June minutes 2018

NFB.SFV

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 am and began with the Pledge of Allegiance and NFB Pledge.

Trivia question for the month: what’s your favorite vacation spot?

IN attendance: 22 total. 21 members and 1 guest.

Sheila Biglang-awa, Ron Hilliard, Karen Elo, Beatrice Duarte, Terry Almy, Rochelle Yohai, Nick Guttinger, Betsy Estrada, Joy Stigile, Jaymee Castillo, Julian Vargas, Elissa Byrne, Jo Anne Seaman, Candace Luther, Anthony Melena, Leticia Martinez, Joe Otoole, Jane Suh, Laura Nunez, Nebiyu Dingetu, Robert Stigile, Nancy Urquilla and John Albarran.

Announcements:

Jo Anne just got back from a trip from Iceland.

Joe emailed Bill Grosjean. He is in Guatemala and he’s safe. You can send him a message through his email.

Sheila announced June birthday celebrant: Ron.

Robert has raffle tickets for CAGDU Division which is the California Association of Guide Dog Users. The drawing will take place at the Banquet at the State Convention in October. The tickets are $5 for 1 or $20 for 5 tickets. 3 possible prices, worth $100 each are the following: Amazon gift card, Target gift card, Starbucks gift card. You can purchase from him after the meeting. Secondly, he has another drawing tickets and will also take place at the Banquet at the State Convention. You don’t need to be present for this. This is from the At-Large Chapter. Same cost which is $5 for 1 ticket and $20 for 5 tickets. Prices are $50 Lift gift card and a $50 Uber gift card. Lastly, for the National Convention tickets, $10 apiece. Winner will receive all expense paid to next year’s convention. You’ll get a $1000 cash. Banquet, registration and hotel are all paid for. Airlines for 2 will be paid for also.

Joy has a raffle tickets for Diabetes Action Network. Winner will get $100 Amazon gift card. You don’t need to be present. It’s $5 per ticket.

Secretary Report.

Julian made a motion to approve the minutes as sent, seconded by Nebiyu. The motion carries.

Treasury Report.

For the month of May.

Malik sent out the report last Wednesday through the list serve. Robert read the following:

Beginning balance: $5,140.54

Deposits: $10 from Terry for membership dues, $40 from Malik as a donation, $40 from Sheila for battery chargers, $115.92 from Dog Haus fundraiser, $300 from Robert & Joy for candy, $29 from 50/50 raffle.

Withdrawals: $2500 for National Convention grants, $50 for PAC plan,

Ending balance; $3125.46

Committee Report

Fundraising

Sheila added $40 for the Dog Haus fundraising from 2 of her guests who didn’t make it but wanted to help out and donated.

Robert reminded if anyone needed to turn in money for something, you can hand it after the meeting.

Joy had brought up the bob’s big boy fundraising and asked whether we should do it in Burbank or Northridge. Scheduling for a date was discussed too. Joy will work it out and send the info out to the list serve.

Robert discussed a scheduled for the Tupenga Mall meeting room from 10 am to 12 pm for our next Chapter meeting. There is a $500 refundable deposit. There is also a profit fee of $100 an hour. They have a scheduled open for July 14th. He added that Juanita called him about an invitation from the company called HIMS. It’s a company that sells note-takers, products for low vision, all different accessible technology. This company will have a workshop from July 9 to the 14th. They would like to do 1 here in the Valley on the 14th from 11 am to 4 pm. They would pick up the cost of the meeting room and provide lunch.

Options was laid out to the members to choose whether or not to have the Chapter meeting and just have the HIMS workshop. Or have the meeting and the workshop combine.

Sports and Activities

Robert received the application from Olga Tobias for fishing and will turn it in in July. Others who are interested, you can still send him your application. It’s a free license for the fresh water. For the salt water, you have to pay $5 fee for each year.

Legislative

Right before the last Chapter meeting, the mericash Treaty was being heard by the Senate. Robert hasn’t heard anything new on that. Hopefully will hear something soon. Another thing is that there is a bill in the State of California, it is AB1865. A bill that was introduced by Senator and was written by the California Council of the Blind. The NFB of California is supporting it and were asking everyone to write letters to your local Senator and assembly of people to let them know that you want this bill to pass. What this bill is, a bill that will protect guide dogs whether or not they are out of harness. Basically what would happen once this passes, if the guide dog is attacked, the owner of that dog is liable of all the Bet’s expenses. The owner will be fined and put to jail if the dog hasn’t ended its career. We need this to pass. It will probably pass the Senate majority and go to the Governor’s desk. That point we need more letters to get the Governor to sign it. If Robert gets more information, he’ll put it out on the list serve.

The agenda for the National convention is out. The list of vendors and exhibit is also available. For the majority who are going to the convention, when you get your Banquet ticket on Wednesday which is the registration pick up day. Bring that Banquet ticket to Robert anytime on Wednesday. All chapter President will hand all their members’ banquet tickets to Tiffany. She’ll have all the tickets Thursday morning. Ticket booth will open Thursday afternoon and she’ll be the first in line. This way, we will have a better seat for everyone. Each has to write their name on the banquet ticket.

State Convention will be on October 25th to the 28th. Theme is “Creating connections. Building bridges together. The cost will be $150. This will give you a free access to the exhibit hall on Friday, access to the Family Feud / dance / karaoke night on Friday, and access to all the agendas on Saturday and Sunday. It includes breakfast on Friday to Sunday and Banquet on Saturday night. If you choose not to attend all of those stuff, it will be a different price. For instance, let’s say you just wanted to come on Friday to go to the exhibit hall and stay for the Family Feud / dance / karaoke night, it will be $45. This consist of a $25 registration fee plus $20 for the Friday night’s event. Another example, if you only want to attend the Banquet on Saturday night, you have to pay $85 which consist of $25 for the registration and $60 for the Banquet.

Total fee for the entire State convention is $150.If you plan to stay at the hotel, it will be $129 per night.

Robert would like everyone to plan to attend since it’s just the month of June and there’s plenty of time to plan and prepare till October. There will be funds for some grants and will be discussed later. There will be also grants for the first time attendees.

Anthony asked about the basket for auction. We decided to have a “movie night” theme. Sheila volunteered to be in charge of it. She will remind everyone each month and will collect donated items. Gather all the items all in the basket and will bring it to the convention.

Additional announcement:

Nancy informed everyone about Federico, one of our Holiday Adopt a child in the past, to please keep him in your prayers. He is having a lung surgery sometime this week.

Robert played an article from the April Braille Monitor entitled Philosophy. Gary Wonders, editor of the Braille Monitor, asked 4 people at the National Center in Baltimore to respond to the question whether or not a member of the Federation who’s blind, should pre-board in an airplane. For more information about this, feel free to contact Robert.

50/50 raffle $38. Betsy won $19.

The meeting was not properly adjourned but it ended at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sheila Marie b.C.

Secretary

C: 818.404.7646

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“Creating connections. Building bridges together.”