National Federation of the Blind of Florida

Greater Jacksonville Chapter

Saturday, August 2, 2025

The Station at San Marco Apartments

1300 Hendricks Ave

Jacksonville, FL 32207 in the club room, and on Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM.

Introductions

In attendance:

President: Kaye Baker

Vice President: Russ Davis

Secretary: Fallon Minichiello

Board Member: Marty Miller

Board Member: Sarah Jacobs

Members: Bob Ivey, Tanya Thompson, Richard Thompson, James Jacobs, Peggy Fleischer, David Fleischer, Andy Rood, John Lennon, Vicky Lennon, Latoya Kendrick, Charles McCormick.

Visitor: Melvin Neer

NFB Pledge, and 1 minute message; Recited by all: Andy recited the pledge, and Russ recited the 1 minute message.

Approval of the June Secretary’s report – Fallon: Russ motioned to accept the minutes as distributed. Marty seconded. The motion passed. Vicky also advised that neither she or John have been receiving emails from the NFB Jacksonville mailing list. Fallon will follow up with David Andrews to confirm who is on the list.

Approval of the June and July Treasurer’s reports – Jason: Due to Jason being unable to attend the meeting and the chapter not receiving the treasurer’s reports at the time of the meeting, Fallon motioned to table the June and July treasurer’s reports until the next meeting. Russ seconded. The motion passed. Kaye also advised of unanticipated expenses that were incurred when we attended the Disability Expo she requested reimbursement for. Russ motioned we reimburse Kaye $40 for expenses incurred durning the Disability Expo. Andy seconded. The motion passed.

Update on Fundraiser, Double Good Popcorn or a possible alternative company: Peggy advised there is an alternative company called City Pop. Advantages of using them include making your fundraiser as short and long as you want, and besides popcorn, they also sell other items, such as gourmet pretzels and fudge. It was decided we would use them for our fundraiser and do it during the entire month of October and feature it at state convention. We discussed how we can promote the fundraiser. Peggy will contact City Pop to set it up.

Selection of Nominating Committee for October Election: The positions that are up for election are as follows:

President, currently held by Kaye Baker

Secretary, currently held by Fallon Minichiello

Board Member 1, currently held by Marty Miller

Board Member 3, currently held by Sarah Jacobs

Andy, Richard, and Tanya were appointed to the nominating committee with Andy as the committee chair. If you would like to nominate someone, including someone who is already serving in the position,  please send an email to the committee as follows:

Andy Rood: radiorexandy@gmail.com

Richard Thompson: [thompson.richardc@gmail.com](mailto:thompson.richardc@gmail.com)

Tanya Thompson: [thompson.tanyar@gmail.com](mailto:thompson.tanyar@gmail.com)

When you nominate someone, be sure to check  with them first to be sure they are willing to run for the position that you are nominating them for. Please email your nominations to all three members of the committee. Nominations must be in by October 12 at 11:59 PM. The nominating committee will then meet to come up with a slate of candidates which will be presented at October’s meeting. Due to convention and other events going on in October, it was decided we will have our meeting on October 18 location tbd.

Update on Joint project between the NFB Greater Jacksonville Chapter and the Rotary Club to provide funding for Meta Smart Glasses for local residents: Kaye described the project for those who did not know. Kaye met with Dan Griffin and advised the grant was denied by the district, but the Rotary Club itself will fund the grants. They also talked about wring an article and speaking with the media regarding the project as well as picking applicants to receive the glasses. Kaye and Peggy discussed new glasses from Meta that will be coming out within the next few months. Kaye will talk to Bob Schrepfer this week to see if we should wait to proceed until the new ones come out or if we can proceed now. The Meta Glasses Committee will meet on August 7. Kaye will contact everyone on the committee to confirm availability.

State Convention Updates: For more information regarding state convention, you can go to [nfbflorida.org](http://nfbflorida.org) and click on convention. There, you can register for convention and book your hotel room. Registration is $25, and banquet is $75. The deadline to book your hotel is September 3, while the deadline to register for convention is September 15. Russ motioned to have an exhibit hall table at state convention. Peggy seconded. The motion passed. We will also have flyers to hand out for the affiliate cruise. Peggy described the hotel. The afternoon sessions will start at 1:30 instead of at 1:00. Andy is the head of the ambassadors who will meet on Friday afternoon. The dollar auction will be on Saturday night. Our national Rep is Kevin Worley from Colorado. The transportation guide, hotel guide, and restaurant guide have been sent out to the list serve which Fallon will forward to the chapter. An email regarding awards will be coming out soon. Other aspects of state convention were also discussed.

Dollar Auction: Fallon motioned for the chapter to spend no more then $200 for the dollar auction. Russ seconded. The motion passed. It was decided that members would come up with potential items for the chapter to donate to the dollar auction and email Peggy regarding them which would be discussed at the next meeting. Peggy’s email address is [peggy.lynn.fleischer@gmail.com](mailto:peggy.lynn.fleischer@gmail.com)

Door prizes: Peggy motioned we have five $20 door prizes totaling $100. Richard seconded The motion passed.

Reimbursement: Fallon motioned to reimburse $75 per attendee for banquet at state convention. Vicky seconded. The motion passed.

Final thoughts and next meeting date: Our next meeting will be on September 6 location tbd.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 AM.