At Large Chapter

September 2024 Minutes

Submitted by Frank Maestas

1. Meeting called to order at 7 Pm by president Montoya.
2. Roll call was taken by Frank Maestas, the following members and guest were in attendance:
* German Benitez, Sylvia Dooley, Karen Edwards, Martine Gallegos, Steve Jorgenson, Oleatha Griego, Will Harmon, Peggy Hayes, Mike K, Larry Lorenzo, Frank Maestas, Janice Maestas, Janet Montoya, Jamie Sibson, Wayne Sibson, Veronica Smith, Adelmo Vigil, Soledad Vigil.
* Guest: Darlene, John Blake, Rafael Aguirre, Arlinda, Tara Chavez, Diane Marquez and Brian Q.
1. The NFB Pledge was read by Frank Maestas.
2. The National Federation of the Blind Message was read by Jamie Sibson.
3. The agenda was approved by Jamie Sibson and Adelmo Vigil second. Passed.
4. August minutes were approved after a revision request by Karen Edwards asked that they reflect a revision to show that she expressed a concern about being contacted via text in regards to her comments about the need to acknowledge the accomplishment of the totally blind as compared to the low vision blind in the NFB. Janice Maestas motioned and Larry Lorenzo second. Passed.
5. Treasurer’s Report was given by Janet Montoya, ALC president:
* Starting balance: $2,848.15
* Deposits: .02 interest, $4.41 Veronica’s dues, $5.00 dues for Rafael.
* Deductions: .59 Pay Pal fee for Veronica’s dues, $15.00 for PAC.
* Final Balance: $2,842.58

Motioned by Adelmo and second by German. Passed

1. The Presidential Release was played by Tara Chavez. Karen Edwards asked about the stipend being given for the ride share rally.
2. Discussion topics: Ride Share Rally information given by Affiliate President Tara Chavez. To held in San Francisco Ca. at the corporate offices of Uber and Lyft.
* The NFBNM state was discussed by ALC President Montoya.
* The blind equality achievement month was discussed by President Montoya.
* Will Harmon, Rafael Aguirre and Frank Maestas will donate door prizes.
* Jamie Sibson stated and invited all to attend the October 15 White Cane walk at the NM School for the Blind in Alamogordo Nm.
* President Montoya and Martine Gallegos discussed the fundraiser in Los Alamos.
* Will Harmon discussed the Savors fundraiser on Albuquerque on October 19th.
1. Legislative Chair Larry Lorenzo discussed the importance of voting and being informed as well as encouraging early voting.
2. Tara Chavez discussed the fact that it was the last week before break for our Us legislators and the NFB five legislative priorities.
* Membership Chair German Benitez called for a motion to elect Rafael Aguirre as a member of the ALC. Karen Edwards motioned and Jamie Sibson second. Passed.
* Fundraising Chair Martine Gallegos called for a motion to approve an advance payment to Frank Maestas to purchase the food needed for the Los Alamos fundraiser. Martine motioned and Peggy second. Receipts must be provided. Passed.

Peggy asked if that would be enough, Frank offered to donate up to $100.00 to cover additional cost. Frank abstained from voting, motion passed.

* Raffle tickets were discussed as well as gift baskets for fundraising at the state convention.
1. Birthday for September / Frank Maestas
2. Open discussion: The next will be held at the state convention without zoom.
3. Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 by president Montoya.