



**NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
FLOWERTOWN CHAPTER 1082 SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Meeting – April 17, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order by Pat Whitely, Chapter President at 1:35 pm. Pat welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were 18 members and guests present at the meeting. A moment of silence was observed, and Charlie Giavelli led us in reciting the pledge to the flag.

Pat introduced our guest speaker. Morgan McCall, Director of Palliative Care, Intrepid Hospice USA. Morgan discussed the importance of making health care decisions and answered questions from members.

Secretary Report – position vacant – Pat indicated that there was no March 2023 meeting due to the conference scheduling. She provided copies of the February and March meeting minutes and requested a motion to approve. Bernie Bolduc made a motion to approve the February and March meeting minutes. Ken Coates seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote of members present.

Treasurer's Report – John Pennella – John was absent, however, included is the latest Treasurer's report as of February 28, 2023 is as follows: The checking account balance forwarded from January 31, 2023 was \$4,241.57. Income received during the month of February totaled \$60.16 and there was \$141.34 in expenses paid out during the month. There were also no checks outstanding at the end of the month. Total on hand in the chapter checking account as of February 28, was \$4,160.39. There remains \$5.00 in the share savings account.

1st VP for Programs – Marian Henry – Marian was absent – no report.

2nd VP for Membership – Joe Kohut – Joe reported that there are currently 113 chapter members and 68 National Only members for a total of 181 total members for Chapter 1082. Joe explained the importance of NARFE membership and summarized some of the NARFE accomplishments.

No Alzheimer's Report – position vacant – still looking for a volunteer to assume this position for our chapter.

We did not hold a 50/50 fund raiser this month, nor did we collect funds for Alzheimer's. We will solicit donations at our next meeting in May.

Legislative Officer – Ken Coates – Ken provided updated information on the following ongoing legislative initiatives:

- OPM published rule establishing the Postal Service Health Benefits Program
- Lawmakers focus on OPM retirement processing delays – letter to OPM regarding response to phone calls and other retirement application processing delays.
- Upcoming debt limit deadline and budget negotiations are ongoing
- Update on WEP/GPO repeal – Social Security Fairness Act of 2023 would repeal the WEP and the GPO. Tremendous bipartisan support so far. The bills have been reintroduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.
- Equal COLA Act, HR 866 reintroduced in House of Representatives by Rep Gerry Connolly from Virginia. This bill would provide FERS retirees with full cost of living adjustments. NARFE supports this bill.

Ken urged everyone to continue to send letters to Congress about the above topics using the standard NARFE template at the website. SC Department of Consumer Affairs has published a guide for guarding against scams. It is called DITCH THE PITCH, available online.

Ken provided updated scam information. He stated that currently there are 120 reports of scams in South Carolina, with the number one scam being lottery/prizes/sweepstakes. Number two scam is you order something online but never receive anything and the number three scams relate to service and repairs.

President's Report – Pat Whitely – Pat summarized information from the conference and provided information about our chapter's 55th anniversary. We had a cake to celebrate. We discussed plans for our May meeting which will be a picnic at Doty Park picnic shelter. The chapter will provide fried chicken, members are asked to bring a dish to share, lunch starts at 12:30 pm with a short meeting following lunch.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm. Next meeting will be picnic at Doty Park beginning at 12:30 pm on Monday, May 15, 2023.

_____/signed/_____*Patricia Whitely*_____

Accepted_____