The at-large chapter met on Tuesday, May 9th. Allen called the meeting to order at 7:06PM. Those in attendance included:

Allen Larkin

Audra Andrade

Brian Langlois

Cullen Gallagher

Debbie Malone

Elizabeth Ann Johnson

Liz Lesperance

Mike Karsok

Rashad Saadieh

Rachel Kobierecki

Sandra Burgess

Sengil Inkiala

Shara Winton

As part of our roll call, we did an icebreaker where each person identified their favorite animal.

Liz recited the NFB pledge.

The April meeting minutes were approved based on a motion put forth by Brian and seconded by Liz.

Sandy went over the Treasurer's report. The current account balance is $1613.63. This does not include funds raised by our Double Good fundraiser.

Cullen went over the highlights of the presidential release which included:

* Global Accessibility Awareness Day is Thursday, May 18th.
* THE NFB national office has a tremendous staff. If you are interested in joining the staff, please go to nfb.org and click on "Career Opportunities".
* The NFB utilizes many social media platforms with the goal of increasing membership and engaging current members. Twitter has made some recent changes which have caused some concern such as the layoff of its entire accessibility team. Furthermore, blind users have struggled to access Twitter when they changed their API's. The NFB is establishing a new presence on Mastodon. Mastodon is decentralized so no one company owns it. The NFB’s account is:

Nationsblind@nfb.social

Please provide the national office with your experience using Mastodon by emailing:

Mastodon@nfb.org

* Recently an NFB member traveling on JetBlue with a guide dog was denied boarding access. The NFB has met with senior officials at the D.O.T. to spread awareness of guide dog access issues. If you encounter an issue regarding guide dog denial access at an airport, please reach out to:

AElia@nagdu.org

Also, please file a complaint with the D.O.T.

* The national convention Marriott rate is $125/night. It was mistakenly listed at a lower price.
* Now is the time to submit resolutions as they must be in final form and submitted by June 1st.

Resolutions can be sent to

resolutions@nfb.org

Donald Porterfield is the new chair of this committee.

Debbie went over her president's report. A new popcorn fundraiser starts on Wednesday, May 10th, at midnight. Debbie reminded everyone to register for the national convention by May 31st before prices increase. Please let Shara know if you will be requesting financial assistance from the affiliate.

Debbie would like to have speakers attend future meetings. Please consider what topics you would like to hear about. Shara suggested SSI and SSDI. Elizabeth Ann attended an informative meeting about the ABLE Act at last year's convention. Cullen suggested hearing about new technologies.

Shara suggested sharing a tip/blind hack in each future meeting. Audra suggested creating a sign-up list for the year so everyone can provide a tip or trick.

Next month Cullen will teach us about Air Tags.

Liz will send out an email about our new popcorn fundraiser.

We had a lively discussion about struggles surrounding transportation, audio description, and isolation.s

The meeting adjourned at 8:23PM.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 13th, at 7:00PM.