TLC Chapter Meeting Minutes

Date: August 12, 2025

The chapter did not meet in July due to National Convention. In August the chapter met virtually over Zoom. President Millie Rivera called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM and announced that Vice President Joel Zimba would chair today’s meeting.

In attendance were:

Ellana Crew,

Johnna Harrison,

Laura Lopez,

Dottie Lyons,

Doug Miller,

Ellen Ringlein,

Millie Rivera,

Scott Soldan,

Jen White,

And Joel Zimba.

Joel opened the meeting with the NFB belief message. Then everyone introduced themselves, after which bell ringers were shared. Millie mentioned that she won the Kenneth Jernigan national scholarship, the NFB’s top scholarship, which meant she had the privilege of briefly addressing the convention at the banquet. Scott announced that he and Michelle got engaged.

After Presidential Release 551 was played, various members shared details about their convention experience. Then Joel presented an overview of the resolutions adopted at national convention. The full text of all the resolutions can be found on the NFB website.

In the absence of Affiliate President, Ronza Othman, Jen White gave a brief state report. She shared that the affiliate is conducting three BELL programs this summer and that two are still ongoing. She mentioned a number of upcoming events, including the in-person affiliate board meeting on September 6, the crab feast scholarship fundraiser on September 19, the Bid-for Opportunity scholarship dinner on November 15, and the Winter market on November 16.

Next Ellen Ringlein read the minutes for the June meeting, which were approved as read. Then Scott Soldan gave the treasurer’s report. The opening balance from June was $1,243.22 and the current balance is $893.22. The treasurer’s report was accepted.

Next Scott lead a discussion about the types of chapter activities members would like to engage in. It was suggested to have a presentation about how to manage information, if one is no longer able to see to read and write. Another suggestion was to incorporate a regular cellphone tip for both iPhone and Android users. Someone else would like the chapter to do outreach to ophthalmologists to make them aware of resources for their blind patients, so they know how to move on with their lives after vision loss.

Then Johnna Harrison shared a helpful hint from a member. She talked about using the handwriting interface on the iPhone instead of typing on the on-screen keyboard. She thought that some folks might find this method of entering text easier to use.

Next Ellen share some information about a bowling outing the chapter has been considering as a social outing / membership building activity. The consensus was that tenpin bowling was too expensive for our group. Johnna offered to look into the cost of duckpin bowling. Jen said she would research axe throwing. Joel offered to host a barbecue at his house on a Saturday in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Ellen Ringlein, Secretary