Capital Chapter

National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

Meeting Minutes

Saturday February 4, 2017

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

Attended by: Shelbi Hindel, J.W. Smith, MariLyn Piepho, Stephanie Claytor, Paul Tety, Carol Akers, Cindy Gamble, Jordy Stringer, Amanda Hilty, Dan Kelley, Robyn Finley, John Finley, Misty Hatcher, Annette Lutz, and affiliate President Richard Payne.

A motion was made(MariLyn/J.W.) to accept the January minutes as posted. Passed Unam.

There as once again no financial report available. Shelbi will contact Laura to get an update.

Shelbi reminded everyone of the ongoing affiliate and chapter fundraisers. The affiliate is currently still participating in the Scrip program and is selling tumblers. The chapter is currently selling Foodie Cards and water bottles. So far, we have received money for only 6 Foody Cards. Shelbi reminded everyone to either turn in the money or the unsold deck so we can get credit for them.

No progress has been made on the planning of the Louis Braille party at OSSB. Shelbi asked Stephanie to take charge of this effort.

Jordy gave a quick recap of the recent NFBO Board meeting that took place last week.

Jordy also reported on a successful Washington Seminar which 4 chapter members attended. He said that with the others in the Ohio delegation, that all Congressional representatives were contacted concerning several blindness issues,and that some seemed very interested. The AIMHE Act will be introduced shortly and will hopefully gain some support right on the heels of the Washington Seminar. He also reported on a student rally and other events that took place this past week. Richard thanked all of those that attended.

We will be holding a national scholarship seminar after the chapter meeting on March 4. Jordy has reached out to OSSB, Whetstone, and others to try to get interested students to attend. We will be serving pizza at noon, and holding the workshop at 1:00. Contact Jordy for more information.

The Parents of Blind Children “Meet and Greet” event has been postponed until March 12.

There will be a Braille Challenge competition in Cincinnati where grade school students compete with a variety of braille skils in the region for a chance to travel to Los Angeles to compete nationally.

The national office will be holding a Youth Slam event designed to get high school blind students interested in pursuing a career in Science. It will be held in Baltimore this upcoming July.

The Art Museum in Masolin, Ohio will be holding an exhibit entitled “Blind Spot” this Spring publicized by the national office.

Shelbi reminded everyone to sign up for the NFB list serve, including those for the chapter and affiliate at nfbnet.org.

Beginning next month, we will be reinstituting the NFB publications report for our chapter meeting, where a member reads any NFB published article or book and reports on the topic for a discussion. Jordy volunteered for the March meeting.

Shelbi reminded everyone that Disability Rights Ohio is asking those who are not currently registered to vote, and who use screen readers, to go on to the Ohio Secretary of State website to test the accessability of their registration process.

Dan reported on the current plan to close the COTA bus stop at the back of Graceland, and shared his concern that no notice was given other than a posted sign, and the fact that he was unable to access any information concerning this on COTA’s website. This lead to some discussion of what the chapter can do when these types of things happen to assist. Carol found online the scheduled meeting times for both the COTA Board and their accessability committee. The ATAC meets the 4th Monday of each month and the Board meets the 4th Wednesday, both at 33 N. High St. downtown. There is a time for public comment at both meetings, and some members planned to attend the next meeting to raise our concerns.

Shelbi stated that the new Wendy’s being built in Clintonville is planned to be all touch screen service for ordering and paying. Though the company claims that this will be accessable for the blind, she suggested that several of us go there after a future meeting and test it.

Shelbi will be reaching out to OOD to nvite a representative to come to our April meeting to discuss braille instruction and various other topics with our membership.

There was a brief discussion about this year’s state convention and the fact that it will be held in Columbus and what role our chapter will play. Richard asked for our assistance with the hospitality room and registration table.

Richard also recognized the work of the chapter and thanked us for our continued assistance to make the affiliate stronger.

As of the close of this meeting, the following members have paid their dues: Carol Akers, Denver Jones, Dale Pennington, Marilyn Deweese, Annette Lutz, Jim Lutz, Misty Hatcher, Shelbi Hindel, Angela Clark, Dustin Granstaff, J.W.Smith, Cindy Gamble, Stephanie Claytor, Paul Tety, Dan Kelley, John Finley, Robyn Finley, Jordy Stringer, MariLyn Piepho, and Amanda Hilty. Shelbi reminded everyone that those who haven’t paid by the end of the month will be subject to a $1 per month fine for late payment.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annette Lutz