**MINUTES: Linn-Benton Chapter of the NFB September 26, 2015 \*\*\*\***

**MOC 10am to 12pm**

**Present at the meeting were;**

 **Arona Rosegold, Glenn Wilcox, Sally Utt, Kristen Jocums, John Gardner, Carolyn Gardner**

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

**2. Old Business**

**\* Minutes**

 **There was a motion, and a second, to accept the July minutes**

**\*Treasurer’s Report**

 **Our balance remains at $180. Nothing new to report here.**

**There was a motion, and a second, to accept the treasurer’s report.**

**\*We did not listen to the most recent Presidential Release**

**3. New Business**

**\*State Convention**

 **This year’s State Convention is set to take place on Friday Oct. 23 – Sunday October 25. It will be held in Canyonville. Oregon, at the Seven Feathers Casino. Expenses for this, per person will be as follows:**

 **$95 + tax per room per night, $45 if you share a room**

 **$60 meal package; (but Friday night dinner not included)**

 **$20 wine tour with box lunch: (is optional for Friday afternoon)**

**We voted to allocate $150 of our $180 to help fund chapter members who need assistance with these costs. A committee of Kristen and John was forned to make decisions on how these funds will be allocated. Those interested in applying for assistance should send an email to Kristen or John within a week, in order to be considered. Kristen will post this information to the listserve.**

**Once we know who is going, we will work out the transportation.**

**\*October is “Meet The Blind” Month, and October 15 is “White Cane” Day.**

 **Since our next chapter meeting will take place on Sunday at the State Convention, we won’t be able to set up a Corvallis event for that time. We came up with some ideas for ways we can promote awareness of the blind in the community. One idea was to target an organization in our community such as the Rotery Club, or the Lions, or the Kiwanas Club. If you go as a guest of a member, you will have a few minutes in which to stand up and introduce yourself. You can mention that you are a member of NFB, and that we are interested in making connections with other community organizations.**

**\*Door prizes for State Convention:**

 **We can also raise awareness of Meet The Blind Month by asking local businesses to donate door prizes for State Convention. Actually, it was pointed out that both door prizes and auction items are needed. It sounds like we will benefit more by asking for auction items, as they are usually of higher value.**

**Sara Gelser**

 **During our discussion there was confusion over Sara Gelser’s reasoning for defunding the Oregon School For The Blind, What is her rational for this, and how does she see money being used to fund education for blind children in Oregon. We decided to invite her to our next meeting, in November, to share her thoughts and plans with us, if she is available. Because the fourth Saturday in November falls just after Thanksgiving, we’ve agreed to meet on the third Saturday instead. This will be November 21.**

**December Meeting:**

 **We agreed to not hold our meeting in December. However, we did decide to have a Holiday Gathering on Saturday Dec 5. We’d like to have it somewhere other than MOC. Imagine Coffee, in Philomath came up as a possibility, and Glenn will investigate this further for us.**

**In January we will have an “official” meeting, where we will collect dues and elect officials.**

 **Our next meeting will take place on Saturday November 21, at the MOC, from 10:00 to 12:00**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Sally Utt**