October, 2019 Chapter meeting

The National Federation of the Blind of California

San Fernando Valley Chapter

Juanita Herrera, Vice President called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. She announced that Robert Stigile, our President is currently in a training at the guide dog school to have a new guide dog. She also announced that she got her new black Labrador guide dog last week. So, in behalf of Robert, she will take over the meeting for this month.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, NFB pledge and the 1 minute message.

Question of the month: What would your dream costume be in Halloween?

In attendance:

Karen Elo, Ron Hilliard – Member-At-Large, Betsy Estrada, Alice Garabedian, Joy Stigile, Julie Prudence, Nancy Albarran, John Albarran, Jaymee Castillo, Julian Vargas, Rochelle Yohai, Malik – Treasurer, Nebiyu Dingetu and Juanita.

Announcements:

Julian shared the tech tip of the month. Talked about the Script Talk program for medications. The AP now is available for the IPhone free of charge. It has 2 modes. 1 mode scans and reads everything on the label. The 2nd is the quick scan mode where it will just read the medication. He also discussed about the IOS 13. If you are still on the version IOS 12, he was suggesting to hang on it still because the IOS 13 has a bug with the voice over, audio and sound after hanging up on a phone call. He also talked about using aps to read documents that there are reading stands available. It’s sort of like a shelf where you can lay your phone on it face down. It has a metal legs on either side to put them out and you can put the paper in between. Just line up the paper on its edges with the perfect distance.

Juanita announced that her guide dog Anise is retired. She has now a 22 month new guide dog named Jaiden.

She announced that we will be having a guest speaker on our next Chapter meeting on November 2nd. The guest speaker will be Mary from Disability Rights California. She will talk about what they do and the services that they offer. She would like to ask everyone if you can schedule your Access pick up time around 12:15 pm or after because she will speak on the last 20 minutes of our meeting.

We are going to have our Chapter meeting on that day because November 7th to the 10th is the State convention in Northern California. Then the third weekend will be the Best in Tech.

Joy announced that in November, it will be already the last meeting at their house because in January their house will be in construction. So she asked everyone to help find a new place for future Chapter meetings.

Juanita announced that as of this month, $10 due is now payable to renew your membership or be a supporting member. Supporting member is someone who supports the things that we do and supports our Chapter but does not attend the meeting. A regular member attends most of the meetings and if you miss 3 consecutive meetings, you will get placed in the supporting member list.

Secretary Report.

The error was about one of the vendors which the actual Gold vendor is irie at T but Sheila Biglang-Awa had put AIRA. Julian made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Malik and the motion carries.

Treasury Report.

Malik apologized for not having the report ready but he will send it out by Friday. He read the rough draft which has about $3500 in the checking and $4600 in the savings.

In line with the treasury report, Juanita added that there will be 6 grants deducted for the State convention will amount to $200 each. A total of $1200 will be deducted on the next month’s report.

For State Convention, she mentioned that the hotel’s completely booked. But the registration is extended until October 25th because people are still registering. The agenda will be up on the next week or so. The hotel management will and Tim Elder, State President is discussing if they would extend the room reservations with the blocked rates for more incoming people.

Committee Report

Fundraising.

Joy announced that the Bob’s Big Boy did very well.

The fundraising item to sell as a raffle for Best in Tech is the Amazon Echo Dot.

Sports and Activities.

Juanita announced again that we will be having a guest speaker from Disability Rights California in November, In January, we will have another guest speaker from Script Talk.

Best in Tech.

Website is ready to go and will be sent out on Monday in the list serve. There will be 6 Gold sponsors, 1 Platinum and 5 regular sponsors. One more potential vendor from CCB and would like to present their new product that they will launch. Registration will be closing earlier than usual to help out with the lunch count which would be on November 13th. Juanita also asked from the Chapter if anyone could help in acquiring gift cards or things that we could raffle off that are technology related throughout the day. She is encouraging everyone to register for Best in Tech.

Holiday Party

Joy announced on December 14th will be our Holiday Party at 5 pm. It will be at Ernie’s Tacos Mexican Restaurant in North Hollywood. The cost is $33.50 that includes appetizers, soft beverage, and main dish. They give excellent service.

Adopt a Child Program

Joy explained how the program works for the newcomers at the meeting.

Unfinished business.

Baskets for the State convention. Betsy gave a wine bottle. Juanita explained how the baskets work to the new attendees as well. Malik will donate another wine bottle. Juanita will be putting in a restaurant gift card. And for the home baked items, Joy asked if you want to do some baking to volunteer for the home baked basket. Ron and Karen are volunteering baked cookies.

For those who would like to add items for any of the baskets, please bring it on our next meeting.

State Convention.

Juanita mentioned grants that will be given out to the following members: Joe OToole, Sharon Watson, Ron, Betsy, Nebiyu and Juanita. They will receive $200 and will be on the next Treasury Report.

Juanita reminded everyone to continue submitting reports to the NFB website. A link is provided where you can document any report. This is about the NFB agreement with the share-ride companies where they have agreed to work on improving their services. This is to allow and giving rights to people with service animals because it seems like they are not sticking to the agreement.

Before the meeting ended, Juanita asked the new comers if they are interested to join and become a member. Julian made a motion to accept Julie and Alyse as new members. Ron seconded it.

Additional information:

Ron shared an information about the company Lego where in January the company will start the 6 dot system for their lego sets. Lego instructions will also be in brailed print.

Jaymee shared the product Herbal Essence – shampoo/conditioner will also put braille on their products.

50/50 raffle $28. Joy won $14.

Julian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Nebiyu.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Recorded by John and Joy.

Respectfully submitted:

Sheila Marie B.C.

Cell: 818-404-7646

Chapter Secretary and

Chair of Fundraising

NFB.SFV