**MINUTES: Linn-Benton Chapter of the NFB Jan 24, 2015 \*\*\*\* MOC 1 to 3pm**

**Present at the meeting were;**

**Kristen Jocums, Rosulian and RG , Glenn Wilcox, Arona Rosegold, Sally Utt, Lynne Brown, Alex Brown, John Gardner, Carolyn Gardner, Robert Jaquiss, Jim Kelly**

**1.Check-in around the table**

**We welcomed a new member to our chapter, Jim Kelly**

**We went over the NFB mission statement**

**2. We heard the minutes from our last meeting on November 22.**

**At that time there was not $15 in our account. There was $40 that John Gardner paid out in order to open our new account. This created an account balance of $25.**

**The group moved, and seconded, to accept the minutes with this correction.**

**3. The treasure’s report**

**There is currently a balance of $190 in our chapter account;**

**$100 contribution from state affiliate**

**$40 chapter dues received**

**$25 a gift from Ginny Wold**

**$25 old balance**

**\*We moved, and seconded, to send a “thank you” to Ginny Wold for her contribution**

**\*Our treasurer needs to be reimbursed his $40 for opening the account**

**We adopted a procedure for making payments from our account. It will involve 2 steps. A request for funds to be paid out of our account must be approved by our president, and then by our treasure. We moved, and accepted that this process may take place by email.**

**4. Our president talked about the 3 layers of involvement in NFB; local Member Seminars, State Convention and National Convention.**

**\*Next Member Seminar is coming up March 7-9, in Salem**

**\*The National Convention will be held in Orlando, Fl; July 5-12**

**Financial assistance is available from the state affiliate, You must apply by March 7. When you make your request, offer to help out while at the convention**

**\*The State Convention will be held in Oregon, sometime in October or November**

**5. The group listened to the NFB Presidential Release of the month**

**Among the topics discussed were;**

**The TIME Act - Transition to Integrative and Meaningful Employment**

**The TEACH Act – Technology Education and Copyright Harmonization Act**

**The K-12 Braille Bill - will strengthen the power of parents**

**The ADA in 50 years - what will it look like?**

**6. New Business**

**The BELL Program**

**Preview Day - Our chapter is moving forward with ideas for spreading the word about this program to blind and visually impaired children and their families locally. We will host a Preview Day, in April, to promote the BELL Camp. A few ideas to include at this so far are;**

**\*some braille activities and games**

**\*videos of children who’ve attended the BELL Camp reading their brailled reports at the State Convention**

**We hope that this event will help create a much needed network for families with blind or visually impaired children in the area.**

**Housing for BELL Program participants - We’re looking at possibilities for affordable lodging of participants and family member/s within a short commute to the camp. One idea so far, is to approach the Zonta organization with an application for funding toward this.**

**Future Chapter Topics**

**Coping With Blindness - will be discussed at our March meeting**

**Technology - working with apps and walking navigation**

**\*John Gardner has offered to lead us in this in April**

**7.** [**www.amazonsmile.com**](http://www.amazonsmile.com) **- the Amazon Smile Program**

**When you purchase an item from Amazon, they will donate 5% of your purchase price to an organization of your choice. You can choose NFBO from the list.**

**8. Do we want to keep our monthly meetings at MOC?**

**\*The U. U. Fellowship has room available on Saturdays at 3pm, for $10 / hr / room.**

**\*Lynne will find out if there is a room possible in the church on the corner of Walnut and Highland. One of the advantages of this would be outside space for the kids to play.**

**9. The next meeting will be at MOC on Saturday Febuary 28, at 1pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Sally Utt**