Access Equals Success: Student Seminar + Annual Meeting called to order 3/24/2023 at 4pm.

Marriott Cornhusker hotel in Arbor 1 room

Brandon Peters, President, Nebraska Association of Blind Students Welcome and introductions

NFBN president Jamie Richey spoke about the importance of getting involved, scholarships and how connections help solve problems.

VP Maura Loberg introduced NFB national president Mark Riccobono who recounted his start in NABS, his path as a student and what he knows now that he wishes he knew then.

Rachna introduced Carlos servan, deputy director Ne Commission for the Blind, who shared how this nation and the student division changed his life.

Since board member Ashleah Chamberlain was absent, Maura introduced Shane Buresh who encouraged Note-taking especially in braille! He candidly described the ways he’s improving his reading and presented the acronym B.R.L. stands for Be Real Literacy to him.

Brandon introduced Eileen Rivera Ley of Blind savvy Who discussed how she Networked her way to the top! She confessed she’d been shy until she discovered she could build relationships by assisting with people’s needs.

Rebecca Stevens was also absent, but Maura introduced Rachna Keshwani, & Sky’s the limit communications LLC founder David DeNotaris who talked about the Power of social media including making a good first impression particularly through profiles, and using those platforms for positive posts instead of complaining. David reminded us even when content seems removable, someone can easily capture that in a screenshot to repost and spread so we must think carefully even about written comments. We should avoid religious, political and any other topics that could cause controversy.

Rachna introduced the Panel of individuals active on campus– Maura Loberg who mentioned she kept a rat she received for observing behavior, Danni Schutz summed up her experiences in labs, and Alex France explained about athletics mixed in with academics. They compared remote-learning, but emphasized advocating for accommodations not only with the disability support services, but directly with the professors. Alex admitted to accessing all the material and taking notes on an iPad alone.

Ashley Neybert of Independent Science recommended anyone studying STEM careers to contact her and she’s also a student.

J.J. Medaugh of A.T. Guys announced about his tech session taking place the following day.

At the Student business meeting – Brandon Peters took roll call with both VP Maura and secretary Rachna in attendance.

Rachna had to improvise the minutes from February since those from a year ago were unreadable at the time on her device.

Cheryl read the Treasurer’s Report since Milla relocated to a different state. Maura moved to approve and NFBN VP Christine Boone seconded. Motion carried to accept.

Maura moved to hold quarterly meetings rather than monthly ones, Brandon seconded, Amber wished to know where they are and how long, but the motion carried with the plan to meet next on the 1st Tuesday in June.

Elections – Brandon

Rachna nominated Maura Loberg for president, Chris moved Maura elected by acclamation, Amber seconded, carried.

Geralyn nominated Rachna K for VP, Chris moved elected by acclamation, carried.

Brandon Peters: secretary

Maura nominated Geralyn Konruff as treasurer, she accepted the position of treasurer temporarily.

Maura nominated Amber Steet as board member.

Thank you and Adjourn – Brandon Peters and David DeNotaris at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachna K, 2022 secretary

Nebraska Association of Blind Students