May Minutes 2018

NFB.SFV

Venue: Round Table Pizza. Address: 18365 Ventura Boulevard, Tarzana.

The meeting was called to order at 11:54 AM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance and NFB Pledge.

In attendance: 24

19 members and 5 guests.

Sheila biglang-awa, Nebiyu Dingetu, Juanita Herrera, Malik M., Racquel Decipeda, Karen Elo, Ron Hilliard, Bill Grosjean, Nick Guttinger, Lyn Nishihara, Rochelle Yohai, Jo Anne Seaman, Julian Vargas, Jaymee Castillo, Joy Stigile, Laura Nunez, Candace Luther, Dr. Bill Takeshita - supporting member and Robert Stigile.

Guests: Terry Almy, vickie bishop,

Mike mello - president of greater Washington chapter,

Vejas vesaulaskas - secretary treasurer of cabs,

Dr. Bill’s guests: Steve Lee, Scott Robins and Caregiver John Lozada,

Announcements:

Jo Anne will visit Tom Grimsley. He had ultrasound for his kidney and will find out the results next week.

Lynn announced that she sent out in our list serve inviting everyone to her concert over at Caltech Ramo Auditorium. She’s one of the choir member. They’re singing Mozart and Bernstein. It’s a free concert and all are invited to come. For more info, please see attachment in your email.

Dr. Bill announced for people who have some vision that there is a new device out. It’s a video magnifier in the form of goggles. What it does, it uses a Samsung cellphone and a Samsung virtual reality glasses. This seems to be the best one yet to help a person to see distance, near and a widest field of view. It’s called the Iris Vision. Anybody who’s interested, let him know and he could get you to set up a free demonstration. He also added that since the Center for Partially Sighted (CPS) had closed, he is now starting up a low vision clinic at the Ketchum University Eye Center in downtown L.A. So, anyone who are low vision and wants an evaluation, they are now up and running. Location is in between Broadway and martin Luther King.

Sheila announced the May birthday celebrant. We have Nebiyu. He was given a giftcard sponsored by 85 Degree Bakery & Café.

Robert announced the following: 1. $10 Jernigan Drawing tickets. Winner will receive an all expense paid trip to next year’s national Convention. This includes paid banquet tickets, hotel room and airfare for 2. Plus, you will receive $1000 in cash. Please see Robert if you want to purchase.

Second, if you are still a Rehab client or have been a client in the past or your case have been closed and would like to receive more training, there are a few of us here that are technology trainers. He added that himself, Juanita and malik work with At Kratter and they can help you get your case back open so you can get more training. Just talk to any of them.

Lastly, if you are, or knows somebody who is 55 years or over, and are interested in purchasing a home, please let Robert know. His Mom’s home is up for sale. If you know anyone, please inform him.

Joy announced that she also have raffle tickets to support the Diabetes Action Network, a division of the NFB. The tickets are $5 each and the drawing will be on July 8th at the national Convention. Winner will receive $100 Amazon Gift card. Winner don’t need to be present.

Juanita will be helping the NFBC Chapter at Large for their raffle tickets. Its $5 a ticket or 5 tickets for $20. She’ll have the tickets in the next meeting. Drawing will be at the State Convention. Prices are a 2 $50 Gift card. One for Uber and 1 for Lift. You don’t need to be present to win.

Malik announced the part of the Department of Rehab closing the case for the consumers who were homemakers. There is a way to get your case open especially if you need some equipment and/or training. It’s called “Personal goals”. For more inquiries or help, just give him a call.

Secretary’s Report.

Joy made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by Jaymee. The motion carries.

Treasury Report.

Beginning balance last month was $5581.54. Deposits made were the following:

For the world’s Finest Chocolates -

$60 from Sharon Watson, $60 from Anthony Melena, $60 from betsy Estrada and $120 from Bill Grosjean.

$1 from Nicole Matheny.

Withdrawals are the following: $205 for pizza, $510 for World’s Finest Chocolates and $50 for PAC plan.

Ending balance: $5140.54.

Robert and malik had discussed and decided that the Treasury Report will be submitted to Robert to check by Thursday. And it will be sent out to the list serve on Friday, a day before our Chapter meeting.

Committee Report.

Fundraising.

Sheila announced an upcoming fundraising on Saturday May 19 at the Dog Haus in Northridge. Please come and support. It’s a burger and a hotdog place. A one day event from 11 am to 11 pm. She sent out emails with the flyer attachment. Show the flyer at the venue or you can just mention NFB. The Dog Haus will donate 20% of the total sales to the Chapter.

Robert and Joy will be there around 1 pm. John Albarran and Nancy urquilla will be there between 6 pm and 7 pm. Sheila and her husband Goldie Castro will be there from 11 to 3 pm and 7 to 9 pm.

So, hope to see you all there!

Robert inserted an announcement in behalf of Nancy. On the same date the 19th, Saturday, Nancy’s work called the Disability Community Resource Center (DCRC) is having a mental health awareness day. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to her. A flyer will be send out on our list serve.

Sheila announced, in behalf of Portia mason, would like to remind everyone about her AMWay products. If you’re interested to purchase, call her directly. She’ll give a portion of the sales that she gathered during the month and will donate it to our Chapter. So, please help her as she would help us out by donating the proceeds.

Robert added and reminded those who purchased the world’s Finest Chocolates, to please turn in the money soon. For anyone who has an outstanding money on the Carl’s Jr. Books, turn those in too.

Sports and Activities.

Racquel mentioned about the Beer crawl activity and had found out that the Anheuser Busch Brewery had opened for tours. She would like to know and would like to ask everyone who are interested in going to the tour for beer tasting. So, she can have an idea on what to tell them. There were approximate of 15 who would like to join. A Saturday was suggested for the beer crawl activity.

Another reminder that Racquel asked is about the fishing license for those who said that they were interested to go. She would like to have an idea on how many volunteers will she have to bring to help for the fishing trip.

Lastly, she discussed about a Financial Planning seminar or workshop. She asked if anyone is still interested for it. She will send out more info in the email. Robert would like to ask if the auditorium in Tarzana Hospital can be used for this seminar. Racquel will double check.

Robert discussed the National Convention. Our last year in Florida. He met last Wednesday with our Chapter’s board and discussed grants to assist people to get to the National Convention. We have decided to give 5 grants in the amount of $500 each. Those people are; Robert & Joy, Joe Otoole & Sharon, and Ron.

He also mentioned that he spoke to a gentleman last week and was told that there were 4 places that are being considered for the national Convention next year. The places that they’re looking into are: Denver Colorado, Phoenix Arizona, Dallas Texas and Las Vegas Nevada.

Next item is giving out some money for people to use towards State convention registration that will happen locally on October 25 to the 28th at the LAX Marriott. Hotel room rates for that are going to be $129 a night plus tax. Detailed info will be discussed more in August and September. Stay tuned!

Lastly, one of the things that Robert would like to have is someone to volunteer to be the legislative person for the Chapter. This volunteer person will sign up on the NFB members list, as well as the NFBCA list serve. So, when legislation comes out from the national Office or if there’s anything that comes from the State, this person can then report it to the Chapter. There are also some dates to be known before we actually meet as a Chapter and can get it out on our list serve. For example, last Thursday, there was a hearing with the Senate regarding the Mericash Treaty. It will be good for the volunteer person to give out the information out to the Chapter and urged people to call their Congressional members or Senators to help out with the issue. So, if there’s someone interested and have questions, please contact him. He really would like to have a Legislative Chair in our Chapter. Juanita volunteered to do it since she is already on both of the list serve.

Summary of the Presidential release:

Robert explained about other legislation that are taking place. A good portion of the Presidential release talks about some of the legislation that President Mark **Riccobono mentioned is the** TIME ACT **which is the Transitioning to Integrated and Meaningful Employment. We still need co-sponsor for it. So, if you can call your Congressional member, it would be very helpful. We would love to get this pass before the session ends. Another one is the Accessible Affordable Technology Act that needs to get co-sponsors for. If this will pass, they will give you a tax credit up to $2500. In this way, it will help you to afford the technology that you need for your job.**

**Last thing that President Riccobono had mentioned that happened recently was Medicare Health Aid was being sued because they were not providing information in an accessible format. That was settled in. Now, Medicare has to provide you an accessible format of your choice whether it’s in large print, braille copy, audio or an electronic format.**

**If you want to learn more about the Presidential Release, please call Robert.**

**Next business, Meeting rooms or meeting area for future Chapter meetings was discussed further. We’ll still continue in looking for a place. Please let Robert know so he can reach out to those contact person for the venue.**

**In line with the Chapter meeting, he informed everyone that he won’t be able to be present next month due to his Mom’s Memorial Services and was scheduled on the 9th of June. He spoke to Juanita and was fine in running the meeting in behalf of his absence. Or, he asked if everyone would like to move it in a different day. Joy made a motion to make a vote to move the date on the 16th. Seconded by Jaymee. The motion carries.**

**Meeting will be on June 16, 2018.**

**At the end, Robert introduced the CABS representatives: Candace as 1st Vice President and Chair of Fundraising and** Vejas as Secretary, Treasurer and Chair of the Membership fees to present the California Association of Blind Students. For more inquiries, please contact Candace.

Julian made a motion to accept Terry as a new member, seconded by Juanita. The motion carries.

50/50 raffle was $58. $29 was won by Rochelle.

Jaymee made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Nick. Meeting was adjourned at 1:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

 Sheila B.C.

Secretary

NFB.SFV

"Creating connections. Building bridges together."