NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF KANSAS

JAYHAWK CHAPTER

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

Location: Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas

• Call to order. Chapter president Rob Tabor called the meeting to order at 11:11 a.m. There were five members present.

• The agenda. Hearing no call for changes, the president approved the agenda as distributed via email prior to the meeting.

• National presidents report. Presidential Release No. 475 was audio-streamed in its entirety.

• Chapter and state reports. State convention. Rob reports the state convention will be held from Friday, November 2, through Sunday, November 4, at the Hotel Old Town in Wichita Kansas. Anil Lewis, Executive Director of the NFB Jernigan Institute in Baltimore, Maryland, will be our national representative. Registration forms were distributed on the Home-on-the-Range email list by state president Tom Page. A block of hotel rooms is available for reservations, and rooms are $119 per night. Rob notes the state board customarily subsidizes room prices to below $100 per night.

* Tap Tracks. The fall quarterly issue of Tap Tracks is available and online. Along with state and chapter updates the registration form for the 2018 state convention is also included.
* Ken Tiede Memorial state Scholarships. It was announced at the September state board meeting that the application deadline has been extended to September 30 in the hope of giving more students the opportunity to be considered.
* New North-Central chapter. Rob and his fellow state vice president Donna Wood went to Salina on August 25 to organize a new chapter in that area. There were about 12 in attendance and a chapter constitution was approved by vote of the presumptive charter members of the new North-Central chapter of NFBK. The elected charter officers are president Rosa Bonnecarrere, vice president Anna Hindman, secretary Sharon Luka, and treasurer Margaret Finger. Rob and Donna will provide mentoring and guidance at the new chapter’s monthly meetings for at least the next 6 to 9 months.

• Action on August minutes. Rob clarified that the technical correction that was mentioned in the minutes as to the May minutes pertained to a day to date mismatch for the summer chapter social at Conroy's Pub which occurred on Saturday, June 16. There being no other corrections, the president approved the minutes.

• Treasurer’s report. Brendy reports there were no disbursements, debits or credits since last report. Therefore, the balance as of August 31, 2018 remains at $651.82. There being no corrections, the president approved the treasurer’s report as read.

• Fundraising updates. Trivia tournament. Workers from the chapter will be needed to help the event to go smoothly at Conroy’s Pub on Saturday, October 13. Rob stated that volunteers will be needed to sign participants in and collect the $10 contest entry fee. It will also be helpful to have someone to help organize participants into teams if needed. Rob will distribute a flyer to enable members to approach potential sponsors to donate cash prizes and possibly items for raffle or auction at the event. Rob will create and disseminate a presentation script at the request of several members.

* The Merc Change for the Community give-back program. Rob stated that Renee has requested his assistance in preparing the application to be considered as a beneficiary of the program, and this will be provided. The endeavor will be to focus on local chapter events and activities and the local use of chapter resources to assist local blind residents.

• Officer elections. Athena gave the nominating committee report. The proposed slate includes Rob Tabor for president, Renee Morgan for vice president, Tamara Kearney for secretary, and Brendy Latare for treasurer. Athena notes that Renee and Tamara’s acceptances are conditional on changing meeting days to enable them to attend due to work requirements. There being no objections to the report, the president accepted the nominating committee report as presented.

• Meet the Blind Month. Proclamation ceremony. The chapter members agreed to present a mayor’s proclamation of October as National Meet The Blind Month and October 15 as White Cane Awareness Day. Rob will make necessary arrangements and will notify members as to the date and time of the Lawrence City Commission meeting at which the ceremony will take place.

* Publicity. Again, members agreed with arranging for an interview with Hank Booth on KLWN AM/FM to promote MTBM. Likewise, Rob will make arrangements with KLWN staff for the radio interview.

• Change of meeting arrangements. The membership agreed as to the necessity of changing meeting logistics to enable 2 of the 4 officers to be present on a consistent basis. A consensus proposal was made to suggest Monday October 8 at Conroy’s Pub as a onetime experiment. Renee and Tamara will be contacted to ensure that the proposed change will accommodate their scheduling needs.

• Chapter as PAC Plan contributor. It was noted by national president Riccobono in his presidential release that over 100 chapters have become PAC Plan contributors. Thus, the matter was discussed, and it was generally agreed that making PAC Plan contributions would be a good idea, but not at this time because the chapter does not produce a steady revenue stream. Members agreed to revisit the matter if a steady source of regular income should materialize.

• Other business. Having no further matters, the meeting adjourned at 12:35 am.

Submitted by Rob Tabor Jayhawk Chapter president

Next meeting Monday October 8, 4-6 pm., Conroy’s Pub, 3115 West Sixth, Lawrence KS