National Federation Of The Blind, Tucson Chapter

Minutes For The Meeting Of December 2, 2023

This meeting was held just prior to the annual holiday celebration.

The meeting was called to order at 12.47 PM.

There were 18 attending in-person and no one attending on zoom.

Both pledges were recited.

A motion was passed to adopt the secretary’s report as submitted and previously sent to members.

A motion was passed to adopt the treasurer’s report as presented.

Tarik explained several raffles and items that will be auctioned around and just after the holiday season. Jean explained that any fund raising activities the chapter wants to do involving running races would be in collaboration with the Achilles group. In light of the logistics of this arrangement it was recommended to try other approaches first.

Tim said that the Roadhouse Steak House is interested in doing a restaurant fund raiser with the chapter. He will follow up to find out about dates and locations. Tim also said that Walmart has declined our offer to do gift wrapping outside stores during the holiday season. Other suggestions from those present included partnering with a fire station to do a pancake breakfast and other restaurants that might be receptive to doing fund raising activities with a goal of 12 restaurant fund raising events each year. Jean said that any fund raising events and activities should be going consistently throughout the year and that individual activities should plug into an overall income generating strategy. Tarik said there would be a fund raising meeting on December 6 at 7:00 PM on Zoom to develop an income generation strategy to begin in late January. The time and resource investment will be considered for each suggestion to keep returns versus investment efficient throughout the year.

Tarik explained that financial assistance is available from the state affiliate to assist people to attend the Washington Seminar in late January. It was mentioned that the availability of these funds should be communicated to the membership and others much more proactively than in the past. A motion was passed to allocate $200.00 from the Tucson chapter to subsidize attendance. Those interested in requesting assistance to attend the Washington Seminar should contact Tarik, Donald and Amy as the legislative director of the Arizona affiliate.

Tarik announced that chapter board elections will take place at the January meeting on January 6, 2024. Mariana will chair the nominating committee. Anyone who is interested in serving on the board should contact Mariana and Tarik.

Barbara announced that the disability pride festival is scheduled for December 3, at the Tucson Convention Center. Accessible voting machines will be available for people to examine. She also said that Newsline has expanded its coverage to include the Tucson News.

Mariana announced that the Federal college financial aid allocations would likely be delayed and that those needing funds should submit their applications as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 PM.

Submitted by Jean Parker, Secretary