National Federation of the Blind of Florida

Greater Jacksonville Chapter

Saturday, April 6, 2024

Presbyterian House Apartments

1045 Oak St

Jacksonville, FL 32204, in the first floor lounge, & on Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

Introductions

 In attendance

President: Kaye Baker

Vice President: Denise Valkema

Secretary: Fallon Minichiello

Treasurer: Russ Davis

Board Member: Marty Miller

Board Member: Adriann Keve

Board Member: Glen Baker

Greater Daytona Chapter Vice President and Affiliate Board Member: Peggy Fleischer

Members: Latoya Kendrick, Cornessa Cherry, Andy Rood, Jason Keve, Sarah Jacobs, Cathy Randall, Bob Randall.

NFB Pledge, and One Minute Message: Andy recited the pledge, and Marty recited the one minute message.

Guest speaker, Cydney Parker from Senator Rick Scott’s office: Unfortunately, she cancelled at the last minute. Russ advised they were unable to secure an appointment with Senator Rick Scott during Washington Seminar and will write a letter to his office to see about securing a future appointment.

Approval of the March Secretary’s report – Fallon: Marty motioned to accept the minutes as distributed. Denise seconded. The motion passed. Kaye worked with David Andrews to create an email list for the chapter. All paid members are subscribed to the email list. If members are not receiving emails, please let Kaye know. The email address for the email list for the chapter is [nfbf-jacksonville@nfbnet.org](mailto:nfbf-jacksonville@nfbnet.org) Russ asked about emailing non members about chapter meetings and events. Kaye advised we will continue emailing them like we normally have.

Approval of the February and March Treasurer’s reports – Russ: Fallon will email both treasurer’s reports to the chapter. Russ read both treasurer’s reports out loud as follows: For February, the beginning balance in the chapter’s checking account = $2,644.42, and the ending balance in the chapter’s checking account = $2,594.63. The beginning and ending balances in the chapter’s savings account = $100.00. For PayPal, the beginning balance = $0.00, and the ending balance = $88.78. For March, the beginning balance in the chapter’s checking account = $2,594.63, and the ending balance in the chapter’s checking account = $2,758.85. The beginning and ending balance in the chapter’s savings account = $100.00. For PayPal, the beginning balance = $88.78, and the ending balance = $72.79. Fallon motioned to accept February’s treasurer’s report as read. Denise seconded. The motion passed. Marty motioned to accept March’s treasurer’s report as read. Denise seconded. The motion passed. We have 22 paid members.

2024 National Convention  
July 3 through July 8  
Orlando, Florida  
[Register now!](https://u32452178.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=u001.dPovOk22q531-2BRJhKyInEEcJb2poLs3yz-2F789HG368MRdxOYnKN2xL5f7-2B8gp5GiX27EDaJX3saX-2Bs3DP6eQemN5dpoM3f9jaqG8rjexsIY-3DsfPr_QSih0ToQAJ8eDAaZMyeCaHbLUcZkpz4HU-2BmRuxMlZhhOwoL9MyVuaGyuhWPHMwwYsa5YOCJcADNmwuFfUzx326xq8sBA5wdJC-2BQIF6PAyOoCm2mui3T94aJcNhc0PrI5W6Hv18PLFSk4hZCL-2B3UJ9F8bQ4-2F5SiekjAGESaABhcj4yDLYoOEJxZPibROQV-2FFueIuQSJCle2-2FuAxrYz9BrnlsTxy3dxnR30t4NykYUcfw-3D)

Registration is now open. Everyone is encouraged to register online by May 31 for the reduced rate of $25. If you register after May 31, the rates will increase to $30.

National Convention Planning meeting taking place the second Sunday of each month at 7:00 PM. Members were encouraged to attend the open convention planning meeting. Kaye will send out reminder emails when they are available.

This is our convention to plan. Come and bring your ideas.

What Florida will be responsible for at National Convention

Opening Ceremony event, no more than 20 minutes

Idea from Doug Ingram to have Video of What makes Florida a great place

Information table, will need  volunteers, contact Peggy Fleischer

Hospitality Suite, will need volunteers, contact Kaye Baker. The affiliate’s hospitality suite was discussed during a Presidents and Vice Presidents call that occurred this week. BEP vendors in central Florida will be contacted to provide cookies, candy, and snacks. We may need extra money in case they are unable to donate items. We discussed whether the chapter should donate to the hospitality suite. Russ motioned that the chapter donate $200 toward the hospitality suite. Marty seconded. The motion passed.

Affiliate space in the exhibit hall, Contact Russ if interested in volunteering. There is no cost to having a table at the exhibit hall, and Russ has solicited for volunteers throughout the affiliate to work the affiliate’s exhibit hall table.

We can fundraise as a chapter at convention. ideas? Marty motioned the chapter purchase two Visa gift cards to be raffled off at national convention: $200 for first place and $100 for second place. The chapter will also purchase raffle tickets: $2 for one raffle ticket and $3 for five raffle tickets. Denise seconded. The motion passed. Russ and Denise will work on purchasing 1,000 tickets. Kaye will write up authorizations for both the Visa gift cards and the raffle tickets.

For more information about National Convention visit [www.nfb.org/convention](http://www.nfb.org/convention)

National Federation of the Blind of Florida State Convention

October 11-14 at the South Bank Hotel

We will be the host again.

We are thrilled to be hosting this year with the Tallahassee Chapter. Kaye wants to schedule a meeting with our board and their board before the end of April to discuss responsibilities. Kaye will send out an email when more information becomes available with meetings between both chapters including non board members.

State convention planning meeting is held on the 4th  Wednesday at 8:00 PM. Please come and share ideas. Members were encouraged to attend the open convention planning meetings.

Jax Packs: Fallon motioned that we sell Jax Packs at state convention. Cornessa seconded. The motion passed. Kaye will write up an authorization for this as well.

Community events for 2024 including walks – Denise:

Diabetes Walk is May 4

Do we want a chapter meeting on a different day or before/after the walk? It was decided that we would keep our meeting on May 4 and do a diabetes event in either October or November where someone can come and discuss diabetes. It was also decided that Kaye and Denise would talk to the management at Denise’s apartment complex about making this our permanent meeting place.

Other community events/fundraisers: Latoya advised there is a Senior Expo on May 29 and 30 and in November, but the cheapest price to rent a table is $495. Kaye suggested that Latoya ask about non profit pricing. There are free events we typically participate in, such as the ADA Expo on July 26 and the Emergency Preparedness Conference. We also discussed doing a White Cane event in conjunction with state convention.

Final thoughts and next meeting date: April 11 is the fourth anniversary of Sunrise and Shine. There will be a guest speaker on the call for April 11 which will be the founder of Be My Eyes Hans Jorgen Wiberg. Our next meeting will be on May 4 at 10:00 AM at the Presbyterian House Apartments first floor lounge and on zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 PM.