National Federation of the Blind of Arizona

Tucson Chapter

Minutes for the Meeting of August 3, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM.

Both pledges were recited.

Attendance: 12 in-person and three on zoom.

The June meeting minutes were adopted as sent to the membership.

The Treasurer’s report was adopted as presented.

Donald gave a summary of the National Convention.

Donald also said that planning is underway for the state convention later in august. The room reservation link is located on the registration page. Only registered people can win door prizes. There will be a virtual component this year as well. Those who need financial assistance to attend the state convention should contact Donald as soon as possible. Tarik said there will be a rookie roundup on zoom on August 18, information will be sent out about this next week.

SAAVI will provide some transportation to and from the convention. Interested people should contact Amy Porterfield.

Elections will take place on Sunday and there are three board positions available for re-election.

A motion was passed for the chapter to contribute $150.00 to assist with registration fees and meals at the state convention.

A motion was passed to contribute $100.00 to the door prizes.

Everyone was reminded that individuals can donate to the door prizes and auction as well. Those with items should contact Cody.

Donald reminded everyone that PAC Plan contributions are also needed and that people can sign up for it during the convention.

There will be a meeting of the Senior’s Division on Friday of the State Convention.

A Braille book give away will take place at the convention this year. Everyone is encouraged to contribute Braille books to this effort.

Tarik said he is planning a meeting on August 12 at 6:00 PM via zoom for everyone who wants to help plan the October BEAM month events.

Amy mentioned that SAAVI has a new playground and is looking forward to a new solar installation soon. She also said that SAAVI has its final National Blindness Professional Certification test on September 9.

April said that accessible medical kits are still available.

A discussion took place about the release of the new Blind Barbie doll from the Mattel toy company.

A Dutch auction was held to raise money for the chapter.

April Eady was voted in as a member of the chapter.

Emily Lapenfus was also voted into the chapter.

The Barbara Report:

The VRATE technology conference is scheduled for November 1. The conference is free and there will be a hybrid option.

There is an optometrist in Tucson who does low vision assessments. Her name is Dr. Jennifer Caywood and those interested should contact her office.

Barbara said that the new all-terrain cane is great for hiking or where someone might need extra support.

Others discussed the possibility of getting live audio description for theater performances in Tucson.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 PM.

Submitted by Jean Parker, Secretary