March, 2019 Chapter meeting

National Federation of the Blind of California

San Fernando Valley Chapter

The meeting was called to order at 10 am. Candace Luther led the Pledge of Allegiance, NFB pledge and the 1 minute message.

Trivia question for the month: tell us a skill that you don’t have but you’ve like to learn.

In attendance 18 members:

Malik. - Treasurer, Rochelle Yohai, Jo Anne Seaman, Jane Suh, Joe Otoole, Portia Mason, Joy Stigile, Katherine Bliss, John and Nancy Albarran, Karen Elo, Ron Hilliard, Lynne Nishihara, Nebiyu Dingetu, - Board Member, Candace, Juanita Herrera - Vice President, Steve Lee and Robert Stigile - President.

Announcements:

Jo Anne announced that her grand-nephew and his girlfriend are getting married on June 28, 2019 in Mexico.

Candace announced that there will be a 2nd quarter Fundraising conference call for the months of April, May and June. Stay tuned for more details.

Malik announced that he registered for the National convention.

Joe announced that you can book a ride with Access and will take you directly to the CSUN convention at the Marriot Hotel Anaheim.

Nebiyu talked about Chris McConnell, a stand-up comedian to search him in YouTube.

Juanita announced that she will get a new guide dog and Anise is retiring.

Robert announced that Terry Almy is at the Guide dogs for the Blind and will have a black lab.

Lastly, he reminded everyone to move your clocks forward an hour for the Spring Daylight Saving time.

Secretary’s Report.

Nancy just noticed a few minor corrections which is Saul’s last name was misspelled. Robert mentioned that there were 2 or 3 items in the minutes and noticed that there was a motion made for giving $30 in gift card to the Student’s Division. Actually, Julian Vargas made a motion for it but we didn’t know who seconded it because the voice was not clear so we left it blank. Then the other thing was that there was a motion at the end, to adjourn the meeting and Julian made a motion for it but we didn’t know who seconded it. The last thing in the minutes that he and Julian had cleared out was the 50/50 raffle and got a confirmation from Rochelle that she was the one who won. So, in the future, we do need to make sure that when someone makes a motion and seconds it, to make sure that it’s clear.

Joy made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Juanita and the motion carries.

Treasury Report.

No report. Malik will send the actual figures tomorrow.

Committee Report.

Fundraising

Joy announced the upcoming Bob’s Big Boy fundraiser in Burbank on March 23, 2019 Saturday at 5 pm. She would like everyone to join and support. She has available certificates if anyone would like to purchase.

Robert was happy to tell everyone that the amount that we made from the Chipotle fundraiser was $127.26. That was 33% of the total sales that we made that night. Joy added that there was an additional $60 donations from a couple of members.

Portia gave a little reminder for those who would like to get anything from Amway, to let her know. For those who have guide dogs, guide dog users that there is a partner store section with Amway. They have PETCO and 1800-PETNET. So, if you want to order any supplies for your guide dogs to let her know and she’ll help you out in setting up an account. Whatever proceeds that she gets, between 10% and 25% will go to the Chapter. Mother’s Day and Father’s Day are coming up and

 for those who are looking for gifts, just let her know an she’ll help you find special items. She can also find you a nice selection of flowers from 1800-flowers that she can help you with.

Sports and Activities

No scheduled activities yet. Juanita said that they were planning to work on a Resource Fair but she was waiting on some contact information that Sheila and Olga Tobias have. So, Joy suggested that Juanita should have a conference call then. Nancy volunteered to ask her work place and would find out more information. She added that DCRC (Disability Community Resource Center) is an agency that supports things like this.

One more item that Robert would like to mention if there’s anyone interested, the President of his fishing club wants to put together a fishing trip for our group who wants to go. Raquel Decipeda will send out fishing license application soon. We’re thinking probably in May if we can put something together a group of 20 people. $45 a person for the boat. License would be free. If you catch a fish, the boat crew will clean it for you and have it ready for you to just cook it. It will cost only $1 per fish. The trip will be half a day from 1 pm and come back around 6 pm. Bring cash if you plan to order food and drinks in the boat. It will be in Marina Del Rey.

So, look out for a Sports and Activities conference call anytime soon from Juanita.

The 2019 National Convention

Robert would like everyone to attend the National convention. We have a Few that registered. Please book your hotel reservation because it’s going out fast like hotcakes! Convention registration opened March 1st through May 31st. online registration is $25. The banquet is $70.

If you didn’t register online, the on-site registration fee will be $30. The National office prefers online registration because they don’t take credit card transaction, only cash or check. In this way, it will also help the National Office to know in advance how many people are actually attending and purchasing for the banquet.

Robert would also like to mention about an email that he sent out a few weeks ago about our Chapter’s providing grants. The deadline for applying is March 30th so we can tell everyone who’s going to receive it at the April meeting.

He also added that he had booked a round trip ticket on Mega bus. He paid $32 round trip tickets for him and Joy.

Lynne asked Robert when the convention people would have the speaker’s agenda out. He said that it will be out on the first part of June.

Steve asked and was concern about the people on how are they going to eat or get their meals. Everyone shared their own experience on how they do it each time they attend the convention.

Malik asked about the vendors on how many days are they going to be there. Robert explained that the vendors are there on the first day to set up which will be on the 7th of July. On the 8th, Monday, vendors will be open from 9 am to 5 pm. Then on Tuesday which is the Board meeting day, vendors will be open from 8:30 am to 5 pm. Then on the day when general sessions occurs, vendors are close. They are only open either during lunch or in the evening when the general session is over.

Robert announced for those who are interested to apply for grant to please send him an email requesting the grantand the information of your convention registration and banquet confirmation. We would ask you to attend the Resolutions Committee meeting, attend all general sessions and 1 shift at the California table in the Exhibit hall. This is one way of showing commitment to receive a grant and giving back. Please give a Robert a call if you want to apply.

State Convention

Our state convention will be held November 7-10 at the Embassy Suites, 901 E Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, CA 95035. Start putting it in your calendar.

Lastly, Robert played the Presidential Release #481. Please see him for any questions.

50/50 raffle $34. Portia won $17.

Juanita made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Rochelle. The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Recorded by: Candace

Respectfully submitted by:

Sheila Marie B.C.

Cell: 818.404.7646

Chapter Secretary and

Chair of Fundraising Committee