic discussed by the board was the issue of harassment of chapter members by certain other

members. **Mary** recommenced that we use the AARP Chapter handbook and standing rules to develop a policy on harassment. At the very least, we should expect courteousness and positive behavior from all of our members. If this cannot be achieved, then possibly have the offending person(s) meet with the board to air their grievances and as a last resort, if all else fails, bar the offending member(s) from the chapter.

11:10 a.m.

At this point, the meeting was adjourned and the Board went into executive session which included only board members to address in detail the issued just discussed.

Executive Session

One Chapter member in particular has been giving other members grief regarding several issues. It was discussed as to what measures should be taken and it was decided that the issue should be brought up both at the next general meeting as well as addressed in the newsletter. **To this end president Cres said he will call the individual involved to discuss the issues he may have and to see his response and then he will also formulate a message to be placed in the news letter. Marilyn Totten made a motion that this should be done as just described. The motion was seconded by Maria Martinez. Approved by acclimation.**

11: 20 a.m.

Board meeting was reconvened

Marilyn stated that she has communicated to **Randy Hsi** about getting the program information to **Diane McGowan** well before newsletter publication date. **Nancy** asked what should she do with excess Chapter 2426 vests and **Marilyn** volunteered to handled collection and distribution of same. Treasurer **Bill** said that the Telco Federal Credit Union account balances for this month were, rounded off, Savings: \$25.00, Travel:\$2,351 and Checking was: \$3,458.

The last Board item addressed dealt with health safety at the meeting due to the recent pandemic of the Covid-19 virus. It was suggested that in the future, members will be asked to bring only pre-packaged, un-opened items for snacks and that disinfectant stations would be set up at the entrances. Secretary **Ed** asked whether we will continue to post the board meeting minutes on the website and Cres said no, just the general meeting minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.

Ed Gonzales, Recording Secretary

Approved May 20, 2020