Capital Chapter

National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2015

President Shelbi Hindel called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Attended by- Shelbi Hindel, Eric Duffy, J.W. Smith, Carole Akers, Dustin Akers, Stephanie Clator, MariLyn Pietho, Mary Ratterman, Ernie Ratterman, Jordi Stringer, Misty Hatcher, Jim Lutz, and Annette Lutz

The September minutes were accepted as distributed.

Stephanie reported the bank balance as $371.89, and the Treasurer’s report was accepted.

Shelbi and Eric discussed the upcoming state convention, to be held in Independence Ohio Nov. 19-22. It will begin with a NFBO Board meeting at 7:30 Thursday. The Friday activities will include several workshops during the morning regarding blindness issues and an advocacy workshop in the afternoon. There will be a play Friday night, as well as a hospitality room available. Saturday and Sunday will consist of General Sessions, as well as Saturday night’s banquet. Eric reminded everyone that in order to receive the lower pre-registration prices, everyone needed to register online by November 12. Jordi asked about the previous meeting’s motion to provide financial assistance for members to attend. Shelbi said that 5 members had asked for this assistance. Any of these 5 should send their registration information via email to Eric instead of doing so online, but should still do so by the 12th.

Shelbi told everyone about a transportation option where there were 3 seats available on a van from Cincinnati. The round trip cost would be $50 and the van would make one stop in Columbus along I-71 on Thursdy and return on Sunday. If interested contact Rachel Kuntz as ssoon as possible.

Shelbi reminded everyone that for the Friday morning convention workshop about Braille that interested people should register with Debbie Baker.

Eric talked about a couple of available prizes to be won at convention, including a KNFB reader and a two month technical training package. More information is available at the affiliate website.

Shelbi did order the chapter’s gift cards for convention door prizes, but encouraged anyone who was interested to donate others as well. If donating a door prize, contact Shelbi at convention since she will be handling this in Paul’s absence.

A motion was made (J.W./Stephanie) for the chapter to give $100 towards the “money for the Movement” at Saturday’s banquet. Passed Unam.

After some discussion about how fast the last order of candy bars was sold, and the fact that some who would have sold some didn’t get any, a motion was made (Eric/Stephanie) to order and sell more to raise funds for the Chapter. Passed Unam. Stephanie will find out what is available and spread the word on the list serve.

Some discussion took place about the Church’s upcoming Christmas craft bazar and our participation in it. A motion was made (J.W./MariLyn) that due to the fact that no plan had been made to work this and it was unclear how it would be done, that we not participate this year. Passed with Carole voting against.

Since the Church will need our usual space during the first 2 Saturdays in December, we will not have an official meeting. Instead, we will hold a Christmas party potluck at MariLyn’s house. Details will be forthcoming on the list serve.

Shelbi will check with the Church to make sure that we can use the room on January 9 for our next meeting.

There was nothing to report on the proposed Louis Braille party at OSSB in January. Eric will contact Dawn Henslee to make plans.

Stacey, the Communications Director for Legal Rights Ohio, and a member of the Church introduced herself to the group and stated that she was happy to be of any assistance to us in the future.

Eric reported that the Chapter Building Committee met via conference call and is planning an event at a site in Gahanna to be held on February 27. In addition, other events will be planned throughout the year. More information will be forthcoming.

A motion was made (Eric/J.W.) for the Chapter to donate $1000 towards expenses for those wanting to participate in January’s Washington Seminar. The money would be donated to the affiliate with priority given to Chapter members wanting to attend. Passed Unam.

Some concerns were expressed about the amount of money that was being spent from the trust that we have received. Shelbi explained that we only had 7 years to spend the money or we would loose it.

J.W. put forth the Nominating Committee’s slate of candidates for the upcoming year’s Chapter Officers as follows:

President- Shelbi Hindel

Vice-President- J.W. Smith

Secretary- Annette Lutz

Treasurer- Stephanie Claytor

Board Member- Carole Akers

Since no other eligible candidates were nominated from the floor, all were elected by acclamation.

J.W. expressed his concern over people paying dues at the end of the year in order to participate in elections. He pointed out that established members should always pay their dues at the beginning of the year, and not wait until election time to do so. Annette pointed out that this doesn’t mean that new members shouldn’t join at any time. This lead to a discussion regarding dues and whether or not those who paid in he last quarter as new members would not have to pay in the upcoming year. This may be discussed more at a later date. J.W. asked if this was mentioned in the Chapter’s Constitution. Eric stated that the Chapter did need to review the Constitution for this and any other item since it had been awhile since we had done so. He will distribute it and we will discuss in January.

Shelbi asked Stephanie to give the Division report and J.W. to give the Monitor report at the next meeting.

Shelbi described the new NFB App “NFB Connect” available now for Appleand Google phones. Tis app includes NFB information, as well as access to publications. It is free.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annette Lutz