National Federation of the Blind of Ohio Capital Chapter

Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2019

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, Eric Duffy, Shelley Duffy, Misty Hatcher, Heather Leiterman, Michael Leiterman, Annette Lutz, Dale Pennington, Linda Pennington, Marilyn Pennington, Mari-Lyn Piepho, and Jeremiah Williams-Smith. John Hill was also present, but he is listed as a guest, because he has not yet paid chapter dues for 2019.

2. Heather Leiterman moved the adoption of the December minutes as Emailed. Eric Duffy seconded the motion, and it carried.

3. We did not have a formal treasurer’s report. Annette Lutz, Dale Pennington, and Jeremiah Williams-Smith, will meet at the bank this month to update the signatories on the chapter bank account. Eric Duffy was reimbursed in the amount of $158 for the phone pouches that were purchased. Annette Lutz was given $21 for three pouches that were sold prior to the meeting. Two more were sold during the meeting, and the money for those and beef sticks sold will be turned in at the next meeting or before.

4. The Presidential Release was played, and discussion followed. President Riccobono announced the death of Betty Caps. Eric Duffy said that if he remembered correctly that Don and Betty Caps joined the organization before Dr. Jernigan did. Don and Betty helped build the organization not only in South Carolina but in most every state during Don’s long-time service on the National Board of Directors.

5. Mike Leiterman discussed the issues that will be presented to congress during the Washington seminar. He emphasized the importance of working on our legislative initiatives all year long. Every phone call, letter, and email that is sent to a member of congress counts.

6. Mike Leiterman moved that the chapter give $50 to each chapter member participating in the Washington Seminar. This will help cover the cost of food and transportation. Eric Duffy Seconded the motion, and it carried. Eric Duffy, Shelley Duffy, Heather Leiterman, and Mike Leiterman will each receive $50 as a result of the motion. Eric Duffy gave the Leiterman’s $100 in cash and will be reimbursed by the chapter.

7. Mari-Lyn Piepho said she will send a check for $200 to the chapter in order to further defray the cost of our members participating in the Washington seminar. This means that each chapter participant will receive an additional $50. The chapter thanked Mari-Lyn for this generous donation.

8. Mike Leiterman discussed the upcoming Columbus seminar. Our visit to the state house is scheduled for April 9. The affiliate board of Directors will meet on April 6, and there will be legislative training on April 7-8. There will also be a dinner and informational session on the evening of the eighth. All chapter members should plan to participate in these activities, especially the day at the state house.

9. Eric Duffy gave a report on Federation literature. He discussed the open letter that President Riccobono wrote to all chapters in the April edition of the Braille monitor. Mr. Riccobono talked about the importance of playing the presidential release at chapter meetings. It is a way for all members to be more closely linked to the national organization. It helps members whom he has not had the opportunity to meet to get to know him a little. The issues on the release can also be discussed during the chapter meeting. We discussed the need to play the release at normal speed and for everyone to be attentive while it is played.

10. Heather Leiterman was asked to report on the Louis Braille party at the Ohio State School for the Blind. She said that she talked to Michelle Wagoner, but that she does not yet have a date for the party. She is confident we will have a date very soon. Eric Duffy moved that we allocate $250 for the party. Heather Leiterman seconded the motion, and it passed.

11. Eric Duffy said that he has reached out to the OSSB foundation about hosting a pancake breakfast with the proceeds being divided between the chapter and the foundation. He has not yet received a response. This was one of the items discussed at the December meeting as a possible project.

12. The meeting adjourned at 11:43 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Duffy

Secretary