Capital Chapter

National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

Meeting Minutes

Saturday April 1, 2017

Vice-President Heather Leiterman brought the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Attended by: Heather Leiterman, Mike Leiterman, Alex Crawford, Jordy Stringer, Dustin Granstaff, Linda Pennington, Dale Pennington, MarilynDeweese, Amanda Hilty, Carol Akers, Stephanie Claytor, Pul Tety, Misty Hatcher, and Annette Lutz. Also attended by guest Lori Fernandez.

Since Laura is no longer able to perform the duties as Treasurer, an election was held to replace her. Stephanie was the only one nominated and was elected by acclamation. Carol questioned whether or not this special election was allowable under the chapter’s constitution, and everyone agree that more research needed to be done before making Stephanie’s election official. In the meantime, a motion was made (Mike/Jordy) for Stephanie to perform the duties of the Chapter Treasurer temporarily until the constitution can be verified. Passed unam. With Carol abstaining.

The need for a written Treasurer’s report to b prepared and presented for the record of each meeting was discussed. Stephanie committed to provide this beginning with the next meeting. Some concern was expressed that due to the lack of proper Treasurer’s reports over the past few years, that the chapter hasn’t been informed accurately about the chapter’s assets and members haven’t had a good understanding of what money is available and where it has been spent.

Carol reported the current chapter balance as $1174.34.

Jordy expressed some concerns about not having yet received the convention assistance that was voted on at the previous meeting. The Chapter Board will meet within a week or so to dscuss how these funds should be distributed.

A motion was made (Annette/Marilyn) that due to the fact that many members could not attend the regularly scheduled meeting in May due to the Vendors Statewide meeting, that our next meeting should be held on May 13. Passed Unam. Shelbi will make the arrangements with the church.

Mike reported that the affiliate will be sponsoring a Columbus Seminar, where members will meet with members of the General Assembly on May 9th. Many of the details will be forthcoming on Ohio Talk, but the topics for discussion will include funding for public transportation, a Parents Bill of Rights, the formation of a State Rehabilitation Council for the supervision of OOD, and possably guide dog legislation. Several members committed to attend.

Mike also informed everyone that several NFB initiatives in Washington are now baring fruit. First of all, both the AIMHE Act and the Affordable Accessable Technology Acts have been introduced in Congress. Also, the Pedestrian Safety Act requiring cars to make noise when they are moving is now law. In addition, the Supreme Court has recently ruled that schools must do more than just the bare minimum to ensure the education of children with disabilities. All of these come as good news, and is proof that the NFB is effective in legislative affairs.

Annette reminded everyone to purchase tickets for the Piggest Raffle Ever online, and to spread the word to family and friends to do the same. This raffle will be held on May 5 and the grand prize is $5000 for both the winner and their charitable organization of choice. Each ticket is $5.00 and 100% of the proceeds will go to the affiliate. Tickets can be purchased online at piggestraffle.com.

Volunteers are needed for this year’s BELL Academy to be held at OSSB from June 25 to June 30. This will once again be a residential program and volunteers are needed for both day and evening shifts. If interested, contact Heather.

Some members tried the new KNFB Reader for the computer, but couldn’t report much until they learned more about it. Heather told everyone about a new identification app available at the Apple App Store called AI PolyVision that worked very well. The one downside to this one was that it was not free for it to work completely. It requires a monthly subscription payment.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Lutz