NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF NEBRASKA SENIOR DIVISION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 12, 2016

The NFBN Senior Division met by telephone conference on Monday, September 12, 2016. The meeting began at 7:02 PM CT. Present were: members, Robert Newman; Brad and Barbara Loos; Cheryl Livingston; Linda Mentink; Gina Fennell; Walt Hively; and Nancy Oltman. Guests were: Marietta McFarland, Steve Senteney, Dianne Hemphill, and Tom Anderson. Participants introduced themselves alphabetically by last name.

Linda recited the NFB pledge.

Robert explained to Tom and Dianne how we run our meetings. They attended because they are thinking about starting a senior division in Kansas.

Linda read the August minutes. Cheryl moved, Gina seconded, that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion carried.

After some discussion about having another board meeting before the state convention, Barbara suggested that we meet Monday, September 22, at 7:00. All division members are welcome.

Cheryl read the September treasurer's report. Gina moved, Barbara seconded, that we approve the treasurer's report. The motion carried.

We discussed convention plans. Robert mentioned that the board recommended that we sell clickers for one dollar each as a fund-raiser. No one else had any other ideas. Cheryl moved, Nancy seconded, that we sell clickers at State Convention for a dollar apiece. The motion carried.

Cheryl gave a rundown of the bus pick-up route, preregistration and what she knew about the agenda.

Barbara talked to Jessica Beecham, saying that we were considering doing some fit breaks at our state convention, and she was drawing a blank on what they did. Robert asked Cheryl to find out from Amy how many fit breaks we need. We need to talk to Mike Hanson about needed music. Robert asked who's willing to do a fit break. He has one idea. Barbara will do one. Nancy liked the standing on one foot break we did at National Convention. She suggested marching in place to the fight song for the Huskers, "There Is No Place Like Nebraska." Cheryl suggested we could do Casey and the Sunshine Band "Shake your boody!" Robert explained that his would be muscle crunches while sitting. Brad will do something if another break is needed.

Barbara asked if we had any scholarship takers. Robert said No. Barbara asked if we put it on Newsline. Robert said no, and asked her to email Jamie.

Our philosophical discussion was getting help from sighted people. Barbara mentioned that they were having trouble with their TV. They called Time Warner Cable Company, and the person said things like, "I want you to look at the white cable." They were asked other questions that they couldn't answer because they're a blind couple.

Walt said that he likes to fish. They go south for the winter to the Gulf of Mexico, and they are so particular about the size of the fish you can keep down there. How can he measure them? Brad and Barbara suggested a talking tape measure, which can be purchased from our Independence Market. His wife wrote down the telephone number.

Robert asked for Marietta to tell the group about an issue that she had shared with him. And we found out that she was no longer on the call. Robert presented a thumbnail sketch of the issue - she has some sight, but can't see the menus at fast food restaurants, because they're on the wall. She's not found many of these types of restaurant’s who have a hard-copy menu that they can hand you.

Robert said that, when he needs directions, he will lead with the terminology that he's looking for.

Nancy updated us on her dealings with the Lion Brand Yarn Company website. She wrote an extensive comment. They said they appreciate her comments, they gave her a discount and they said the site was bigger and better, and more user-friendly. The next thing she'll do is call them. Robert said that it's easy to tag the links and pictures, and asked her to send him an email from them so that he can look at the site.

Brags and Drags: Nancy's brother-in-law, who is in a nursing home in Lincoln, is not doing well, and probably isn't going to make it much longer. She would like prayers for him. Also, her aunt Irene, who is 101, is not doing well. She seems to rally periodically; pray for her as well.

Brad's uncle Bob passed away. He is the last of the boys in his parents' generation.

Since our next meeting will be the day after state convention, we will wrap up convention and talk about little jobs each of us can do to help this division.

Robert asked if hour and a half meetings are about right. We all said yes.

Dianne expressed her appreciation to us for how we approached our whole meeting.

Barbara moved, Cheryl seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Mentink, Secretary Pro. Tem.