National Federation of the Blind of Cleveland Chapter

February 19, 2021 Minutes:

The February 2021 Chapter monthly meeting was held through zoom platform on Friday, February 19, 2021 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:

Suzanne Turner, President, welcomed all members, attendees from other chapters and Divisions, all guests/visitors.

memorial for Rosa Jones:

Dr Carolyn peters and her Communities of Faith team conducted a brief memorial for Rosa Jones by praying for her, reading from the Old script and playing Rosa Jones’ most favorite song. Additionally, JoAnn Williams mentioned that Rosa Jones was a Hard worker and pleasant person to work with. Dr. Peters closed the brief memorial by thanking everyone and asking for God’s blessing!

Communities of Faith Division:

Dr. Carolyn Peters, President of the Division, informed all members about the meetings of the Division that are scheduled every fourth Tuesday of every month from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm on the State zoom. She added that the main subject for the next meeting is about Black Churches.

Suzanne Turner thanked the whole Communities of Faith Team for organizing and executing Rosa Jones’s Memorial and pointed out that Rosa Jones will be missed.

Roll Call:

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

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

The National Federation of the Blind 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, 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.

Secretary Report:

Ali Benmerzouga, Recording Secretary, with the help of Suzanne Turner’s technology touch, presented the January 2021 minutes. Denise made the motion and Wilbert Turner seconded it. The minutes were voted on and carried.

Treasury Report:

Natassha Ricks, Treasurer, presented the financial reports for Both January and February 2021. The details for each month are as follows:

January 2021 financial report:

The Checking account reflects to date, $429.81and the Savings reflect to date: $1,033.40.

February 2021 financial report:

The Checking account reflects to date: $549.81 with an available balance to the chapter of $369.81 and an Allocated Balance of $180.00; and the Savings reflect to date: $1,138.40.

Delcenia Brown made the motion and Linda Bluford seconded it. the treasury report was voted on and carried. The complete January and February 2021 Treasury Reports were submitted, and they are included as Appendices A and B to these minutes. She concluded by reminding all members to send their dues by mail as soon as they can.

Suzanne Turner, President, thanked both the Treasurer, Natassha Ricks and the recording secretary, Ali Benmerzouga for preparing the monthly financial reports and minutes.

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. She made the following reminders:

1: She urged everyone to attend the meetings about black history/women that are going to be available through the month.

2: She urged everyone to read his or her emails.

3: She reminded everyone about our monthly Chapter meeting that is on the third Friday of the month from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, mostly on zoom link.

4: She asked all members to submit a “Tree Calling Proposal” in order to remind our Chapter’s members about our meetings and activities as well as the affiliate ones, hence increasing the attendance.

5: She mentioned that the internet/website is hot now about COVID-19 shots availability and scheduling. She urged everyone to let her know if they are facing problems when accessing/browsing the internet to schedule an appointment or finding a location. She added that now there is Walgreen website as well.

2021 Virtual Washington Seminar:

Pat McPherson talked about the fact sheet meetings and preparation that took place before the gathering as well as Listening to the national gathering speeches and trainings. She added that it was very hard sitting the whole day. Moreover, she mentioned that she and her group managed to meet and talk to the Staff of The Representatives and senators about the four fact sheets. She concluded by stating that it was a lot of fun and a great experience. Suzanne Turner thanked her and the whole Affiliate team for advocating to improve the lives of blind individuals.

Newborn Baby, Emma and her mother Brooke:

Suzanne Turner and all members congratulated Brooke for having the little Princess Emma on January 13, 2021 at Fairview General Hospital and for her healthy recovery. Everyone congratulated her and wish her and her little Princess Emma a healthy, happy and prosperous life. Brooke told us about her whole experience before delivering her, while in the hospital and after getting out of the hospital. She talked about the challenges faced with some nurses/doctors and the help and support she got from her relatives and friends. She concluded by mentioning that she is using a lot of networking and learning a lot in the process. Suzanne Turner thanked her for sharing her complete story with the Chapter and added that everyone is happy for her return.

A Fully Described Picture of a Beautiful Bird:

Suzanne Turner, President, noticed a picture of a bird posted on Facebook by Renee Johnson Arrington that is well-described to blind individuals and asked Renee about how she managed to come up with such picture. Renee started by mentioning that she loves outdoor activities, then explained that a picture of a bird is taken from a magazine and fully described before it is posted. She added that in order to come up with a picture and fully describe it, you need to get some training on how to describe things by attending classes/training for three days or so to come up with an audio file that will contain the whole description of the picture. She added that there are some National Park Services grants involved to do such projects. She concluded by suggesting that May be the Cleveland Sight Center could be sponsored to handle these types of projects. Suzanne thanked her for describing this great accessibility success.

The NFB The Affiliate Cookbook:

Delcenia Brown reminded everyone about the Cookbook that is under preparation and urged everyone to submit her/his recipes as soon as possible.

Shout Out:

Natassha Ricks urged everyone to register to get the COVID-19 shot through My Chart provided by the Cleveland Clinic Foundation or call them directly at (216) 664 3300.

Denise thanked everyone for praying for her during her illness due to pneumonia and COVID-19.

Billie Graham happily announced that she is done with both shots by using “My Chart” provided by the Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

Wilbert Turner informed everyone that the Communities of faith is asking for more members to join the Division.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 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

<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

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 A: NFB **Cleveland Chapter – January** 2021 Treasury Report:

**NFB Cleveland Chapter Treasury Report**

Prepared by: Cleveland Chapter Treasurer, Natassha Ricks

Month/Year: January 2021

Checking Acct.: $429.81

Beginning Balance: $439.81

Savings Acct.: $1,033.40

Beginning Balance: $1033.40

Credits/interest $0.00

Dues: -0-

Number of members YTD: 4

 Benevolent: -0-

Donations: -0-

Fundraisers: -0-

Split the Pot: -0-

Deductions: $10.00

1. PAC plan $10.00

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 January 2021 Treasury Report.**

Appendix B: NFB **Cleveland Chapter – February** 2021 Treasury Report:

**NFB Cleveland Chapter Treasury Report**

Prepared by: Cleveland Chapter Treasurer, Natassha Ricks

Month/Year: February 2021

Checking Acct. Balance: $549.81

Balance avail. to chapter $369.81

Allocated Balance: $180.00

Beginning Balance: $454.81

Savings Acct.: $1,138.40

Beginning Balance: $1,033.40

Credits/interest $105.00 (credit)

Dues: $105.00

Number of members YTD: 13

 Benevolent: -0-

Donations: $105.00

Fundraisers: -0-

Split the Pot: -0-

Deductions: $10.00

1. PAC plan $10.00

Convention: -0-

Convention YTD: $80.00

1. Cecil Dukes ($80.00)

Miscellaneous: -0-

Miscellaneous YTD: $100.00

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

**End of February 2021 Treasury Report.**

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