2020 February Chapter Meeting

National Federation of the Blind of California

San Fernando Valley Chapter

The meeting was called to order at 10:16 am. Began with the Pledge of Allegiance, the NFB Pledge and the 1 minute message.

Question of the month: What’s your favorite sports?

In attendance: 33 attendees.

1 guest and 32 members.

Juanita Herrera – Vice President, Ron Hilliard – Member-At-Large, Betsy Estrada, Sonny Hernandez, Matthew & Carrie Schrieber, Portia mason, David & Valerie Delawder, Selena Landeros – guest, Lindsay Kerr, Jaymee Castillo, Julian Vargas, Jane Suh, Elissa Byrne, Terry & Grinnell Almy, Katherine Bliss, Alyce Garabedian, Steven Lee, Candace Luther, Jo Anne Seaman, Lynne Nishihara, John & Nancy Albarran, Jerry Morales, Keith Caballa, Karen Elo, Rochelle Yohai, Joy Stigile, Malik – Treasurer, Sheila Biglang-awa – Secretary, Robert Stigile – President.

Announcements:

Candace announced that she is a Travel Agent. Her company is working on group trips to the National convention where you get discounts for your flight and a hotel. They need at least 10 or more people. Her boss has connections with the Hilton hotel nearby.

John announced that on February 16th next weekend will be his and Nancy’s 1st year wedding anniversary.

Jo Anne announced that she will see Tom Grimsley next weekend.

Betsy announced that the Pathfinder Chapter will be having their annual reception on February 20th, Thursday at the Senior Center. She also announced their casino trip will e on the first Saturday of April. For more information, you can ask Betsy.

Keith announced that Inland Empire Lighthouse for the blind is going to Laughlin, Nevada on March 23rd, 24th and 25th. A $110 fee which covers the bus to and from the casino. Leave on Monday 9 am from the San Bernardino Lighthouse and will be back Wednesday the 25th. This includes your hotel room at the Edge Water Hotel and Casino.

Julian talked about the US Post Office delivery service on their website: [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) . Once you sign up for it, they will email you any day that you are getting something in the mail, they will email you a summary and will include picture of everything that you are getting from the mail. It comes in handy when you are travelling because you will still get the daily summary of the mails that you are going to receive. It’s a free service.

Robert shared Racquel Decipeda’s announcement that Hearts for Sight is having a bike ride on February 22nd from 9 am to 11 am at Lake Balboa. You need to RSVP because they only have 9 spots left. A $10 fee is required. They also need a few more captains who could gear the bikes. Captains are free. Contact Racquel if you are interested or send an email to [heartsforsight@gmail.com](mailto:heartsforsight@gmail.com). Secondly, Hearts for Sight is putting together a hike at Griffith Park on Sunday March 1st. Details should be coming out soon.

Secretary’s Report.

Nancy made a correction for the spelling of Uber and not Uver. Joy would like to correct the raffle winnings of Robert for $18 and the actual total of the 50/50 raffle is $36.

Julian made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Nancy and the motion carries.

Treasury Report.

Beginning balance: $6,881.77.

Received paid dues from the following members: Lynne, Keith, Lindsay, Jerry and Sheila.

Dues from Supporting members: Art Melworm.

50/50 raffle 30.

Withdrawal of $50 for PAC Plan.

Total amount in Checking account: $6,921.77.

Joy had a question about the 50/50 raffle that was deposited in the amount of $30. The correction was made that Robert had won $28 and donated $2 to the Chapter and that made an amount of $30 deposited. Then the Secretary’s report was clarified that the 50/50 actually amounted to $56 and the winner got $28 and not $18.

Robert just issued a check amounted $700 for the See’s Candy was approved by the Board. Half of the amount will be paid back by the Pathfinder Chapter.

Robert announced to those who are new that our Chapter have elections every 2 years. It’s always in February on the even numbered year. For this year 2020, the position of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Board Member are up for election. The people that serve those position at this moment are: Robert for President, Juanita for Vice President, Sheila for Secretary, Malik for Treasurer and Ron for Board Member.

Robert opened the position for President to see if there are any nominations.

Jaymee nominated Robert to be the President of this chapter, seconded by Terry. Since his name was nominated, robert handed it over to Juanita to run the nomination. She asked if there any other nominations. Joy moved the nomination ceased and that we elect Robert Stigile by acclamation, seconded by Malik.

Robert then opened up the nomination for Vice President. Joy nominated Juanita for Vice President. Seconded by Malik. Joy moved the nomination be ceased and that Juanita Herrera be elected by acclamation, seconded by Malik.

Robert opened the nomination for the position for Secretary. Julian nominated Sheila, seconded by Nancy. Joy move the nomination ceased and that Sheila Biglang-awa be elected by acclamation, seconded by Jaymee.

Robert open the nomination for the position of Treasurer. Sheila nominated Malik for Treasurer, seconded by Joy. Joy move the nomination ceased and Malik be elected by acclamation, seconded by Terry.

Robert opened the nomination for the position of Board-Member-At-Large. Juanita nominated Ron as a Member-At-Large, seconded by Julian. Joy moved the nomination ceased and that Ron Hilliard be elected by acclamation, seconded by Jaymee.

Robert congratulated and welcomed the new Board for the coming 2 years. He will send the information to our National President Marc Ricobono on how the election went.

Committee Report.

Sheila thanked the members who supported and ordered See’s chocolates for the month’s candy sale. She thanked Joy and Robert for picking up the orders.

The next item for fundraising is the Panda Express. Application online is being processed but could not move on with the application until a date has been entered. So, it was suggested to have the date on the weekend before the Chapter meeting or on the day of the meeting. But it was suggested to have it on the 18th of April.

Sports and Activities

Juanita hasn’t received a response yet from the Comedy Store. She also haven’t received any suggestion from the Chapter for activities and she’s still open from anyone who would like to suggest so she can look into it. Valerie suggested and explained the Ghetti Center tour. Nancy shared their experience and information about the Science Center. She also suggested a karaoke night for just social night. Juanita will look for location.

Robert played the Presidential Release #491. For information and questions, please contact Robert.

National Convention is July 14th to 19th. Make your room reservations soon. If it’s your first time attending, contact Robert and he will help you on how to apply for the Jernigan grant. Our Chapter’s Board will probably be providing grants too. For more inquiries, please contact Robert.

Elissa will send on the list serve the information about the Outrigger Canoe. Their 5-man canoes and they race in Hawaii and San Diego.

50/50 raffle $45. Terry won $22.50.

Joy made a motion to vote in Sonny as a new member and re-activate Catherine’s membership, seconded by Betsy.

Julian made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ron. The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sheila Marie B.C.

Cell: 818-404-7646

Chapter Secretary and

Chair of Fundraising Committee

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