TLC Chapter Meeting Minutes

Date: September 9, 2025

This month the chapter met in person at St. Francis Episcopal Parish and Community Center,

2216 Pot Spring Rd., Timonium, MD 21093. President Millie Rivera called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

In attendance were Julie Abe, Ellen Hayden, Rus Hayden, Erin Lauridsen, Dottie Lyons, Ellen Ringlein (Secretary), Millie Rivera (President), Scott Soldan (Treasurer), and Joel Zimba (Vice President). Absent board members included Jerome Hicks, Eileen Ley, and Scott White.

President Millie Rivera opened the meeting with the NFB belief message. Then everyone introduced themselves and participated in an ice breaker. After bell ringers were shared, presidential release 552 was played. Joel agreed to go to the upcoming informational Zoom meeting about the NFB’s Bay Bridge Walk in November.

A motion was made to distribute the minutes via email in advance, so they can be approved more quickly at chapter meetings; the motion was approved. While Secretary Ellen Ringlein sent out the August minutes by email together with the meeting invitation, they were also read aloud at this meeting; they were approved as read.

Treasurer Scott Soldan gave the treasurer’s report. The opening balance was $893.22 and the current balance is $868.22. The treasurer’s report was accepted.

Julie Abe was memberized.

In lieu of a helpful hint from a member, the chapter held a collaborative show and tell this month. Most in attendance brought several items to pass around and explained how they use them to make tasks in their everyday lives easier. Everyone participated enthusiastically and found the information sharing valuable.

Ellen Hayden gave a report about a joint Blind Equality Achievement Month activity with the Baltimore County Chapter. The plan is to staff an informational table at the Towson Farmer’s Market at least for one Thursday in October.

Millie shared that she is working on requesting proclamations for White Cane Awareness Day from Baltimore County and Harford County. We hope to have an in-person presentation of the Baltimore County proclamation by the County Executive sometime next month.

Joel Zimba and Erin Lauridsen had previously volunteered to host a barbecue cookout and potluck at their house sometime in October. A motion was made to organize this social activity on Saturday, October 11; the motion carried. Those who plan to attend should RSVP to Erin by email no later than Wednesday, October 8.

In the absence of Affiliate President, Ronza Othman, Millie gave a brief state report. She mentioned a number of upcoming events, including the crab feast scholarship fundraiser on September 19, the Bid-for Opportunity scholarship dinner on November 15, and the Winter market on November 16.

In the absence of Johnna Harrison and Jen White, Ellen Ringlein shared information the other two had gathered about axe throwing and duckpin bowling. Some interest was expressed about a chapter duckpin bowling activity, but no decision was made.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Ellen Ringlein, Secretary