

AARP Chapter 2426

Minutes from the September 24th, 2020 Board Meeting
(Note: Meeting was held by Video conferencing on *Zoom*)

President **Crespin Guzman** called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance at 10:00 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**

Also in attendance was **Randy Hsi** of the Program and Health Committee, **Mary Ragland**, of the Legislative Committee, and **Diane McGowan**, the Newsletter Editor and WebMaster.

Nancy congratulated Randy for the *Zoom* presentation on Medicare he presented on Wednesday, September 16th. It was timely and was well attended.

Nancy also reported that in her dealings with the AARP State Council that there is very little activity going on in other chapters and in fact, our chapter appears to be doing well in the opportunities we have presented to members to stay involved. **Ed** asked **Nancy** whether she had a feel as to where other chapters were in regards to the submission and coordinating of volunteer hours. She replied that along with everything else, there is an expected decline in this area due to the pandemic.

Cres said that we will continue presenting programs to maintain somewhat of a level of involvement. **Cres** said he will encourage all committee chairs to make an effort to remain active and to try be included in the future *Zoom* meetings tentatively scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of each month at 10:00am. **Cres** further suggested that we reach out to chapter members concerning their ideas on what other things things we as a chapter can do. He suggested to **Diane** that we put an article on the first page of the upcoming newsletter addressing this. Possible suggestions would be a graphic illustration on that page as to those activities that can be accomplished and which also

Absent:

Assistant Treasurer: **Rosie Perez**

Board Member: **Maria Martinez**

Board Member: **Wanda Hasley**

can be counted toward volunteer hours served.

Ed asked that a motion be made to approved the minutes of the August Board meeting. **Bill** moved that we accept the minutes as written. **Marilyn** seconded the motion. Approved by acclamation.

Bill asked if everyone had received their email copies of the Treasurer's report and that he had nothing new to add to the report. **Marilyn** moved that we approve the Treasurer's report. **Nancy** seconded the motion. Approved by acclamation.

Marilyn asked **Bill**, in light of decreased membership dues coming in, whether we will have enough money in the treasury to meet this year's budget. **Bill** said yes, there are sufficient funds.

Nancy said that she has been dealing with Clark Travel, the bus company involved in the cancellation of the San Antonio trip, and she has sent two powerfully worded emails to the company trying to resolve this issue. **Bill** said he has seen the emails and he concurred with their content. **Cres** would like **Nancy** to continue to coordinate closely with **Bill** and that in the future he wants to also be copied on this issue as he was left out of the loop.

Diane reported that she has renewed the website contract and this year we received a more favorable rate than last year. **Diane** also said that the deadline for submittals to the October newsletter is September 30th and in this newsletter will be a notice that if dues are paid by October 15th, they will count for 2021 as well. **Cres** said to include the membership committee chair in this issue.

Randy said that we have two more programs for this year. **Dr. John A. Bertelson** of Seton Family Healthcare, will present a lecture in October on "Aging and Memory" and **Ms. Tabitha Taylor** will present a program in November addressing "Affordable Housing In Austin."

Mary said she would like to see the new Texas AARP Director **Tina Tran** address our Chapter. She will work with **Jessica Lemann**, Associate Director for Advocacy and Outreach, AARP Texas, to see if this can be arranged. **Mary** also reminded the Board that October 3rd is the deadline to register to vote in the November election and that information regarding voting locations and places to drop off mail-in ballots is forthcoming. She also said that in the Austin area, our local representatives are on the

side of AARP so they don't need much more encouraging on our issues. However it would be helpful to provide names and email addresses of other representatives and senators to contact who are not so inclined.

Cres asked whether there will be any free services to take voters to the polls and **Nancy** said that Capitol Metro will offer free bus rides for the entire election day.

Bill said he needs help in trying to obtain membership records as they are locked up in the storage room at SASAC. **Maria** said that she has access to the Center on Monday morning at 9:00am, so if **Bill** will meet her there at that time, she can get him in to do a file search.

Cres said that we need to have a budget planning session with **ALL** of the Committee chairs. We should plan on a *Zoom* work session to address primarily the budget.

Nancy asked whether the budget should be based on the status quo or rather for when and if the pandemic recedes. **Cres** said we should keep in mind both scenarios.

The next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th at 10:00am

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05am

Approved-10/28/2020

Ed Gonzales, Recording Secretary