National Federation of the Blind of Ohio,

Springfield Chapter

Meeting Minutes, August 10, 2024

Attendance: Mickie, Aleeha, Arlie, Gina, Kelly, Sharon, Susan, Debbie and Joshua Dodds, (Sharon’s son) as guest

Treasurer’s Report

June, 2024 beginning balance: $4,308.83. Ending balance: $4,138.83. July ending balance: $4,118.83

Secretary’s Report

Aleeha read June 8 minutes aloud because emails are hanging up in Outlook and not sending. She is considering building her own website or going with a different provider to fix the problem. Aleeha moved and Mickie seconded to approve the treasurer’s report. Mickie moved and Gina seconded to approve the secretary’s report. Both motions passed.

Unfinished Business

Woofstock

Gina has completed and emailed the form for our participation in Woofstock. She sent it prior to August 25 as instructed. We discovered that the date for Woofstock was incorrect on the form. It will occur on Saturday, September 21, not 25. We have spent the $1,500.00 allotment designated for SWAG for Woofstock. Gina ordered paper bags that are shaped like dogs to carry participants’ merchandise. She also ordered “calming strips” as fidgets. These contain our NFB logo and a magnet. Arlie said that he is also trying to get T-shirts that would contain our chapter contact information and our logo. He hopes to order 3 shirts each, small, medium, large and extra large for NFB Springfield members to wear as advertisement. He still needs T-shirt prices. Our booth rental during Woofstock is free, normally $150.00. Arlie reported that members of Project Jericho will be in the booth next to ours and that they are willing to help us with making sure that participants come to our booth to learn about the NFB. Setup for Woofstock is from 8:00—9:00 AM and the event begins at 9:30 AM. Tear-down is at 2:00 PM unless special permission for earlier tear-down is requested and granted.

The state convention of the NFB-O will occur on November 14-17 at the Westlake Hotel, Westlake, Ohio. The hotel is the Doubletree by Hilton, 1100 Croffer Rd. Reservations are $123.00 per night including tax. The hotel phone for reservations is (440) 871-6000. The link to state convention registration is on the NFB-Ohio website, active through October 31. Mickie moved and Gina seconded to table our discussion and decisions for our chapter contributions for state convention to our September 14 meeting. The motion passed. Last year we sent a kitchen basket for the not so silent auction, submitted a $150.00 check in hand for donation and provided five $10.00 gift cards for door prizes.

The next NFB-O open board meeting will be September 21, 10:00 AM at the Cincinnati Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, (CABVI). All members attending are expected to pay for their own rooms and meals for the NFB-O board meeting.

Pat and David Banaszak did take chapter contact info and details about our function as a chapter of the NFB to the Clark County fair in July. They spoke with ophthalmologists and optometrists who said they are willing to distribute our literature from their offices now. These doctors would not consent to distribute literature during the pandemic. Arlie reported that he has learned that it is against Ohio tax code for not for profit organizations to recruit membership during an election cycle while manning a fair booth associated with a specific political party. This is because the purpose of the political party representatives are garnering votes for their party. We did not know that it is illegal to recruit membership in a 501C3 during an election cycle.

Gina reminded us to send receipts to her for expense reimbursements for driving members to meetings, etc. Mickie requested $300.00 toward her car repair when she took Debbie to Aleeha’s house to get to the Dayton airport the following day. Susan moved that the repair be approved. It died for the lack of a second. Debbie realized later that the trip was, in fact, not NFB business, but the trip to meet with Aleeha to go to The Seeing Eye.

New Business

We will continue to meet on the second Saturday of the month at United Senior Services in Springfield unless we decide to meet over Zoom. Former program director Kyle Farnbaugh is no longer with USS. The contact person is now Courtney Schneider, (937) 323-4948, ext. 112. We are scheduled to meet at USS from 10:00—12:00 For the remainder of the year, Oct. 12, Nov. 9 and Dec. 14. Aleeha played the August 2024 Presidential Release. Mickie moved and Sharon seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Our next meeting is at USS on Sept. 14, 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Baker, sub for Aleeha Dudley