**MINUTES: Linn-Benton Chapter of the NFB - March 2016 \*\*\*\***

**First Alternative Meeting Room 10am to 12pm**

**Present at the meeting were;**

**Alex Brown, Lynne Brown, Jazzy, Lori Ritter, Sally Utt, Kristen Jocums, Robert Jaquiss (on the phone)**

**1.Introductions around the table**

**2.Old business**

**\* Minutes**

**It was pointed out that there was some extraneous material attached to the end of the minutes which needs to be deleted. With this correction taken care of there was a motion, and a second, to accept the November minutes.**

**\*Treasurer’s Report**

**$25.00 of membership dues was deposited into our account. $29.12 was withdrawn for Carolyn Gardner to cover costs of our Holiday Party. There is currently a balance of $161.00 in our chapter account.**

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

**\* Chapter Dues**

**A portion of our dues will be paid to the State Affiliate.**

**\*Washington Seminar**

**Even though a large portion of the Capitol was shut down because of inclement weather, one representative from the Oregon State Affiliate was able to get there and have some interaction on ‘The Hill’.**

**\*Oregon Membership Seminar**

**Five members of our chapter attended this seminar in Springfield, Or. This year’s seminar was of an informational / historical nature. Next year’s should be geared more directly to current and upcoming bills in the legislature.**

**\*STEM To You - Science, Technology, Education, and Math**

**One of our members, Alex Brown, recently traveled to San Francisco, Ca. with his family, where he participated in a “STEM To You” weekend. With other kids around his age, he played games, built a tower out of cards, a flying object, and a racing car. A highlight of the weekend was time spent at the Exploratorium, which is a Science Museum with lots of “hands-on” opportunities for everyone.**

**\*Upcoming Events**

**Do we want to have a ‘calendar of events’ go out to the group each month? How would it be best to do this? Through the minutes, or each individual checking a particular link whenever they choose. Robert will look at potential links and let the secretary know how she might be able to do this through the minutes.**

**\*H&R Block**

**We were not able to get this fundraiser up and running for this year. We never got the non profit number from the State Affiliate in order to participate**

**3. New Business**

**\*Membership Survey**

**What do we want our Chapter to be involved with over the year? What kinds of activities do we want to create for ourselves?**

**Some ideas are;**

**`Another Dark Café**

**`A ‘Meet The Blind Month’ activity in October**

**`Field trips;**

**PowerLand**

**Birding by Ear walk to get some bird identification by ear**

**`Guest speakers at business meetings**

**`Social activities; holiday parties, going to Audio Described movies or plays**

**`Technology; straight forward app learning**

**A tentative schedule that we came up with is to:**

**\*have a social activity once a quarter**

**\*have a business meeting with “a twist”, (a guest speaker or a tech learning session) once a quarter**

**\*a large event, like the Dark Café, once a year**

**4. Our next meeting will take place on Saturday April 23, from 10:00 to 12:00, at the First Alternative Meeting Room.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sally Utt**