National Federation of the Blind - Cleveland Chapter

September 17, 2021 Minutes:

September 2021 Chapter monthly meeting was held through zoom platform on Friday, September 17, 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 and thanked all members, attendees from other chapters and Divisions, all guests/visitors.

Roll Call:

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

The National Federation of the Blind Pledge:

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

National Pledge of Allegiance:

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

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, she mentioned the names of those members who are feeling better or fully recovered.

A Minute of Silence:

Suzanne Turner, President, asked all members to have a minute of silence for the 13 soldiers killed in Afghanistan.

The Chapter’s Quorum:

Due to the lack of Quorum no reports were tabled/approved.

The ATAA Bill:

Suzanne Turner, President, pointed out to the email about ATAA that John from the National office sent lately. She urged everyone to call and email Senator Portman on Monday, September 20, 2021 and ask him to support/co-sponsor this bill (SB 212) and tell him where you live. For more information about the bill, please go to the NFB website.

The Parental Bill:

Suzanne Turner, President, told all members that the Parental Bill was introduced. She urged everyone to call the Ranking members and Antonio thank them for introducing the bill.

Board of Directors:

Suzanne Turner, President reminded all members about the Board of Directors meeting, which will be held tomorrow, Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. on the State Zoom. She urged everyone to connect and participate. She added, that everyone’s input is important!!!

2021 State Convention:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed all members that there are thoughts about having our State convention in Spring 2022. She added that the discussion is still going on.

2021 Columbus Seminar:

Suzanne Turner, President informed all members that the 2021 Columbus seminar has been canceled for this year.

Money for the Movement:

Suzanne Turner, President, urged everyone who pledged to send the money as soon as possible and, in case you do not remember, to please call her as soon as possible to know if you have pledged and how much. Zeal, pay-pal, check and money order are all acceptable to send the amount of money you have pledged.

Cleveland winery:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed all members that due to COVID-19 we need to postpone or choose another time to have this fundraising activity. A target month is February 2022. She added that this will give us enough time to print the tickets, mail them out and sell them. The Valentine event was raised by some members and its discussion and planning will be handled in the near future.

Meet the Blind Month and the White Cane Events:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed all members that during the Meet the Blind Month and White Cane, we can go to the Cleveland Winery ourselves and pass out the National Federation of the Blind literature and be visible. She added that we can also go to the West side market and do the same. She concluded by agreeing to call Cooper’s Hall Winery Chat and ask about the possibility of having a table and the NFB literature. Also, Chick fillet restaurant, Dave supermarket and Sub way were among the suggestions.

2021 Gavel Award Report:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed the board that this year she has a lot in her plate and has no time to handle the questionnaire. She asked if anyone is willing to complete the 2021 Gavel Award Questionnaire. Nobody wanted to take care of it except that Natassha Ricks volunteered to help.

Senior Division:

Gloria Conway, member, reminded everyone about the $200.00 drawing, how to participate and what are the requirements and deadlines. She added that she is accepting the senior yearly dues as well. She concluded by asking those sending money to explain to her what you have sent her.

The pandemic:

Suzanne Turner, President, urged members who need COVID-19 vaccination to Call the city hall and/or local pharmacies. She added that everyone should wear a mask and report if the driver or riders are not wearing masks. She concluded by reminding everyone to wear a mask, hand sanitize and keep the recommended distance when interacting with others.

Enhance voting accessible ballot:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed all members about the Electronic Ballot talk that will be given on Wednesday October 22, 2021 to learn the new way to cast your ballot. She urged everyone to connect and learn!

radical women Panel:

Suzanne Turner, President, reminded all members about women rising with radical confidence event that will be held on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. She urged everyone to join. For more information, please contact Suzanne Turner at [SMTurner.234@gmail.com](mailto:SMTurner.234@gmail.com)

October 2021 Presidential Release:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed all members about the new time for the October Presidential Release, which is 12:00 P.M. eastern time zone. She urged everyone to connect and listen to our National President, Mark Riccobono.

Other 2021 Virtual State Conventions;

Suzanne Turner, President, urged all members to register and attend other virtual States’ conventions.

Monthly meeting of Communities-of-Faith:

Dr. Peters reminded everyone about the monthly meeting of the Communities-of-Faith, which will be on Tuesday, September28, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. on the state zoom room. She added that Cheryl Fields will be leading the discussion during the meeting. She concluded by thanking in advance everybody for joining!

Shout out:

2021 and 2022 Dues:

Natassha Ricks, Treasure, informed all members that as of today. We have 34 paid dues for the year 2021. After tonight, she will be collecting dues for the year 2022. Suzanne Turner, President, added that she will meet with the executive Committee to discuss the matter and bring the EC decision back to the October 2021 monthly meeting and make the final decision.

Ohio Association of Blind Student Division T-Shirt Fundraising:

Suzanne Turner, President, reminded all members about the student division T shirt fundraising and urged everyone to participate.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:02 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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