National Federation of the Blind of Cleveland Chapter

October 16, 2020 Minutes:

The October 2020 Chapter monthly meeting was held through zoom platform on Friday, October 16, 2020 at 5:00 P.M. The zoom link and passcode were provided to all members, guests, visitors and are given below in these minutes. The reason for having this meeting through zoom platform is to adhere to COVID-19 social distancing adopted by the National Federation of the Blind and the local and state officials.

Welcome:

Shirley Patterson, Board Member, welcomed all members, attendees from other chapters and Divisions, all guests/visitors.

Roll Call:

Suzanne Turner, President, welcomed everyone and made sure about the attendance of the chapter’s members, guests and visitors.

National Pledge:

Mr. Jefferson, member, help all attendees to recite the National Pledge.

NFB Pledge:

William Turner, First Vice President, helped all attendees to recite the National Federation of the Blind Pledge.

Mending and Bereaved Members:

Suzanne Turner, President and Cheryl Fields, 2nd Vice president, informed the Board about some Chapter/Affiliate members and/or their relatives are having some health issues and urged everyone to keep them in his/her thoughts and prayers. Also, they mentioned those members who are feeling better or fully recovered.

Treasury Report:

Natassha Ricks, Treasurer, presented the financial reports for October 2020. The Checking account reflects to date, $559.81 and the Savings reflect to date: $1,033.96. She added that this year just 49 members paid their dues compared to 69 who paid their dues last year. William Turner made the motion and Linda Bluford seconded it. the treasury report was voted on and carried. The complete October 2020 Treasury Report was submitted, and it is included as an Appendix to these minutes. Further, she mentioned that October is the new fiscal period and the dues for 2021 started now. She concluded by reminding all members to send their dues by mail as soon as they can.

Secretary Report:

Ali Benmerzouga, Recording Secretary, with the help of Suzanne Turner’s technology touch, presented the September 2020 minutes. Linda Bluford made the motion and Delcenia Brown seconded it. The minutes were voted on and carried.

2020 Gavel Report:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed all members that she completed and submitted the 2020 Gavel Report. She added, if anyone would like to take a look at it just let her know by email.

President’s Announcements/Remarks:

Suzanne Turner, President, thanked everyone for attending the meeting, for the help some of the members are providing, and for all the meetings organized by some members during these COVID-19 difficult times. Moreover, she welcomed all visitors from other chapters who are joining our meeting

Some members did not pay dues yet; disappointed that some did not pay; own your words; your dues are still due; send your dues no later than April for 2021;

To Natassha; every member is responsible to send their dues.

Senior Committee:

Gloria Conway, Chair, made the following four announcements:

1: The daily Coffee break is still at 10:00 A.M. until 10:30 A.M. She urged everyone to join and share his/her story/latest news.

2: There will be a $200.00 drawing by the Ohio Association of Blind Senior Division during the 2020 State Convention. She further clarified that in order to be eligible to win such a great prize, you need to buy as many $10.00 tickets to increase your chance of winning the $200.00, to be registered for the 2020 State Convention and to be present by Zoom or phone when the drawing happens at the Banquet. The deadline for buying tickets is Saturday, October 31, 2020/Halloween.

3: It is time for the yearly dues of the State Senior Division, which are $5.00 per year. Please send your dues and the money for the purchased tickets for the chance to win $200.00 to my home address at 16008 Evening Star Avenue, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137.

4: Sharing Solutions meeting is still taking place on the third Sunday of the month at 7:00 PM through the state zoom platform (see below). Please join us and share with us your tricks, tips and techniques.

November monthly meeting:

Suzanne Turner, President, proposed canceling November 2020 monthly meeting due to the many meetings that are/were going on a weekly basis and the participation of many members in preparing and organizing the 2020 State Convention. She suggested instead to meet again on Friday, January 15, 2021. Without the slightest hesitation, everyone agreed with her and Mr. Jefferson suggested to vote on the matter and Natassha agreed with him. Mr. Jefferson moved the motion and Shirley Patterson seconded it. the proposal was voted on and carried.

The 2020 State Convention Agenda:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed the board that the 2020 state Convention agenda will be sent by the Affiliate President, Richard Payne. She added that there will be two versions, one with tables and links and the other one just plain and simple in Microsoft Word. She gave an explanation on how to use the one with links and the number to call as well as the use of a passcode.

Presidential remarks:

Suzanne Turner, President, made the following remarks:

1: Registration for the state convention:

She reminded all members that the deadline to register for the 2020 State Convention is October, 27, 2020 in order to be eligible to win door prizes. She urged those who need help to register to call her. Also, she asked everyone to Spread the word.

2: She urged those who paid their dues to register to vote. She added that there is a specific number that we are going to use when voting.

3: The following state seats are open: President, Vice President, secretary, Treasurer and a board seat.

4: On Wednesday, November 4, 2020, there will be a drill of voting. The phone number to use is 864-727-2634.

5: She will send an email very soon for a short meeting to go over sessions that will be selected from the Convention Agenda to attend. She added that there will be no Convention on November 8, 2020.

2020 Cleveland Chapter Election and voting

William Turner, First Vice President, administered the nominations and voting for the following two open Board seats: The following two members: Robert Campbell and Regina Masson were elected by acclamation.

Cleveland chapter Future:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed the Board that she is stepping down next November and urge the Chapter to elect a new president.

Instant Cart Shopping Option:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed all seniors that Instant Cart has Senior Support Services. She added that If you are 60 or older and you need assistance with shopping, they shop for you and bring it to you home for free. Gloria Conway added that they have a special phone number for seniors, which is as follows: (844) 981-3433.

Last thing:

Voting using LIFT for November 3:

If you think you need transportation to vote, call Suzanne for the LIFT code.

November 2020 Presidential release:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed the Board that there will be a Presidential Release on Sunday, November 1, 2020 at 8:00 PM and urged everyone to be there!

Zoom Training:

Jim Weiss, member, is conducting zoom training sessions on three different gadgets early November 2020. One specific gadget is going to be dealt with for each day. An email is going to be sent as a reminder and to give the dates, times and the type of gadget used during each of the three training sessions.

2020 Braille Agenda:

Jordy Stringer announced that if anyone is interested in the 2020 Braille Agenda to get in touch with him and let him know as soon as possible.

State Nomination Committee:

Seats are there for the state offices. If you have any nominations, please get in touch with Eric Duffy, he is the chairman for the 2020 State Nominating Committee.

Door Prizes:

Door prizes are there for those who are present only. Call or email to claim your prize.

Shout Out:

Renee Johnson congratulated the newly elected member of the Cleveland Chapter Board.

Ohio Guide Dog Users:

They will send some info by December.

Meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM.

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Please make a note of the action items below:

Voice Box Number:

(641) 715-3900

Code: 582705

Cleveland Teleconference Number:

(605) 313-4834

Code: 246345

Ohio Conference Line:

Tel: (712) 775-7031

Code: 240281423

Zoom link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/4081850851>

Meeting ID: 408 185 0851

One tap mobile

+16468769923 and ID code: 408-185-0851.

Zoom Telephone number:

(669) 900-6833

Id: 4081850851

Ali Benmerzouga, Recording Secretary

440-590-0315 – cell

Natassha Ricks, Treasurer

(216) 376-9863

Notes!

1. Please take a moment and like, share and promote Cleveland’s Facebook Page

<https://m.facebook.com/NationalFederationOfTheBlindOfOhioClevelandChapter/>

2. Please subscribe to Ohio-Talk to stay informed on the know in the Ohio Affiliate.

Ohio-Talk mailing list

[Ohio-Talk@nfbnet.org](mailto:Ohio-Talk@nfbnet.org)

<http://nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfo/ohio-talk_nfbnet.org>

3. Please subscribe to Cleveland’s List Serve for all up-to-date information in the Cleveland Chapter.

<http://www.nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfo/nfboh-cleveland_nfbnet.org>

[nfboh-cleveland-request@nfbnet.org](mailto:nfboh-cleveland-request@nfbnet.org)

4- Please don’t forget to send your dues to our Treasurer, Natassha Ricks as soon as you can.

5-please call a member who you have not seen for a while and talk to him/her about returning to the Cleveland Chapter.

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Appendix: NFB **Cleveland Chapter -** October 2020 Treasury Report:

**NFB Cleveland Chapter Treasury Report**

Prepared by: Cleveland Chapter Treasurer, Natassha Ricks

Month/Year: October 2020

Checking Acct: $559.81

Savings Acct: $1,033.96

Credits/interest $0.04

Dues: -0-

Number of members: 0

Number of members YTD: 4

Benevolent: -0-

Donations: -0-

Fundraisers: -0-

Split the Pot: -0-

Deductions: $393.00

1. PAC plan $10.00
2. Ohio-door prizes $50.00
3. Ohio-per capita $59.00
4. Ohio-convention $200.00
5. P.O. Box $74.00

Convention: -0-

Convention YTD: $80.00

1. Cecil Dukes ($80.00)

Miscellaneous: -0-

Miscellaneous YTD: $95.00

1. Delcenia Brown ($20.00 for NFB coin case)
2. Rebecca Russell ($70.00 unspecified/undecided)
3. William Turner ($5.00 unspecified/undecided)

**End of October 2020 Treasury Report.**

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