2019, January Minutes

NFB of California, San Fernando Valley Chapter

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am. Started with the Pledge of Allegiance and the NFB pledge. Recited the 1 minute NFB message.

Trivia for the month: What’s your New Year’s resolution for 2019?

In attendance: 19 total, 18 members and 1 guest.

Candace Luther, Jo Anne Seaman, Rochelle Yohai, Julian Vargas, Jayme Castillo, Terry Almy, Joy Stigile, John Albarran, Nancy Urquilla, Jane Suh, betsy Estrada, Lynne Nishihara, Malik - Treasurer, Sheila Biglang-awa - Secretary, Juanita Herrera - Vice President, Portia Mason, Robert Stigile - President, Bill Grosjean and Keith Cabala - guest.

Announcements:

Sheila announced birthday celebrants for December and January.

Julian announced for those who have IPhone and Android devices that there is an App called “Shake Alert L.A.”. The idea is an early warning system for a 5.0 quake. It’s available, free and accessible.

Jo Anne announced that she will see Tom Grimsley after the meeting. In 2 months he will get a wheelchair and can be back in Access.

Joy announced the selling of See’s Candy Toffee Chocolate Bars for $2.

She added that in our October Chapter meeting, while everyone was outside doing the videotaping for Best in Tech, someone came into their bedroom, used the bathroom and left the door open. She noticed that her AIRA Horizon smart glasses and phone were missing. If you know where it might be, please let her know.

Secretary Report

Robert found a minor correction. The Sweetmansystems should be Sweetman Systems. Julian made the motion to approve the November 2018 minutes as sent. Seconded by Joy and the motion carries.

Treasury Report

It was sent in the list serve by Malik last December 21, 2018.

$50 coming out for the PAC plan.

$5 deposit from Portia from Amway purchase.

Committee Report

Fundraising

Sheila discussed the 1st Fundraising conference for the New Year which happened last Thursday, January 8, 2019. There were 11 members who participated: Robert & Joy, Juanita, Malik, Candace, Terry, Ron Hilliard, Racquel Decipeda, Betsy, Olga Tobias and myself. The first one that was discussed was the Chipotle which the group picked a date on February 23, Saturday. Flyers will be made and will be sent out via email. Location will be on Devonshire, Granada Hills which is a good location because there are 4 school surrounding it. Which is a good spot to hand out flyers, according to the manager.

Everyone had shared fundraising ideas. Joy mentioned the Bob’s Big Boy certificate. She still have worth $40 tickets. She will negotiate with the Northridge location for our next fundraiser which might happen either in March if there will be no Sport and Activities event. If Juanita will have an event for March, we push the Bob’s Big Boy in April. Then there were more suggested ideas such as Shakey’s Night, Terry mentioned LNL Hawaiian BBQ, Pizza Press. Betsy suggested Sizzlers. Juanita and Malik came up with Cash Bar Night. Terry suggested a Karaoke Night. Racquel added that with the Karaoke, we need to put up money for insurance fee for security purposes. Then Olga suggested bowling. Lastly, Robert mentioned that Portia had donated a profit that was incurred from the Amway sales last November. So with this, Portia will have it as an on-going fundraiser where we as a Chapter will help her and at the same time she’ll help us in return from the donated sales. Robert suggested to Portia if she could send out the link to the list serve which is amway.com/Portia mason. The fundraising committee is open for more suggested ideas.

Sports and Activities

Juanita is planning to have a conference call anytime next week. She has a few suggestions that will alternate with the fundraising events. She would try to get a location to host a Social Security Seminar for March. Probably in May or June we will do the horseback riding.

Holiday Party

Robert mentioned for those who attended, everyone had a good time. Saul Valdez love his present. Keep in mind that we’re still taking donations for those who wish to donate for his laptop. You can either give it in cash, write a check or through PayPal.

Lynne added in behalf of the Adopt a Student Committee, everything went well. Saul’s brother Omar Valdez liked his toy car gift, too. Thanks to Nancy and John. She added that it was a good thing that the committee started planning out early.

Best in Tech

Robert was told that we had over 500 people registered and 420 people had come. The record of 10 years! The highest that we ever had! We roughly made about $2500 from the sponsors. $1100 from the raffle. He also added that he already asked Ben Pomeroy from Braille Institute to put us in the calendar for November 16th, 2019. Julian made a motion to have the Best in Tech on November 16, 2019, seconded by Juanita and the motion carries.

Robert played the Presidential release from Mark Ricobono. It is highly suggested to make the hotel reservation as early as you can. For reservations call 877-632-9001 for the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada for the 2019 National Convention.

Lastly, Robert mentioned about the membership contact Initiative form and he assigned Sheila to handle. Please fill it out and send it back. Deadline is January 13th. He emphasized about some people have concerns about confidentiality. You don’t need to send out your information to the list serve. Send it directly to her. No one else will see it. It will go back to our State President Tim Elder. And he will send it to the National Center. Your information will not be used or sent out to any telemarketers. One of the things their doing with this is wanting to show to Congress and to people who donates and/or donors. To show that we are 50,000 strong and to show how many people we have.

50/50 raffle $22. Candace won $11.

Julian made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Juanita. The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am.

Respectfully submitted by

Sheila Marie B.C.

Cell; 818-404-7646

Secretary and

Chair of Fundraising committee