National Federation of the Blind of Nebraska

Senior Division

October 30, 2015 Membership Meeting

Members of the NFBN Senior Division met at the Divot Convention Center, Norfolk, Nebraska on Friday, October 30th from 12 Noon until 1:48 P.M. Central Time. Twenty-four conventioneers (members and guest) were in attendance. Member Gina Finnell joined the meeting after the lunch via telephone conferencing.

President Robert Newman gave a welcome to all and introduced the board members: VP Barbara Loos, Secretary Karen Lemmon, Treasurer Cheryl Livingston, and Board Member Becky McCullough.

Salads were served and the microphone passed for introductions. The meal of lemon chicken, baked potato and steamed vegetables followed. Joe Ruffalo was the guest of honor and gave a speech following the meal encouraging Our members to work together for support of each other. Mr. Ruffalo reminded everyone that life after blindness should not be a time of giving up former activities just because you are blind. He stated that the word is ‘networking’ , not ‘netsitting’ and to work together to turn negative to positive.

Door prizes were awarded through-out the session.

President Newman reminded everyone that the conferencing calls were the third Monday of each month. If anyone is having difficulty with the calling in process they were to let Robert or one of the board members assist them.

**Election of officers**

The membership was reminded that all persons nominated for office or as board members must be paid up members of the NFBN Senior Division. President Newman reported that all officers and the board member presently serving had agreed to accept their positions for another year.

Through nomination, acclamation and voting procedure for each position declared that the board will remain the same for 2016:

President Robert Newman

Vice President Barbara Loos

Secretary Karen Lemmon

Treasurer Cheryl Livingston

Board Member Becky McCullough

**Presentation by Nancy Oltman**

‘…oh you don’t need to bring anything for the holiday event’ is something that is often said to blind individuals and Nancy explained that showing friends and relatives that you are capable is important. Nancy gave 3 quick explanations to recipes which were typed and passed to everyone and encouraged them to participate in the Holidays coming up by taking her suggestions. Nancy also had prepared the three candies and passed samples of each to all attending.

Karen Lemmon also commented that blind folks can easily decorate and participate by creating with Deco mesh. Cindy Zimmer reported on the crafting division of the NFB. Dues are $20 When the dues are paid the call in number will be given to you. Brad Loos also suggested another decoration for Christmas: taking old boots and setting them on the hearth after painting them in place of Christmas stockings. Katie Keening said stocking hangers that are heavily weighted can be used for hanging stockings or other decorating items.

Our next meeting will be Monday November 16th at 6 MT and 7 Central time.

Meeting adjourned at 1:48 P.M. CT

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Lemmon, NFBN Senior Division Secretary