2021, January Chapter Meeting

The National Federation of the Blind of California

San Fernando Valley Chapter

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 am. We began with the Pledge of Allegiance, the NFB Pledge and the 1 minute message.

Trivia for the day: will u choose or not get the vaccine when it is available to you??

In attendance: 21 Chapter members.

John and Nancy Albarran, Sheila Biglang-awa – Secretary, Keith Caballa, Jaymee Castillo, Racquel Decipeda, David and Valerie Delawder, Karen Elo, Betsy Estrada, Juanita Herrera – Vice President, Ron Hilliard – Member-At-Large, Candace Luther, Anthony Melena, Lynne Nishihara, Joe OToole, Jo Anne Seaman, Joy Stigile, Robert Stigile – Chapter President, Jane Suh and Julian Vargas.

Announcements:

Jo Anne announced the passing of Tom Grimsley.

Johnny announced that as of January 4th, 2021 he started working at the Disability Community Resource Center (DCRC) as a Peer Specialist Training Coordinator.

Racquel announced that Hearts For Sight is launching two new support groups starting January 12. HFs has a new therapist that will be facilitating these groups for 12 weeks. All support group sessions are done via tele-conference. HFs support groups are designed for the visually impaired community to have a safe and comfortable place to meet, to share, and to discuss issues, concerns, challenges, related to living as a visually impaired person. The support group will provide space to highlight achievements, successes and wins! This will be a space for VIP adults to conveniently get together to share challenges in life as well as strategies utilized for coping and/or adjusting to living with a visual impairment. If anyone is interested to sign up, please reach out to Racquel at [hearts4sight@gmail.com](mailto:hearts4sight@gmail.com) or at 818-770-0182.

Julian’s announcements were reminding people to be careful of scams that might be going on with regard to stimulus payments. And he made the announcement about the free Aira accounts available to people in Los Angeles and Orange county through the Dale Macintosh center. Since Juanita works for them, I suggested that people contact her for better info.

Robert’s announcements were: Yappy nagdu hour at noon

Deaf-blind organization meeting today at 3 pm if anyone is interested who has not seen the zoom information to join, let him know

CAGDU social hour today at 4 pm

CAGDU monthly meeting Tuesday at 7:30 pm.

National Scholarships are available. Please let him know if you need help for the application.

Secretary Report

Lynne made a motion to approve the minutes as sent. Seconded by Ron and the motion carries.

Treasury Report

Robert did the past 2 treasury report before handing it over to Nancy. From now on and moving forward, she will now take over our Chapter’s Treasury report.

Washington Seminar

Robert mentioned that we are in the process of contacting all who applied and those people should have received a phone call and should return the call this weekend if you didn't apply, but want to assist, we will need people to be on the call in the background, so let him know if you want to be a silent participant

The following Issues are as follows:

a. accessible Technology affordability act

b. Human:

Home Use medical devices accessible now

c. Web access and accessible apps

d. Accessible voting.

National Convention

For this year, it will be 99 percent certain virtually

Presidential Release #501 was played.

The National office has organized a Task force committee. You can reach out to them either through the website at:

[survivors@nfb.org](mailto:survivors@nfb.org). Or you can call 410-659-9314 Ext. 2238

This is not a place to receive therapy but a place to share ideas and other thoughts.

The NFB board is working to make the organization a safe place for all and Robert is pleased with the direction it is going in this regard.

Ron made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lynne. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am

Respectfully submitted by:

Sheila Marie B.C.

Cell: 818-404-7646

Chapter Secretary

NFB.SFV