# National Federation of the Blind of Ohio, Spring field Chapter Meeting

October 15, 2022

Location: Clarke County Public Library

## Those Present:

* Roland Keyner
* Dave Banaszak
* Pat Banaszak
* Dan O’Keefe
* Joe Jeffrey
* Mickie Cooper
* Debbie Baker
* Arlie Ray
* Gina Ray
* Todd Elzey
* Aleeha Dudley
* Crystal Mcclain and Susan Day were unable to attend. Susan is currently experiencing problems with her eye.

## Updates

* Mickie sent the updated membership roster to the email list. A Resource list has also been sent. If you reach out to one of the companies on the resource list and some of its information has changed or is incorrect, please let Debbie know so we can keep the list up-to-date.
* November’s meeting, November 19, will once again be at 1:30 PM due to scheduling availability. December’s meeting, December 17, will return to 10:30 AM.
* If you get an email requesting for you to confirm your addition to the NFBO Springfield list, please follow the instructions in the email. Mickie has added everyone to the list who is on the membership roster. If you are having trouble receiving emails from our lists, email Mickie or Debbie to let us know. As Todd has moved to the Capital Chapter, Aleeha has been designated the moderator of the email list going forward. To subscribe to the chapter list or any other NFB email list, go to [www.nfbnet.org](http://www.nfbnet.org) to see the full selection. When you register for an email list, check your spam folder for the confirmation emails, as they are often routed there.

## Pledges and Reports

* The NFB pledge and one minute message were read.
* The treasurer’s report was read. Debbie explained PAC (Pre-authorized Contribution Plan), which now takes credit cards, along with debit and checking accounts. All chapters and divisions in the state of Ohio contribute to PAC. Our chapter’s contribution is $20 per month. Arlie moved and Mickie seconded to approve the treasurer’s report. The motion passed.
* The secretary’s report was read due to scheduling issues preventing it from being emailed as early as was normal. Mickie moved and Arlie seconded to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed. Todd gave his thanks to the chapter for his terms as secretary and expressed his best wishes for us moving forward.

## Unfinished Business:

* We previously had voted to change our chapter name. Because of the way the National system is organized, the NFB name should be first. This is for consistency and to protect the brand. As such, we would need to have the NFB name first, our chapter name second. The name would then be the National Federation of the Blind of Ohio Springfield chapter. Aleeha moved and Arlie seconded to align our chapter’s name to the national branding strategy. The motion passed.
* Debbie has not sent the amendment to our constitution to Barbara that states our elections are held in October. This is partly due to the anniversary of the chapter’s founding meeting, and partly due to multi-chapter events which occur in December. As a result, the new chapter name and the election amendments will be incorporated into the constitution and sent as one. Aleeha will forward the corrected constitution to Barbara once it is completed.

## Elections

* Debbie explained that we would elect a full slate of officers, and explained election procedure. You may nominate people from the floor who were not selected by the nominating committee, but you must have asked them ahead of time if they are willing to run. The chair will ask for nominations from the floor three times, before a motion may be submitted to close them and either elect the sole nominee via acclamation or continue to a secret ballot vote. Each officer will serve a two year term.

The following officers were Elected, along with their respective motions for the closing of nominations.

* President: Debbie Baker, motion made by Aleeha and seconded by Dan, elected by acclamation.
* Vice President: Susan Day, motion made by Mickie and seconded by Aleeha, elected by acclamation.
* Secretary: Aleeha Dudley, motion made by Todd and seconded by Dan, elected by acclamation.
* Treasurer: Gina Ray, motion made by Aleeha and seconded by Mickie, elected by acclamation.
* Board Member: Arlie Ray, motion made by Aleeha and seconded by Mickie, elected by acclamation.

## State Convention

* Checks will be given to Aleeha, Debbie and Susan for $200 for state convention, as decided at the previous meeting. Debbie’s and Aleeha’s checks were provided at the meeting, and Susan’s will be mailed. Kelley Prescott will also be attending and receiving assistance.
* Convention attendees will be going to the convention on Thursday, November 3 and returning Sunday, November 6.
* Online streaming information will be sent out to the listserv once it has been finalized. Plans are to stream the general sessions of convention only. It is likely that the banquet will also be streamed due to it being in the same room as sessions. There will be one general session Friday, two Saturday, and one Sunday.
* The agenda for state convention is available on the website and on the Ohio-talk email list. Aleeha will forward it to the chapter list also.
* The deadline for registering for state convention is October 28.
* We voted as a chapter to contribute $200 toward door prizes for state convention. These will be handed out during general session. Door prizes could be cash, gift cards, etc.
* Arlie moved to contribute $200 toward money for the state movement, Aleeha seconded the motion, which passed. The check was provided to Todd at the meeting.
* We pay $1 per member to NFBO for dues, plus $10 for being a chapter. Therefore, we will pay $40 for dues to the state this year, due to having a list of 30 members. This check was handed directly to Todd at the meeting.
* We have a community service committee in Ohio. For the past two or three years, it has made an effort for chapters to either donate money or bring items to convention to assist with a project. This year it is twin sized blanket or sheet sets for a designated service organization. Arlie moved, and Mickie seconded, to donate $100 for this project. The motion passed.
* Arlie moved, and Gina seconded, to provide funds to pay Roland and Mickie to transport our members to state convention. The motion passed. Checks were provided to Roland and Mickie at the meeting.

## White cane awareness day

* The name of the day has been changed from White Cane Safety Day to promote inclusion. In the past, we have had proclamations designating Oct 15 annually as White Cane Awareness Day. Debbie offered to send a proclamation to the mayor of Springfield.
* October is Blind Equality Achievement month. A partial listing of nationwide activities being held to celebrate is at www.nfb.org. Navigate to programs and select blind equality achievement month to see the list.
* Today, October 15, is the specific date for white cane awareness day. It started as white cane safety day, and a movement to have white cane laws enacted around the country. These laws say that a blind person can be using a white cane or guide dog and drivers must yield the right of way to blind pedestrians using these tools. This began as a safety issue due to travel skills and lack of crosswalk markings. It is a misdemeanor in Ohio for a driver not to yield to a person using one of these tools. The crime begins as minor and goes up from there depending on number of violations. It is also not permitted for a nonblind person to use a cane or dog to gain protections under this law. There is also white cane week, internationally during the first week of February.

## Mother Stuart Event

* Our flyers are now printed for the event. We have requested for members to take flyers to those who have already donated, or find a new donor for silent auction items.
* Mickie, Debbie and Gina visited 13 places and received some donations and promises for same for the silent auction.
* We also have business cards which can be handed out, containing the NFB logo, and NFB of Ohio Springfield chapter name. These will be placed on the tables the night of the event. The card has Debbie’s name and contact info, along with the NFB of Ohio website.
* Gina is working on getting a logo for tablecloths and tablecloths themselves.
* Debbie’s mother has made a $100 donation which will go toward proceeds of the fundraiser.

## Miscellaneous

* The chapter version of the Presidential release was played.
* Arlie brought up the possibility of donating money to an organization regarding domestic violence awareness month, and has given a presentation to an organization promoting awareness regarding blindness. He also provided various statistics regarding how disabled people are affected by domestic violence.
* The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aleeha Dudley, Secretary

National Federation of the Blind of Ohio, Springfield Chapter