National Federation of the Blind of Ohio Capital Chapter

Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2018

1. The meeting was called to order by President Annette Lutz at 10:00 AM at the Maynard Avenue United Methodist Church, 2350 Indianola Avenue in Columbus, Ohio. Members present were Carol Akers, Dustin Akers, Eric Duffy, Shelley Duffy, Dustin Grandstaff, Misty Hatcher, Heather Leiterman, Michael Leiterman, Annette Lutz, Mari-Lyn Piepho, and Jeremiah Williams-Smith. Billy Peters was a guest.

2. Minutes from the previous meeting were not available. The secretary was present for the October meeting, but she did not create minutes.

3. The treasurer was not present, but Annette provided the following financial information: The Huntington checking account has a balance of $1575.95, and the account overseen by the affiliate treasurer has a balance of $363.65. This includes sales of meat sticks from state convention and dues paid from Donnie and Ruth Boggs for two years. At state convention Annette pledged $200.00 on behalf of the chapter towards Money for the Movement for the affiliate. This still needs to come out of this balance. The balance also reflects the payment of $100 that the chapter approved towards the OSSB model project. We still have quite a number of meat sticks to sell. Jim Lutz will be selling them on behalf of the chapter at his snack bar.

4. We then discussed the recently concluded state convention. We agreed that it was an informative, energized, and productive convention. The convention was dedicated to Paul and Bernie Dressell. Eric Duffy was elected affiliate secretary. Eric Duffy, JW Smith, and Misty Hatcher were in the "Our Miss Brooks" Thanksgiving Play sponsored by the Ohio Association to Promote the Use of Braille. The chapter was well represented at the convention. We had eight members and two guests from the Columbus area in attendance. See an in-depth article about the convention in the next issue of the *Buckeye Bulletin*.

5. Six resolutions were adopted by the convention. Resolutions become the policy of the organization. See the resolutions article in the next issue of the *Buckeye Bulletin*.

6. Our Buckeye basket sold for $75 in the afiliate auction. It was purchased by Tom Ruth. We want to thank Shelbi for putting it together. She turned in $50 that was not used for this project, and the money will go to the treasury.

7. We then discussed ongoing problems with COTA’s fixed route system and Project Mainstream. We have been bringing problems with both systems to the attention of COTA. It appears that our voices are not being heard, and we agreed that it is time to take legal action. Eric Duffy and Michael Leiterman will work with Affiliate President Richard Payne on the next steps.

8. Heather Leiterman and Shelley Duffy will work to plan the next Louis Braille Birthday party for the students at the Ohio State School for the Blind. It was agreed that we should have pizza and drinks and that Heather and Shelley could work out the details.

9. Dustin Grandstaff then gave a report from the nominating committee. There was some discussion about whether or not people holding membership in both the ACB and NFB Chapters could hold office in the National Federation of the Blind. Annette said she had a discussion with affiliate President Payne, and he said it was frowned upon. Michael Leiterman said it should be decided on by the Chapter Board. Eric Duffy said that there is a national policy against dual membership. This means that the chapter and its board are required to abide by that policy. He said we are not going to police every chapter and expel known dual members. There are certainly times when people are learning about both organizations, and we want to permit people to make an informed choice by observing the workings of the NFB. However, we are not going to permit someone who is a member of both organizations to hold elected office in the Federation. Shelley Duffy said that, after giving this serious thought, the policy made sense to her. She understands that it is not possible to be a dedicated member of both organizations. She has friends who are in the local chapter of the ACB, and she has been a member. She said that she will no longer be a member of the ACB.

10. The following members were elected to the Board of Directors for the chapter: Annette Lutz, president; Heather Leiterman, vice president; Eric Duffy, secretary; Jeremiah Williams-Smith, treasurer; and Michael Leiterman, board member at-large.

11. Shelley Duffy said it is important that we work on membership building. We must find new members and do what we can to bring back former members. Everyone agreed. Annette said that she would send out a current membership list.

12. Dustin provided information about our chapter holiday party. This event will be held on December 1 at 12:30 PM at the Rusty Bucket located at 4109 N. High St., Phone 614-261-0385. If you plan to attend, please let Dustin know by November 24. Please let him know how many to include in your reservation. Dustin can be reached by calling 419-768-1521. We will also have a gift exchange. If you plan to participate in the exchange, please let Carol Akers know. She can be reached by calling 614-570-2083, email address purplecakers@yahoo.com.

13. Eric Duffy moved that we donate $200 to the affiliate to support the Washington Seminar. Heather Leiterman seconded the motion, and it passed.

14. The meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Duffy, Acting Secretary