September 2021 Chapter Meeting

The National Federation of the Blind of California

San Fernando valley Chapter

Date: September 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am. Robert Stigile began the meeting with offering a moment of silent to commemorate the anniversary of the 9-11.

Ron led us with the Pledge of Allegiance, the NFB Pledge and the 1 minute message.

Trivia question: What

is your favorite thing to do in the Fall?

IN Attendance:

Total 21 members

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

Announcements:

Sheila her son Toby's deployment and request for some prayers and wishes for his safety and protection.

Jo Anne announced the Access people to talk about the services and Metro Micro a new bus stop in her area in Sierra Madre.

Julian's Tech corner:

Apple is thing an event called California Streaming on the 14th, Tuesday at 10 am Pacific, where the new iPhone will be availed. The applevis site is where you can go and read or applevis.com/blog. Next, for those who are part of his Breaking Blindness Barriers Grp will have an upcoming meeting. Stay tune for the date. You can send him an e-mail at help@techjv.com and on the subject line: BBB meeting or grp. And on the message body, type your E-mail address so he can easily copy and add to his grp. list.

Keith announced that starting on Monday he will be in 6 week emergency training with the Lighthouse for the Blind. His goal is to be employed in the next 6 mos.

John announced the Disability Community Resource Center DCRC is hosting the 4th class of the peer support advocate training that will start on September 20 to November 4. For those interested, you can contact him.

Joy shared that her and Robert attended Rochelle Yohai's memorial event. Rochelle's sister from Belgium was there with some family and friends. They met up at Lulu's restaurant Van Nuys.

Robert announced the following:

1. Our membership dues will start next month payable to Robert. You can do by Zelle , PayPal, Apple pay, Venmo or however you want to do it. Call, text or e-mail him to get the details.

2. Let him know if you are interested in joining the Deaf Blind meeting via Zoom, so he can send you the link. There will be also a Deaf Blind organizing meeting at our State convention. Stay tuned for that.

3. The sports and rec meeting will take place on the 15th September, Wednesday. They will also have an organizing meeting at our State convention as well. For the last 6 mos. they've been working on the Division in California for sports and recreation.

Racquel announcements are as follows:

 the Dodgers game on October 2nd. Payments are due now for $44 per ticket. You can pay through Zelle by using their e-mail: heartsforsight@gmail.com. You can also pay through PayPal or Venmo. Deadline for payments is on September 25. No payment, no ticket.

Their next hike is on September 26th on Debs Park.

3. Halloween Monster Bash, a fundraiser on October 29th.

4. Bike ride on Eldorado

Information will all be sent out on the list serve.

Robert announced the monthly meeting of CAGDU California division which is every 2nd Tuesday of the month. There will be one coming up on September 14th at 7:30 pm. Zoom info will be sent on the list serve.

Nancy talked about the auction basket for the State convention. The theme: "Let's cozy up!" So, if you have any ideas of any items that can be added to our basket, please send the Amazon link to Nancy's e-mail address at urquillableahf@gmail.com. There will be meeting on September 15, so please join us.

Secretary's Report

Joy made a motion to approve the August Minutes as written, seconded by Julian and the motion carries.

Treasurer's Report

Nancy sent out the August Treasurer's report on September 9, 2021.

Robert gave an update that Nancy is still not on the Chapter's checking account due to an upgrade of the Secretary State office’s system which will take in a month or so. Sheila gave a good remark on how our Treasurer's report has been well organized ever since Nancy became the Chapter's Treasurer. Members were concern and there were comments in the past that we were not getting information as to what's going in and out of our accounts. A job well done says Robert.

2021 State convention

Registration is available in English and Spanish. It's a free registration up until the week of the convention. The Affiliate will appreciate if you would like to donate. There will be Spanish translation for this event. There will be live captioning for the deaf and blind people. You will find the link for the 2021 convention on the website: nfbcal.org/convention.

 The scholarship application is now also available. There's a note that the site is unavailable to receive forms back. Thanks to Lyndsey for notifying us for that.

For those who knows a vendor who would like to join at the convention, there is a vendor application on the site as well.

In addition, there will be a State board position up for election this year. Keep in mind the following names: Tiffany Manosh, Veronica Martinez, Michael Richardson and Cheryl Thurston.

. Jim Barbers, a board member that was elected last year will be stepping down because he got accepted a job and need to move out of the country.

The State convention dates are from October 21st through 24th. There are a couple of programs that Robert mentioned for a talent show on Friday evening. It's a fundraiser night for a small fee. You can sign up at the website: nfbcal.org/convention either as a participant or as an audience. And on Thursday night, there will be a game show night for free. This game will have different members will be against each other answering trivia questions. It was a blast last year, so come and join! Look out for door prizes and different auction baskets during the convention.

Holiday Party

Robert asked everyone if any is interested to have our in person holiday party if we can find a place to have it. Joy, Sheila and Jose volunteered to work on this.

The Presidential Release

Ron played the Presidential Release 508.

For outdoor activities.

Since the Dodger game is on October 2, Robert asked if everyone would consider this as our October activity since him, Joy, Ron and Karen had signed up. Robert opened the discussion if anyone has any other thoughts that they want to share or bring up anything about it. Lynne shared her input about virtual activities such as Meet up. Joy have also heard about meet up, in fact their local Starbucks has a meet up grp. She suggested that instead of starting our own meet up group, it would be better to join other groups. So people can find out that blind people can be interested in anything that sighted people are already interested in whether it’s a philosophy group, poetry group or a science fiction reader group and etc.

On a different note, Robert would like to mentioned that Lynne will be our new Legislative Liaison. As soon as we have all the Chapters in California to have a liaison, then Tiffany will have everyone to meet up and to know how we would move forward with it. So, thank you Lynne for taking that lead.

In line with this legislation, we are very close to getting HR431 through the House in the next months. Stay tuned for that.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Sheila Marie B.C.

Cell: 818-404-7646

Chapter Secretary

NFB.SFV