**Central Arkansas Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind**

**Agenda**, September 9, 2023, 11 A.M. Via Zoom

**Check for attachments, which may include; previous meeting minutes and/or treasurer’s report.**

Find the Zoom link info at the bottom of the agenda

If someone you know might be interested in joining our meeting, share this.

Call meeting to order

Roll Call, alphabetically by last name. All attending, introduce yourself!

Our speaker this month is Claudia Romero, the Director of Volunteers of Vacaville.

Volunteers of Vacaville fixes Braillewriters for $39. A special thanks to her for joining us!!!

Minutes for previous meeting

Any corrections or discussion?

Treasurer Report

Any corrections or discussion?

4 Pillars of the NFB:

* Education, Rehabilitation, and Employment
* Membership and Community Building
* Advocacy
* Development

1. Education, Rehabilitation, and Employment

Job Squad

A time to share about employment opportunities, and for those who are seeking employment

Any new tips, tricks, apps, or gadgets anyone wants to share about?

2. Membership and Community Building

A Chapter Member Directory was recently distributed. We are working towards expanding the information gathered in the directory. If you are a member and did not receive your directory, please speak up so you can more easily be in touch with your fellow members.

Mission to grow our membership – remember to invite others to join our upcoming meetings.

September 9 via Zoom

October 14 in person, at Terry Library – elections

November 11 via Zoom

December 9 via Zoom

Sign up to receive emails from NFBAR. Please take a moment to subscribe to our List Serve. Go to [www.nfbar.org](http://www.nfbar.org) website, find the Subscribe button, and fill in your information.

3. Advocacy

This item falls under more than one pillar. Hillcrest Harvestfest on October 28 is an opportunity for our members to interact with the community and do a little fundraising as well. We need to coordinate volunteers.

Work towards expanding public transit in the Little Rock area

Dinosaur theme for the Little Rock Marathon on March 3, 2024. Make plans to set up a cheering station.

Share about Advocacy opportunities

Chapter pamphlet design ideas

We submitted the wording for the pamphlet to the state affiliate, but it has not been discussed or approved. This wording can go on printed tri-fold pamphlets with a Q R Code, that will take folks to the online version, which can include more specific details, since that can be updated more frequently.

4. Development

Chapter fundraising committee report, Tawnya Philpot, Chair

Our state affiliate Razorback blanket raffle is underway. The drawing will be on November 24 at Cantrell Gallery. If you need tickets to sell ($5 each) let Tanya VanHouten know. Tanya VanHouten, phone number: (501) 680-7007

e-mail address: vanharris62@gmail.com

If you need photos of the blanket, let me know.

Questions? More details were in the follow up message, or ask.

Social Media

State Convention will be in Jonesboro, spring of 2024! The first planning meeting was on August 24. If you want to get involved with the plans, please consider contacting Nena Chadwick.

The affiliate is looking for people to join committees. If any of these sound like an area you would like to get involved with, please let us know.

Bell Academy: Joshua Goolsby and Amerissa Lovato, researching

Budget: State Affiliate Board

Convention Committee - Chair

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Chair, Bettye Johnson

Door Prize: Tanya VanHouten

Employment:

Federal Legislation: Larry Wayland

Fundraising: Chair

History: Donavon Cavender

Membership: Chair

Newsline: Jahmal Lovato

PAC: Donna Walker

P S A Committee – Charles Tate

Social Media: Brent Philpot, Donavon Cavender, and Jahmal Lovato

State Legislation/Resolutions: Brent Philpot

Vehicle Donation: Clint Chadwick

Central Chapter board elections will be held during the October, in-person meeting. All 6 board positions are up for election. Please carefully consider stepping forward and getting involved with the leadership of our Chapter.

Central Chapter Board consists of:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Two general board positions

Any questions or discussion?

STOP EVERYTHING AND LET’S TAKE 5 FOR PHILOSOPHY

A debatable topic will be presented and we can discuss our opinions. There are no wrong or right answers – this is a time to share and respect other’s views. Try to keep your comments as brief as possible, so there is enough time for everyone who wants to share.

New On the Table

Presidential/Affiliate Board member Announcements

Chapter Announcements:

Welcoming Ceremony for New Members

This appears in the agenda regardless of any members to welcome. Any potential new members can familiarize themselves with the process

\* Do you wish to be a member of the National Federation of the Blind?

\* Membership in our organization is a commitment to work together to achieve equality for the blind. Membership grants you the right to help set the direction for the organization. Membership also gives you the responsibility of working collaboratively with other members to achieve the best outcomes for the organization as a whole. As individuals, we receive great strength and value for our participation in the organization. Our goal over time is to give more than we have received. We are reminded of our rights and responsibilities as members by repeating our NFB pledge. Please repeat after me:

NFB Pledge

I pledge to participate actively in the effort of the National Federation of the Blind to achieve equality, opportunity, and security for the blind; to support the policies and programs of the Federation; and to abide by its constitution.

\* Make a motion to accept the individuals as members:

\* I move to accept

(Name of new member)

as a member of the Central Arkansas Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Arkansas.

\* Second motion.

\* Discussion

\* Vote new individuals into membership.

One-Minute Message

The National Federation of the Blind knows that blindness is not the characteristic that defines us or our future. Every day we raise the expectations of blind people, because low expectations create obstacles between blind people and our dreams. We can live the life we want; blindness is not what holds us back.

\* Invite each individual to introduce themselves and share what they hope to do as a member of the Federation.

This month’s Presidential Release

Dates to Keep in Mind:

Next meeting is in person at the Terry Library, 2015 Napa Valley Drive, Little Rock, 72212.

National Federation of the Blind celebrates the organized blind movement during October. Throughout the month, our members conduct a variety of outreach activities in their local communities. Many of these activities center on White Cane Awareness Day which is October 15.

What can our chapter do, to get involved with the community, and help promote awareness?

We are looking into setting up at Harvestfest in Hillcrest, October 28.

There will be a White Cane Awareness event at World Services for the Blind on October 13.

More details coming soon!

Adjourn

NFB of Arkansas is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: NFB of Central Arkansas's Zoom Meeting
Time: Sep 9, 2023 11:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://nfb-org.zoom.us/j/6322726273?pwd=Uk1kYWpvMDdjeW1lVE1CbGI3UDVPQT09>

Meeting ID: 632 272 6273
Passcode: nfbARzoom1

One tap mobile
+16469313860,,6322726273#,,,,\*2290535579# US