JAYHAWK CHAPTER NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF KANSAS

Meeting Minutes for February 18, 2017

Room B, Lawrence Public Library 707 Vermont Street, Lawrence KS 66044

• Call to order, welcome and introductions. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 pm by the chapter president. Five members were present including Renee Morgan and Charles Hurst who attended by telephone. No guests were present. The draft agenda was approved by the president after calling for changes and additions thereto. The meeting fell one member short of a quorum.

• National Report. Presidential release No. 458 from National president Mark Riccobono was audio-streamed in full.

• Chapter president’s report. The president reported that the Kansas delegates to the 2017 Washington Seminar did a good job of representing Chapter president’s report. The Kansas affiliate before the Kansas Congressional delegation. Constructive and positive dialogues took place with 4 of the 5 members of the Kansas delegation, the fourth House district being vacated by Rep. Mike Pompeo’s appointment as the new Director of the US Central Intelligence Agency. The nine members of the Kansas delegation met personally with all other Congress members except for Roger Marshall from the 1st Congressional District, but did meet with Bill Wozniak of his staff.

¦ The Kansas Newsline® Subscription. The state board voted to fund the Kansas subscription for at least the next year as we continue to explore potential funding options including the State Library service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, and the State Legislature via the state Universal Service Fund. We are looking at a possible increase in the subscription fee from the national office.

¦ Case related advocacy. Thanks to intervention from Kim Borchers, chief of staff to Governor Sam Brownback, Ellen Foshag of Pittsburg has been approved by KRS to receive rehabilitation training at the Helen Keller National Center (NKNC) in New York. She leaves for HKNC on March 6. All other requests for VR services are still pending except for Ashley Neybert who is in training at the Colorado Center for the Blind (CCB.)

• January Meeting Minutes. The January 2017 meeting minutes having been distributed by email prior to the meeting, the president approved the minutes after entertaining a call for corrections.

• Treasurer’s report. The treasurer was not present but had reported to the president that there was no activity in the chapter bank account during the period January 1 – 31, 2017. Thus, the balance remains at $1,015.40. The treasurer’s report was approved as presented.

• Fundraising. It was determined by consensus that we will conduct our third NCAA men’s basketball tournament pool fundraiser. Rob Tabor will again manage the pool and will issue letters as soon as the NCAA tournament selection committee announces brackets and pairings on March 12.

• Trivia tournament. Rob stated he will investigate the feasibility of a trivia tournament fundraiser and hopefully report his findings at the meeting on March 18.

• Request by Blind Student Division for financial assistance. Rob reported he was contacted by Luke Schwinck, president of the Kansas Blind Student division, for some financial assistance to enable a group of students to attend a regional blind student leadership seminar to be conducted at CCB in March. Schwinck informed Rob that the seminar is expected to focus on developing an increased understanding of and commitment to Federation philosophy, regional collaboration and team-building, and some competency skill building. A total cost of $1,600 is estimated to enable five students and a driver to attend the seminar. Rob noted that at this point the student group has received contributions of $200 apiece from the Johnson County and South-central chapters and the student division treasury. Rob stated that Schwinck had informed him the student division treasury was low despite a robust fundraising campaign at the 2016 state convention due to an oversupply of unsold inventory from a nut sales project. Renee moved that the chapter appropriate $200 to the student division for the seminar. Athena Johnson seconded the motion. There being no quorum, the vote will be presented to the membership via the Jayhawk email listserv. The motion subsequently passed unanimously via electronic vote.

• Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm. The next meeting will convene March 18, 2017 at 1:00pm, Meeting Room B, Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont, Lawrence, Kansas.

Submitted by the Jayhawk Chapter leadership team