National Federation Of The Blind Of Tucson

Minutes For The Meeting Of September9, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM.

There were 17 people attending in person and nine attending on Zoom.

Both pledges were said.

Visitors were introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

The secretary’s report was accepted as read.

Mariana read the treasurer’s report and after a brief discussion it was accepted as read.

New members were introduced, Jason Trammell and Page Miller were voted in as members of the chapter.

The experiences of members at the state convention were reviewed. Everyone agreed that the highlights included the opening ceremony, talent show, philosophy session, running the hospitality suite and giving out door prizes. It was noted that the director of the Arizona School for the Deaf and Blind was unprepared during her presentation at the convention and that the lack of transparency at the school about their teaching methods of blind children is troubling given all of the support from the NFB during the most recent legislative session. Amy thanked all of the volunteers who helped with the convention. Donald emphasized that there is a job for everyone at the convention.

A brief discussion took place about the importance of real-time audio description of sporting events.

Blindness Equality Achievement Month (BEAM), is celebrated throughout October. Past events have included handing out literature at the Tucson Meet Yourself street fair which is October 13, 14 and 15 this year. This coincides with White Cane Day which is October 15. Tarik said that an email will be sent soon with information about this year’s events. Among the possibilities are a meeting with the Move Tucson department and the Pima County recorders office to discuss accessible voting. It was also suggested that members write to the Arizona Congressional delegation to remind them to sign on to our bills currently in Congress. Strong participation in these events is important.

Tarik said he is working on showing the movie “Do You Dream in Color” for the general public. He also said he would check with the communications team at the National Office about new PSA announcements that have been created.

Donald said that the route 66 ride for literacy concluded in Chicago and that Dan O;Roark and his team were hosted by the NFB of Chicago.

Donald reported that the new membership portal is now live and that all subscriptions can be managed from there. Those who are due to get membership coins should receive them soon.. If anyone is still missing their coin after several weeks have elapsed, they should contact Donald and Tarik by email with membership coin in the subject line.

The Washington Seminar will take place during the first week of February. Anyone needing assistance to attend should contact Donald by email and put Washington Seminar financial assistance in the subject line.

Announcements: Barbara said that there is a new I Phone app called VO Starter available in the app store to assist people in learning Voiceover or to improve their skills. She also said that Sunsounds of Arizona has free Amazon Echo dots for users of the service.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 PM.

Submitted by Jean Parker, Secretary