**Linn-Benton Chapter Minutes; March 27, 2023**

**Zoom Meeting; 6:30 - 8pm**

**Present at the meeting were;**

**Kristen Jocums, Andrea Barnhurst, Arona Rosegold, Natalie Charboneau, John Gardner, Carolyn Gardner, Sally Utt**

**MINUTES**

**Andrea moved to accept the November, January and February minutes. Arona seconded the motion and the minutes were accepted.**

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**Sally moved to accept the treasurer’s report for February, and someone seconded this motion, and the treasurer’s report was accepted.**

**We will need to approve the treasurer’s report for March at our April meeting.**

**ALBANY RIGHT OF WAY**

**There was no new info to present at this time.**

**DAB (Dial A Bus)**

**The newly reformed STF committee, (Special Transportation Fund) committee has been meeting without giving public notice. They have formed their new committee without honoring their agreement to inform the disability community, and even the DAB board.**

**Also, the city contracts with the county to provide its services, which creates a lot of complications with how services are carried out, and to whom.**

**John has suggested that as large a group of us as we can get together should speak with the city and again make them aware of our concerns with BAT and DAB, and also strongly suggest that the county directly contract with DAB for its services instead of with the county. There is plenty of money to fund BAT and DAB. The problem is with the inefficiency of the contracting of the service providers.**

**SALEM SEMINAR**

**John, Carolyn, Ashley, Jen, Andrea and Kristen were present for all or parts of the Salem Seminar. On Monday folks met with legislators about the Parent’s Rights bill.**

**FUNDRAISING**

**Our fundraising committee is continuing to work with the idea of a fundraiser in which sponsors donate at a high level, such as $500 and even $1000 level. The hope would be that these sponsors would become partners with us in the future as well. As a thank you to these sponsors we would host a Dark Café. Also these funds would enable us to put on some very low cost, or no cost educational offerings for local families and the general public.**

**DARK CAFÉ**

**We’ve previously held our Dark Cafes at View Plus, but this will no longer be an option going forward. One possible venue is LBCC Culinary School in Albany. Also the person who took over Valley Catering in Adair Village has a good reputation for her catering services, and a venue that might work for us as well.**

**Another fundraising idea that was suggested is to host a virtual event such as featuring blind musicians, or comedians, or storytellers. Perhaps this could be a competition of some sort. In order to make any money with this idea, we would need to open this event to the whole NFB community.**

**TECH CORNER**

**We’ve agreed that we would like to take John up on his offer to transfer his credit with Nik Peterson to our chapter so that he can work with us. Sally will send the task list to John who will get in touch with nick and see how he feels about working with us. We are thinking that at least a half hour of Nik’s time, over a couple of meetings would be quite helpful. Our members will need to decide whether we want to include this time in the business meeting or extend the meeting time and do the tech lesson at the end.**

**NEXT MEETING**

**We will meet next on Monday April 24, at 6:30 on Zoom.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sally Utt**