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

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

**Present at the meeting were;**

 **Sally Utt, Lori Ritter, Jazzy, Glenn Wilcox, Arona Rosegold, John Gardner, Carolyn Gardner, Robert Jaquiss (by phone), Lynne Brown, RG, Kristen Jocums**

**1. Check in around the table**

**2.Old Business**

**Treasurer’s Report**

 **There is currently $146 in our checking account, and $25 in cash to be deposited. There was a motion, and a second, to accept the treasurer’s report.**

**Minutes**

 **It was pointed out that there was a balance of $146, not $161 in our checking account. $15 has not yet been deposited. With this correction made, there was a motion, which was seconded, and the minutes were accepted.**

**Birding Outing**

 **Our birding outing is coming up on Saturday May 7. We will meet at the entrance to Jackson Frasier Wetland at 9am. This event will finish up around 11:00.**

**3. New Business**

**Dark Café**

 **Some things to keep in mind as we form our “group concept” for this event are; What do we want to accomplish as we create this event?**

**\*Raising awareness of how blind people do what they do.**

**\*Create more community outreach**

**\*Let people experience some of our modes of accommodation and adaptive technologies**

**\*Help people feel more comfortable around blind folks**

**\*Have a meal, and turn the event into a fundraiser**

**\*Raise awareness; some activities of daily living take more time for the blind population**

**\*Record dialogue as people move through various activities during the event**

**\* Understand that there are alternative techniques for dealing with blindness**

**\*Overall, lessen people’s fear and discomfort of blindness, and create more respect**

**CREATING THE EVENT**

**\*\*View Plus was offered - could seat 60 people in 2 seatings**

**\*\*Valley Catering was suggested for the food service**

**\*\*Cost - Are we going to maximize this event as a fundraiser, or maximize the experience?**

 **We could do a lunch (less expensive), and a more expensive dinner experience that evening. This would allow a more diverse population to attend.**

**\*\*Date - October 22, the Saturday before Halloween; during “meet the blind” month**

**More Ideas To Consider;**

**\*What stations should we have?**

**\*Carolyn will talk to Valley Catering**

**\*We will need several sighted people to help with serving**

**\*Where do we advertise?**

**\*Inventory: How do we gather enough sleep shades and canes etc.?**

**\*Tickets; how do we handle the prepaying of tickets?**

**\*John and Robert; technology**

**\*Lori: fascillitation**

**\*Sally and Arona: activities….. figure out what to include**

**4. We listened to the Presidential Release**

**5. Our next meeting will take place at the First Alternative North Store meeting room on Saturday May 28, from 10:00 to 12:00**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sally Utt**