

## MIABS Student Division Meeting Minutes

Nov. 17, 2019

Meeting Called to Order: 7:02 pm

### Board Roll Call:

- Jeff Crouch, President
- Robert Parsons, Vice President
- Victor Marques, Secretary
- Hayley Laskowski, Treasurer
- Jerusalem Crawley, Board Member
- Yazmine Couthen, Board Member
- Makahi Couthen, Intern
- Steven Crouch: Intern

### Other Members and Guests on the Call:

- Kenia Flores 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President NABS
- Kamari Hix
- Taylor Arnt
- Rachel Pavone
- Ozman Koroma
- Dakota Birch

### Introduction and Welcome - Jeff Crouch

- Ground rules

### Washington Seminar Presentation - Kenia Flores

- February 10-12, 2020
- An opportunity to advocate on legislative priorities
- Typically 3 or 4 legislative priorities we support or are not in support of
- NABS has a funding program for students
- 10 minute online application, complete before Dec. 8:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdl0AJ3zBPI-OUOWfMI2uCgP7VHOMwaK664StKswmCOj3jeA/viewform>
- Supplemental funding will be required from personal sources, fundraising and division or chapter funds
- Funding approval or denial will be communicated by late December or early January. Decisions based on experience, merit, information from the application

### Presidential Report – Jeff Crouch

- General comments about the internship program, our work with Advocacy, seminars, fundraising. Teamwork and communication are required of everyone.

### Secretary's Report – Victor Marques

- Convention minutes have been provided in a BrailleNote format and are not yet available a mainstream document format. These will be posted to the List-Serve and What's App group ASAP in PDF format, for all to read. Discussion, amendment and adoption of these minutes and convention business meeting minutes at our next meeting Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Motion to forego reading of minutes and post to list-serve once converted into portable document format. Robert moved, Haley seconded, approved unanimously

### Treasurer's Report

- \$1152 in the treasury before convention
- We will have a detailed accounting of convention soon
- Convention Bake sale profit to be determined (over \$200), Michigan's Got Talent to be determined, 50/50 draw made \$125
- Makahi: motion to accept, Yazmine seconded, approved unanimously

### Committees - Robert

- Committees will meet at least monthly by teleconference to plan. Each committee will report back to the group, actions to be voted upon and adopted as a whole. Robert to finalize committee meeting schedule.
- Legislative Committee: chaired by Jeff
- Membership and Outreach: Makahi and Kamari to work on this together, Fundraising: chaired by Jerusalem, Robert to assist
- Communications: chaired by Yazmine, Steven Crouch to co-chair
- Victor and/or Jeff are the liaison to NFB of Michigan and NABS affiliates.
- All student division members are encouraged to indicate interest to work on one or more committees to that committee's chair, As soon as possible.
- Committees may overlap in their duties and responsibilities, and work together on events and initiatives.
- Immediate communications regarding actions or messaging that cannot wait until the next meeting need to be shared to the whole group, through group WhatsApp chat.
- Events and fundraising are to be revenue-positive. No money is spent until the President agrees after a group opinion/vote.

### Summary of NFB State Convention – Jeff Crouch

- Hugely successful. Michigan's Got Talen had more than 55 in attendance. The bake sale made over \$200, the 50/50 raffle made \$125 in profit with \$125 going to the winner, and everyone had a great time.

- Next year: plan to do this again, or perhaps a different type of event, possibly in collaboration with the Detroit chapter as convention is in Troy.

#### Old Business

- None

#### New Business

- Jerusalem asked about fundraising at Washington seminar and a schedule. Robert said that we will have to work with the schedule of the event and sell during events as opportunities present themselves.
- A brief outline presented by Robert of Washington Seminar schedule and what to expect. The importance of Washington seminar is high. The student division will be working with affiliates to assist with travel costs after NABS funding has been approved for those who are interested.
- Connect with your local chapter, pay dues, become members and get to know them. Students will be with their chapter members when meeting legislators. Chapters can also help advocate for the need of students to attend, assist in fundraising, etc. Chapter members and students often travel together to save on costs.
- Jerusalem and Yazmine to attend a leadership seminar weekend for students immediately before Washington Seminar at a separate hotel. These students were chosen by division and affiliate leaders. Catherine Webster will contact the students mentioned to make arrangements.
- Next event after Washington Seminar is mid-west regional seminar. It will be in Chicago, weekend of March 20<sup>th</sup>. BSBP will be strongly encouraged to fund our attendance. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. Flyers to be created for distribution to BSBP very soon.

#### Announcements

- Rachel: Kalamazoo chapter will be handing out toys and cards in Braille to children, if anyone wants to help, they are welcome and appreciated.

Next board meeting Dec. 8 at 7 PM.

Adjournment: 8:29 Pm, Makahi motioned and Yazmine seconded, approved unanimously.