National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

Greater Akron Chapter

Meeting Minutes for Nov 21, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m. on our Chapter Conference Call Line.

Stephanie took roll call, with 15 members and 3 guests present. Guests including Suzanne Turner, Barbara Pierce and William Turner. Barbara will be assisting with our Chapter elections.

Andra lead the group reading the 1-Minute Message: The National Federation of the Blind knows that blindness is not the characteristic that defines you or your future. Every day we raise the expectations of blind people, because low expectations create obstacles between blind people and our dreams. You can live the life you want; blindness is not what holds you back.

Dave gave the floor to Jessica who spoke about the Facebook Go Fund Me page she is hosting to assist Andra with upcoming legal fees she has for the current legal case she is fighting. She is hoping those who can help will donate.

President’s Remarks

Chapter Elections

Dave guided the group with an overview how the election would proceed. Colleen and the Nominating committee, Andra Stover and Jim Parsons, provided a report that for President Dave Bertsch was being nominated. Vice President Jessica Stover was being nominated. Jessica made a motion to accept the report, and Charles Bartee 2nd, all approved.

The meeting and elections were turned over to Andra Stover as the current Vice President to hold the election of president. Andra opened the floor and asked for any nominations for President. Pat McPherson was nominated by Page Rackley and Pat agreed to serve. A motion to close the nominations by Pat, and 2nd by Jessica. Since there was more then 1 nominee, Stephanie read the roll call and each member was to announce their vote. Dave was elected president with 7 votes, Pat had 6 votes, and 2 abstain.

The meeting was turned back over to Dave to hold the Vice President election. He asked the group if there were any other nominees 3 times, and there was not. Nominations were closed. Jessica Stover was numinously voted as vice president. Barbara Pierce thanked the group for participating in a fair election, and praised everyone for great teamwork. She commented she is very proud of our Akron Chapter and wished continued success.

Reports

Secretary Report:

Due to technical issues the minutes from October meeting will be sent before next meeting to be voted.

Treasurer Report: Dave and Pat reported a deposit was made for $270 dues, $269 for donations and Beef O Brady’s fundraiser – total $539.00. Beef o Brady’s fundraiser we raised a total of $269- $103 from the food, and $166.00 in donations. We also collected dues for 27 members, total $270.00. Expenses for the month were of $37.00 for State dues and $5.00 for PAC. Current balance $745.23.

Committee Reports

Publicity and Social Media Committee: Dave had nothing new to report other than our Facebook page has become well visited.

Fundraising Committee: Reminder to save Acme receipts to turn into Dave for the December for fundraiser. Hoping to continue success with other fundraisers in 2021, and using the monies to help kids in Camp or other endeavors. Pat is hosting a Pampered Chef fund raiser online, that will benefit the group. She will be providing more info soon.

Newsline Committee: Pat said they continue to add more updated info on Newsline. She encouraged everyone to use and see important updates regarding Covid-19.

Outreach Committee: Andra spoke with some folks with Brimfield Lions Club and hoped to work with their group in the future for outreach.

Membership Committee: No updates

Conventions Committee: Pat and Andra reported that most members that participated won door prizes. Also, they said the convention was recorded as well as the vendor portion. Each session can be found on NFBOhio.org.

Events Committee: Not sure if the On Tap meeting will take place, Colleen suggested a virtual Christmas party via ZOOM instead. She is hoping to have games and other activities for all to participate on December 19. More info to follow.

Veterans: Ken had no new reports.

Other Business

Important Dates were shared, including:

Cleveland Chapter Thanksgiving party November 26 5pm via Zoom.

December 19, Meeting via Zoom call-11 am

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:55 by Pat and seconded by Jessica.