NFBA Phoenix Chapter Business Meeting

Secretary’s Report

Date: Saturday, February 01, 2020

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Location: SAAVI, 4222 E. Thomas Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85018; (602) 795-0195

Phoenix Chapter Conference Call Line: (712) 770-4856

Code: 614039 Pound Sign (#)

NFBA Phoenix Chapter Listserv

Email: nfba-phoenix@nfbnet.org

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

9:38 a.m., First Vice President, Jordan Moon, called the meeting to order.

Pledge to the American Flag & the NFB Pledge

The pledges were led by Tom and Vicki.

NFB Pledge

I pledge to participate actively in the efforts 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.

Roll Call

Nineteen people were in attendance, including fifteen attending in person, and four attending via conference call.

Brad thanked Jordan for running the January and February meetings, and congratulated Colin and Destiny on their marriage.

Prayer Requests

Jordan opened with a Prayer. Others followed, expressing concerns for grieving family members, friends, personal issues, and the Phoenix Chapter, with Jordan closing.

A Moment of Silence for Michelle’s family was observed.

Betty and Michelle were very close, and Jordan encouraged her to call on us, if she has any needs.

Treasurer’s Report, Donna Silba, Treasurer

Donna began with some corrections for her January 04, 2020, Treasurer’s Report, then proceeded with today’s report.

Previous Balance: $1,112.84

Income: $7.00

Expenses: $32.00

New Balance: $1,087.84 as of Saturday, February 01, 2020

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the January 04, 2020, Treasurer’s Report as presented.

Donna reminded us that the Restricted Funds only increase by individual contributions, and anyone can make a donation, at any time.

Since the requirement of meeting a quorum to conduct Phoenix Chapter business was not achieved at the January 04, 2020, business meeting, two motions had to be reconsidered for a vote. The first motion to be formally approved by a vote is the Treasurer’s Report. The second motion will be addressed, when the issue is discussed further along in this Agenda.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the December 07, 2019, Treasurer’s Report as presented, at the January 04,2020, Phoenix Chapter Business Meeting.

A question was asked, regarding when a year began for paying membership dues. At February’s meeting, it was determined that the year began at the time of the NFB of Arizona State Convention (August/September) through a twelve-month period (July/August). Annual membership dues are $5.00 (five dollars), and can be paid to Donna with cash, until an electronic system to read credit/debit cards can be established. A number of options were discussed, including Square and Zel. Donna, Brad, Jordan, and Colin will work out the details, so dues and contributions can be made electronically.

Secretary’s Report, Vicki Hodges, Secretary

Two sets of Meeting Minutes were read.

Saturday, December 07, 2020

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the December 07, 2019, Secretary’s Report as presented.

January 04, 2020

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the January 04, 2020, Secretary’s Report as corrected. Corrections include: Sami Hamed is the NFB of Arizona Legislative Chair, not a Co-Chair with Jordan Moon; Norma’s last name was Norma Robertson-Wagner, not Norma Roberts-Wagner; the January 04, 2020, Business Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m., not 11:00 p.m.; and the Visa Gift Cards that Jordan presented to the family during the Christmas season, totaled $205.00 (two-hundred and five dollars), with Jordan paying the $7.00 (seven dollar) activation fee, as a donation to the Phoenix Chapter, not the Visa card totaling $210.00 (two-hundred and ten dollars), with Jordan paying the $7.00 (seven dollar) activation fee, as a donation to the Phoenix Chapter.

Brad asked Donna to send a copy of the Treasurer’s Report and Vicki to send a copy of the Secretary’s Report (after corrections) to Donald Porterfield, NFB of Arizona President, as this is a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of the affiliate. Brad is to be copied, when these reports are sent to President Porterfield.

Presidential Release, Mark A. Riccobono, President/National Federation of the Blind

Presidential Release #491, February 2020 was not available to play, so Vicki will send the link to Brad for distribution via the Phoenix Chapter Listserv, once it is posted to the NFB website. The NFB Presidential Release can be accessed over several media resources, including Apple Podcast.

Old Business

2019-2020 NFB Braille Readers are Leaders (BRAL) Contest Wrap-Up, Colin Wong, Second Vice President & Chair/NFB of Arizona Education Committee

At least 20 (twenty) Arizonans registered for and participated in this year’s NFB BRAL Contest. The Phoenix Chapter and the Tucson Chapter registered the most participants, than any other chapter in the state. However, the Phoenix Chapter registered the most participants (children and adults) overall; therefore, Colin will donate $50.00 (fifty dollars) to the Chapter treasury. The success of this year’s BRAL Contest is due to teamwork. Epoch thanks goes to Ashleigh, Elizabeth, Donna, Monica, Hilda, and Jenny, as well as to the parents and grandparents of the SAAVI Youth Services children. Thank You cards are being sent to Ashleigh Moon and Elizabeth Thompson, expressing the gratitude of the Phoenix Chapter members, for their cooperation in and dedication to the success of this event.

A future BRAL event is being discussed for the near future, so more students can attend. Also, Colin will give an update, during his Education Committee report at the quarterly, NFB of Arizona Board meeting, in Tucson, on Saturday, February 08, 2020. Eventually, Colin will receive a complete report from those administering this year’s Contest.

2020 NFB of Arizona Phoenix Seminar, Jordan Moon, First Vice President

On Tuesday, January 21, 2020, Jordan, Colin, Monica, and Mike joined other Federationists at the Arizona State Capitol, to meet with state legislators to discuss the importance of sponsoring and/or supporting three issues that impact blind Arizonans: mandate Accessible Voting; modernize existing Braille Literacy legislation; and increase funding for Independent Living for Senior Blind, by $500,000 (five-hundred thousand dollars). Many of the sixty (60) legislators with whom NFBA members met, expressed interest in pursuing all three bills, at a future date. However, SB-1593 (modernizing Braille Literacy regulations) already has support from Senator Tyler Pace (East Valley), the Education Committee chair, and the House Judicial Committee chair. Anyone interested in attending any of the hearings, please contact Jordan at (951) 316-5363. The Arizona legislature is only required to post hearing schedules for the public, 24-hours in advance, so Jordan may not have the date and time of the hearing until the last minute. Nevertheless, those that can, are encouraged to show up and support NFBA bills that effect blind Arizonans.

Thank you, Megan, for providing lunch for the troops! Everyone raved about the sandwiches.

2020 NFB Washington Seminar, Jordan Moon, First Vice President

Date: Monday, February 10, 2020 through Friday, February 14, 2020

Location: Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street Southwest, Washington, D.C. 20024; (202) 479-4000

This year’s issues are posted at: www.nfb.org/advocacy.

No Arizona Senator or Representative has signed on to any of the NFB bills introduced, this year. Our District 7 (seven) representative may run for the Senate, and is interested in meeting with Brad and other Phoenix Chapter members, in his Phoenix office.

Donna is mailing checks to those that President Porterfield has approved to receive state financial assistance to attend the Washington Seminar. Betty is looking forward to participating in her first Washington Seminar.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved for the Phoenix Chapter to designate $150.00 (one-hundred fifty dollars) to help with Betty’s NFB Washington, D.C. trip expenses.

2020 Phoenix Chapter Norma Robertson-Wagner Annual Picnic

Date: Saturday, April 04, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with setup at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Encanto Park, 2605 N. 15th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85007; (602) 261-8991; (602) 262-6412 (Downtown Division Office)

Monica will chair the Picnic Committee, and Joy, Cindy, Betty, Marion, Jordan, and Brad will serve with her. The Picnic Planning Committee will meet:

Date: Thursday, February 06, 2020

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Conference Call Line: (712) 770-4856

Code: 614039 Pound Sign (#)

Topics include, but are not limited to, planning an Easter-Egg-Hunt for the children, holding a Celebration of Life tribute to members that have passed away, over the recent years, and organizing donations of food and supplies.

The Committee members’ contact information and conference call details will be provided to Brad and Jordan, before the meeting. An invitation will be extended to SAAVI to join the picnic festivities.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to designate up to $150.00 (one-hundred and fifty dollars) for the purchase of hotdogs and hamburgers.

2020 Fund-Raiser Sing-a-Thon, Brad Kuhn, President

After some discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and officially approved to hold the June 06, 2020, Phoenix Chapter Business Meeting and Sing-a-Thon Fund-Raiser at Aint Nick’s Tavern. Brad and Cindy will contact Chari to work out the details, including breakfast, during the Chapter meeting.

New Business

Braille Event with SAAVI, Colin Wong, Second Vice President

Ashley Moon, Elizabeth Thompson, and Vicki Hodges have considered organizing another Braille Event, coordinated with the SAAVI Youth Services program. The 2020 Phoenix Bell Academy may be the best opportunity for such an event. A report will be presented during a future Chapter meeting.

Phoenix Chapter Business Meeting Venue

The monthly meeting location of the Phoenix Chapter was discussed, and tabled for a final decision, until after the June 06, 2020 meeting. The March 07, 2020, and the May 02, 2020, meetings will be held at Coco’s Bakery Restaurant, 2026 N. 7th St., Phoenix, AZ 85008. The annual picnic is scheduled April 04, 2020, at Encanto Park, 2605 N. 15th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85007, and the June 06, 2020, meeting is tentatively planned, in conjunction with the Sing-a-Thon Fund-Raiser event at Aint Nick’s Tavern, 6840 N. 27th Ave., Glendale, AZ 85017.

Announcements

Michelle Herrera’s Celebration of Life Memorial Service is being arranged. Betty will forward the details to Brad and Jordan to share with Chapter members, as soon as they are available.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to send $50.00 (fifty dollars) to Michelle’s family, in place of flowers. The Basket Fund is restricted to be used for such purposes. Donna and Betty will work together to see that this donation is sent to Michelle’s family, on behalf of the Phoenix Chapter. Individuals can contribute additional funds to increase this financial gift, before it is sent.

NFB of Arizona Quarterly Board Meeting, Jordan Moon, First Vice President

Date: Saturday, February 08, 2020

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: SAAVI, 3767 E. Grant Rd., Tucson, AZ 85716; (520) 795-1331

Jordan will arrange transportation to and from Tucson, and needs to know who is going. Betty, Brad, Brian, Donna, Monica, Joy, Mike, Jordan, and Vicki expressed interest in attending the Board Meeting. Jordan will send out an email reminder, with the details. He is estimating that the group will leave Phoenix between 7:00 and 7:30, with a breakfast stop at McDonald’s before leaving The Valley. Those who need to make transportation arrangements to get home should plan on being back in The Valley and SAAVI by midafternoon.

New Phoenix Chapter Members

Benny Benito recently retired from Arizona Industries for the Blind (AIB), where he worked with Donna. Benny plays the drums, attended the 2019 NFB of Arizona State Convention, and wants to attend the 2020 NFB National Convention in Houston.

Brian Mucyo is a 2019 NFB of Arizona Scholarship recipient. Brian is a senior, attending Grand Canyon University, and serves on the Arizona Association of Blind Students Board.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to recognize Benny and Brian as new members of the NFBA Phoenix Chapter.

Adjournment

11:40 a.m., Jordan adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Hodges, Secretary

* [Presidential Release #492, March 2020 (English Audio)](https://www.nfb.org/sites/www.nfb.org/files/2020-03/2020_03_english.mp3%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)