NFB SFV

The chapter's minutes from October 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am and began with the pledge to the American flag and NFB, led by Joe.

Followed by the president asking everyone to introduce themselves and share an answer for the trivia question which is: What's your favorite Halloween costume?

Attendance:

Sharon joe Rochelle racquel betsy jaymee julian ronnie karen art joy malik juanita nebiyu lyn nancy john tammy and daughter laura elisa Robert Jane

There were 23 in attendance including 2 new guests.

Mr. Robert welcomed them and opened the floor for any and new announcements.

1. Nancy Urquilla - announced the Westside Center for Independent Living's Open House and the unveiling of their new name: Disability Community Resource Center dated October 19 Thursday 2017 from 9 to 3 pm.

2. Racquel Decipeda was thanking the people who made it to their fundraising for the HFS at the Apple Bee's in Chatsworth. Dated: October 7, 2017 from 8 am to 9 am. She announced the HFS next fundraising is the Naming Contest for their carrot guy. A character for their logo. For information to join, directly contact her.

3. Sharon Watson announced and reminded everyone for the membership dues. Will start collecting starting this October and deadline will be in January 2018. $10 fee for the year should be given to the treasurer Sharon.

4. Joy Stigile announced that Tom Grimsley had a bad fall at his home and now is in the Rehab Center. Hoping to recover. Keep him your thoughts and prayers for his speedy recovery.

5. Lyn Nishihara announced her event: a choir concert in on November 18 2017 at 8 pm. She would be playing the guitar. Venue: Raymo auditorium at caltech in Pasadena.

6. Julian Vargas announced that him and Jaymee finally decided to move back here. He added that starting on October 16 till the 29th to apply on-line for section 8. HACLA had temporary opened a lottery to apply for their waiting list. you can go on www.hacla.org.

7. Mr. Robert announced the following: 1. for the conference room. When we're done with our meeting, to make sure to pick up all of our trash. Leave the place in the same condition that we found it. 2. Restrooms: Please keep it clean just as how we found it. Be mindful and be courteous. Please clean as you go.

They gave us this room to use for free. 3. The coffee and soda dispenser outside the lobby are not part of our being here. If those machines or dispensers are empty, we cannot ask them to replace it because it wasn't part of the deal.

Since we have new people, just to let you know that we have a few things that we need to vote on and when we do have motions or anything that needs to be voted upon, the motions and the votes can only be done by the people who are actually already members. But anyone is welcome to participate in the discussion. At the end of the meeting, we're more than happy to ask those who are not a member and would like to become one and for those who would like to come back on, will voted back in and pay the $10.

Secretary report was read by Nancy urquilla.

Corrections was a minor spelling Lynne. And also where it says number of guests, it spelled the word guess.

Plus, Sharon added that it was not mentioned that it doesn't say that she read the treasury report but she did it.

Julian Vargas made a motion to approve the minutes as read and corrected. Seconded by Ron Hillard. The motion carries.

Treasurer's report. Done and read by Sharon Watsson starting from October 14 2017.

In September 11 2017 PAC plan --- at $50 was made.

September 14 2017 Paypal deposit $339.55 from Enhanced Vision for Best In Tech.

September 19 2017 Paypal deposit $970.70 from Sweetmansystems for Best In Tech.

September 25 2017 Paypal deposit of $339.55 from AT Crater for Best In Tech.

September 25 2017 Paypal $339.55 from Baume USA for Best In Tech.

 October 11 2017 withdraw for PAC $50.

Beginning balance October 13 2017 $6414.54.

Deposit made on October 13 2017 $22 for September 50/50 raffle.

Withdrawal in October 13 2017 $1800 for a grant of $275 each for members attending the State convention.

$200 this withdrawn for the donation for State convention raffle prizes.

$50 was withdrawn for Betsy Estrada for Carl's Jr. fundraiser coupons purchase.

Ending balance October 13 2017 $4386.54.

Robert, in behalf of the guests, he added and explained the PAC Plan from National and State level.

There were 22 members who are attending for the first time the State Convention. 2 out of the 22 members that are from our chapter: Malik and laura recieved the wilbur radcliff grant

The SFV members who received from our chapter grants amounted to $225 each are: Robert and Joy, Joe and Sharon, Ronnie, Jane, Juanita and Nebiyu.

President's Notebook which comes from our State president but Joy Stigile's the one who writes it. It was read by Nancy Urquilla.

It was brought up that each time that the President's Notebook is being read, almost all of the other chapter's activities and events are done and/or had passed by the time it's being read in our meeting. It was suggested that the President's Notebook should be put out in our NFB.SFV mailing list.

Fundraising Committee.

Joy Stigile mentioned about the Bob's big boys that was just held October 14 2017. The next fundraising project would be the Best In Tech.

A question was raised by Juanita Herera if there would be a fundraising stuff for the Best In Tech. It was suggested that there will be a conference call for it and was open to all to join.

It has also been discussed and cleared to all the difference of the Fundraising committee for the Best in Tech and the actual Best in Tech Planning committee.

Fundraising committee are open to welcome anyone to bring ideas such as fundraising items that would be raffled off with technology things. And with the Best in Tech Planning committee is a small committee that really doesn't need more than a that are already put together.

Betsy Estrada had brought the Carl's Jr. coupons. The coupons can be bought for $5. It has a variety value meal deals. For more information, to purchase or to sell, please directly approach her about it.

The next fundraising item is the continuation of selling of the phone battery chargers.

Sports and activities.

Racquel Decipeda announced the schedule of the CPR and First Aid Training dated October 18 2017 Saturday from 1 to 5 pm with Captain Stacey with $20 fee.

Racquel opened up a topic that has not been discuss yet for this year. She asked the group if we were still interested in doing the adopt the child this year?

Robert commented that he is working on it and that Joy and Sheila are working on finding places for the holiday party.

Racquel and Sharon had reacted that how come nobody had mentioned it to them. Joe seconded and asked if there could be a discussion about it.

There were some comments that were brought up about not liking the last venue that we had for the Holiday party.

Mr. Robert clarified things that the date has not been set up yet. The choices of dates are either the first or 3rd Saturday of December. He had asked Joy and Sheila if they would help out in finding a place for the party. Mr. Robert added that they haven't come to a conclusion yet. And he added that, if anyone would like to discuss it now, he's happy to entertain to any suggestion.

Joy recommended to find a place that could fit at least 45 people or more. And she added that in the past years and each time we get a place, we do have comments and complaints or issues about each place that we have. .

Joe made a suggestion to set up a conference call to those who would like to help out in finding a venue.

Joe added that he had a different thought for the Adopt A Child. He said, instead of a child, we should look for someone in college or in high school. The reason behind it is because with that age eventually they could join the federation. He thinks that we should grow our federation that way. He said that it's not that the other option is not good. It's just a suggestion.

With a young adult we can relate to them or vice versa.

Nancy also added that if you guys would like to change our tradition that needs to be discussed with everyone and not in a conference call. Coz not all of us can attend the conference call and secondly, someone might have an idea that they can suggest.

Joe said, that's why he brought up it up so he can discuss it with everybody.

Racquel named all the children that has been adopted in the past year. So, there was Alejandra and then 3 kids on the 2nd year. David was on the 3rd year. Fedrico on the 4th and last year was Jocelyn.

Now, this year would be our 6th year. She said that for the changes of the criteria, we just need to vote.

So, Joe made a motion that we change the criteria on what we adopt a student. And that the committee decides on the criteria on what they're looking for in terms of age and how they would approve the person. It was seconded by Sharon Wattson.. The motion has been moved and seconded to change the adopt a child program to a student, a transitioning student. Then there were further discussion of the motion.

!Ron Hillard discussed what to decide to buy for a gift for the student. It doesn't have to be necessary expensive like an ipad or iphone end it doesn't matter on how old they are. It's not just because that they're older, they would get the iphone10.

The transition was further elaborated by Joe, that it doesn't need to be just a high school to college but it can be from middle school to high school.

After the motion for further discussion was moved. The motion carries.

Racquel added that the committee members last year were Betsy Estrada, Lynn Nishihara, Nancy Urquilla and julian Vargas. She asked if they still want to stay in the committee or not and to please say so. Nancy and Julian decided to be out of the committee. So the current committee are Racquel Decipeda as a Chair, Lynn Nishihara, Joy Stigile and Joe Otoole.

Everybody now would help to find a place for the party.

Racquel continued on about the Best in Tech which will be on the 18th of November. Gold sponsors are Sweetmansystems, Humanware and the Braille Institute. Small groups are Baume USA, AT Crater, Enhance Vision and AIRA. Just waiting on 3 more. VFO Freedom Scientific, Himms and John Wolfe.

JOY Stigile announced that would be purchasing Subway box lunches. Since the Braille Institute is our Platinum sponsor, now we are able to afford lunches from Subway. An approximate of $4 to $6. We still have to decide the quantity.

Julian Vargas shared the original purpose on why we came up with the idea of having a Best in Tech by having it for free and bringing all the adaptive technology to the people.

Joe added that the reason why boxed lunches was brought up so that the people, the attendees don't have to leave and everything can continue.

Robert added, because once they leave we lose them.

Sharon was concern about putting out a $1000 for lunches.

Robert explained that it’s not coming out from our own funds. Actually, there will still have almost $2000 coming from vendors that are not coming in yet. We are not depleting the treasury is supposedly to funds Best in Tech but it will be coming out from the vendors fees. That was the actual intent of having vendors in the first place as to make it so that participants don't need to pay for anything.

Racquel continue in opening the floor to those who would like to be a presenter who are interested to present for a few minutes and share on what your favorite adaptive equipment that you want to talk about.

The requirement is, if it's your first time presenting, is for you to provide a short recording so they can hear and check on how you would say it or deliver. So, please approach Robert, Racquel or Julian.

Joe added that you can go to the site for Best in Tech.info if you want to look into last year's Best in Tech, and so you could have an idea. And if you would be presenting, you could listen to those who presented last year.

Next topic: the 2017 State Convention.

If you have your gift card for the State Convention's basket, please give it to Joy. For more info about the basket, see her after the meeting.

Anyone riding the bus. On November 2nd at the Union Station. Everybody should be there by 9:30 am.

For those who have not registered for the convention and is thinking to register, you can no longer sign up for the bus. The bus is already full.

Last 2 announcements before adjourning.

Robert added that October 15 is the deadline to submit the list of teams of 5 for the Family Feud night. Call or see Robert after the meeting if you want to be put in a Family Feud team.

The agenda for the convention has been mailed out.

Leaving convention on Sunday November 5th at 11:30 am.

2nd to the last announcement, the Washington seminar. An annual event that takes place on a National level of our organization. The kick off for the year of our Legislation. We take 15 members and give $800 grants to those who are accepted. Go to our NFB website to go to the link to sign in. The dates for the Washington seminar: January 29 to February 1 of 2018. Arrangements will be discussed later up until we know who would sign up for it. See Robert for more info about it.

Lastly, the California Association of Guide Dog Users has been working for the last 2 years. We pass the resolutions fund set the California State Guide Dog Board. The only state that has a guide dog board. October 12 2017, our governor had signed in 1705 that on January 1st 2018, the California Guide Dog Board will sun set.

Opened the floor to the new members who would like to join. laura jane amnd Malik. were voted in as new and returning mmembers. Julian made the motion. Motion was moved.

Lastly, Malik won the 50-50 raffle.

Meeting was adjourn at 12:05.

Respectfully and almost got crazy doing it,

Truly yours:

Sheila B.