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

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

**Present at the meeting were;**

 **Carolyn Gardner, John Gardner, Sally Utt and Kristen Jocums**

**1.Check in around the table**

 **There was a surprise for us at the table. Jazzy baked some yummy chocolate chip cookies for us! Thank you Jazzy, for thinking of us, and sharing such a generous offering!**

**2.Old Business**

**Minutes**

 **There was a motion to accept the May minutes. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were accepted.**

**Treasurer’s Report**

 **There has been no new activity within our account. The balance remains at $171. There was a motion to accept the treasurer’s report. This motion was seconded, and the treasurer’s report was accepted.**

**Presidential Release**

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

**National Convention**

 **Carolyn and John shared some of their experience at the National**

**Convention which took place in Orlando, Florida earlier this month.**

**3.Dark Café**

**Grant Proposal**

 **Kristen Jocums and Lori Ritter have drafted a preliminary grant proposal to help with funding for the Dark Café. These funds would cover expenses for canes, sleep shades, and catering. Now that the grant proposal is in process, a couple of issues have arisen;**

**\*Where to submit this proposal**

 **The Imagination Grants, a national program, is on hold right now. They’re revamping how the fund will be managed. It might be possible to submit a grant proposal directly to Mark Riccabono.**

**\*What to call our project**

 **We need to come up with another name for the experience we’re offering. The term “Dark Café” is already in use, and the purpose of the experience there is different, and they are a profit making organization in which none of the money made goes to benefit the blind population.**

**\*Can this model be replicated?**

 **Can we create a model for a project which can travel around? Once we have the supplies, they could be shared with other groups who have a venue to put it on. If we want to try to make this happen we will need to document our event well; with photos, video, and individual interviews with attendees. Maybe we will need to request more funding in order to cover these costs.**

**KNFB Reader**

 **Some of us have the KNFB Reader app, but could use more info about the different ways people are using it successfully.**

**Next Meeting**

**Our next meeting will take place on Saturday August 27, from 10:00 to 12:00, in the meeting room at the First Alternative north store.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Sally Utt**