Minutes NFB Springfield,

November 23, 2024

President Ray called the meeting to order at 10:19. Members present were Arlie, Aleeha, Debbie, Gina, Pat, Dave, Mickie and Susan. Mickie moved and Susan seconded that the Oct. 12 minutes be accepted as corrected. Susan’s name was inadvertently omitted from Oct. attendance. There was a spelling error in the word foldable. Gina shared that attendees at the Pumpkin Walk received only left over goodie bags from Woofstock, not our informational flyers and Springfield contact information that were presented to area business owners.

Gina gave the October treasurer’s report. The beginning balance was $3,106.80 and the ending balance was $3,011.80. Aleeha/Mickie, motion to accept the treasurer’s report. The motion passed.

Unfinished Business

President Arlie asked members to brainstorm about future NFB-O convention auctions. He would like for members to distribute updated contact information for NFB-o Springfield and an “ask” for donations throughout the calendar year. Donations might be either products for the annual convention auction or for money for the movement. Arlie also shared highlights of the Nov. 14-17 affiliate convention in Westlake, Ohio. The winning bid for our auction basket was $175. New affiliate officers and board members are as follows:

Richard Payne, President; Suzanne Turner, Vice-President; Annette Lutz, Secretary; Kathy Legg, Treasurer. We wish former board member Kinshook Tela well as he is moving to another state soon. The Reverend Dr. Carolyn Peters and member Emily Kiehl will join the state board for one-year terms. Arlie listed the various division breakout sessions and the presentation about Meta Smart Glasses as further highlights. Arlie and Aleeha spoke jointly to give further details and answers to questions about the Meta Smart Glasses. They are a mainstream product, controlled through the Meta View app. The price tag for the basic model is $299. The glasses’ speech comes to the owner via an open-ear Bluetooth headset.

New Business

Debbie updated legislative news from both the Ohio Statehouse and Congress. President Payne and the NFB-O legislative committee are now receiving members’ testimony in support of Ohio HB382, our prescriptive drug bill. Justin Young and our national lobbyists reported that the Transformation to Competitive Integrated Employment has moved favorably out of committee. Lobbyists have asked members to call or email our Congressional representatives in support of this bill. President Payne is collecting members’ names who are interested in attending Washington Seminar from February 4-6, 2025.

President Ray shared his goal for NFB-O Springfield members to attain enough donations throughout 2025 to offer our check in hand or pledge during the annual affiliate banquet as a percentage of that 2025 donor appeal.

The meeting was adjourned, Mickie/Aleeha, after we listed to the November presidential Release. Our next meeting will be Saturday, Dec. 14, 10:00 a.m. at United Senior Services, Springfield.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Baker, Secretary