MAY 2022 minutes of the meeting

The National Federation of the Blind of California

San Fernando Valley Chapter

Date: May 14 2022 , Saturday

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am. We began with the Pledge of Allegiance, the NFB pledge and the 1 minute message.

Question of the day: Who is your favorite musician or musical artist?

Attendance:

Sheila Biglang-awa - Secretary, Keith Caballa, Jaymee Castillo, Racquel Decipeda

David and Valerie Delawder, Juanita Herrera - Vice President, Ron Hilliard - Member-AT-Large, Tiffany Johnson, Candace Luther, Jo Anne Seaman, Julie Skujins, Joy Stigile, Robert Stigile - President, Jane Suh, Julian Vargas, Jose Lomeli, Matthew Schrieber and Robin Smith - guest.

Total: 19 attendees

18 members and 1 guest.

Announcements:

* Keith is now an official an A.D.A. Coordinator.
* Matthew would like to invite everyone to a musical performance where he is involve with. It will be on a Saturday June 18th at 2 pm. This will take place at the Hall of Liberty, Forrest Lawn in Hollywood Hills. It's a 1200 seat theater. There will be a lot of good music being performed by his Barber Shop chorus called The Valley Harmony Singers. It's a show with the Barber shop quartet and Chorus singing. No admission charge but you can happily donate in any amount. Flyers will be sent out on the list serve.
* Sheila asked if anyone knows someone who is looking for a job, her work place called The Massage Place located in Ensino and Sherman Oaks are looking for a front desk personel / receptionist. Please let her know via call or text.
* Tiffany's so happy to receive a letter notifying her that she will be receiveing the Jernigan scholarship from the National covention.
* Jo Anne announced that on May 2nd, Braille Institute opened their doors to new students. With former students, they will come back in September.
* Racquel's announcements for Hearts For Sight are as follows:

On May 21st, a visit at the Caprio Aquarium and Beachwalk. For the first hour or an hour and a half where they will show us different things inside the aquarium. After they will have a Beachwalk. Lunch will be provided. This is located in San Pedro and the exact address will be sent in the E-mail. They can take up to 30 people and there are few spots left. Important thing to remember, this location is requiring proof of vaccination card. Meeting time at 9:30 am. Next event is on May 24th Tuesday, "you will be visiting the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The museum will be exclusively open for Hearts For Sight only. They can take 30 people. It will be from 10 am to 3 pm where everyone can have the opportunity to feel and touch things. Vaccination card is not required. Next in line is their big fundraiser for the year is the Karaoke night on May 28th at the Gardena Moose Lodge. Saxy Jeff will be hosting the night. A fee of $25 for adults and $15 for kids 12 years and under. Italian food will be served. There will be a cash bar open. There will be singing and dancing and raffle for the night. Then in June, a bike ride on the 3rd at the Eldorado park. A hike on the 18th at Road Rogers State Park. Nex, if you are interested, they are still looking for people who are interested in having individual therapy or who would like to join support groups.

Robert reminded Racquel about the Dodgers game on July 22nd. Tickets are $44. Then on the 5th will be the fishing trip. Its sponsored by Hearts For Sight but they will be requiring a $25 refundable deposit. It will be refunded to you when you show up. If you don't show up, you don't get it back. The HFS is funding the boat and a portion of your food.

* Julian's tech corner : Be on the lookout for IOS 15. It will come out this week for IOS devices. If you want to get all the details and all the improvements before installing it, you can go to www@applevis.com. The iPod Touch is now being discontinued.

With the Android devices, Android 13 will be coming out this summer. It will include native braille support and will be able to support newer displays. If you want more details, you can go to blindbargain.com.

Julian asked if anybody is interested in becoming and be involve in learning about amateur radio. There is a podcast about it called CQ blind ham and their main website is wwwddblindham.com including info on the blind ham’s network. This is a fun network with a lot of blind people from around the world talking about the amateur radio. He's looking into the future of having some of those guys in his Breaking Blindness Barriers meetings and give a better chance in speaking with them. Lastly, for those who are not yet involve with his Breaking Blindness Barriers, this is his group that he facilitates. They meet via Zoom quarterly. For those who would like to join, send him an E-mail at help@techjv.com.

Secretary's Report

Julian made a motion to approve the April minutes as submitted and amended, seconded by Tiffany and the motion carries.

Treasurer’s Report

Nancy Albarran sent out the April Treasurer's report in the list serve on May 4, 2022.

Fundraising

Joy announced that the Tupperware fundraising is still on-going and it has been extended on May 31, 2022. There are a lot of good items that are on-sale and a lot of May specials so take advantage of it. Remember that 20 percent of the merchandise that you order will be donated to our Chapter.

Robert announce the River City Chapter's fundraiser with Angela's awesome beef jerky. If you're interested, Robert can give you Angela's information.

State Convention

It will be on November 3 to the 6th. Details are still being worked out. The physical location is going to be at the Old Town Courtyard Marriott in San Diego. After the signing of contract, details will be sent out for a virtual and in-person convention.

Next item, Robert was at a meeting in Santa Fe Springs to represent the Affiliates in working on accessible voting. The meeting was to talk about the issues pertaining to the accessibility. There was a bill in State Legislature for allowing electronic voting. The people that he met where looking to make a webpage program that would work with screen readers on computers and smartphones. . This would make you be able to casts and submit your ballots. Currently in California, you cannot submit electronic ballots. This has to be changed and so the opening of this bill is going through legislation now. Once amended, this will give support through the changes so we can have successful voting. One of the people that he spoke with actually works with the LA County Registrar and is very much interested in the newer accessible machines which are actually controlled by iPad. Robert might invite him over on our June Chapter meeting.

Presidential Release

Ron played the Presidential Release 516. For more info, you can ask Robert.

After playing the Presidential Release, Robert asked the guest Robin to join the Chapter, the dues will be $10 per year. Then Julian made a motion to have Robin as a new member, seconded by Jose.

Julian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jose. The meeting was adjourn at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sheila Marie B B.C.

Cell: 818-404-7646

Chapter Secretary and

Chair of Fundraising Committee

NFB.SFV