National Federation of the Blind - Cleveland Chapter

November 19, 2021, Minutes:

November 2021 Chapter monthly meeting was held through zoom platform on Friday, November 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 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.

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.

Secretary Report:

Ali Benmerzouga, Recording Secretary, with the help of Suzanne Turner’s technology touch, using the zoom sharing feature, presented the September 2021 minutes. Denise Moss made the motion and Linda Bluford seconded. The minutes were voted on and carried.

Chapter’s Elections:

William Turner, First Vice President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, he started by mentioning the two Board positions and the secretary as well as the voting procedure. He added that Wilbert Turner has been nominated for one of the Board officers. He asked if there is any other nomination three times and none was added to the list of names he already has. Linda made the motion to elect Wilbert Turner by acclamation and Denise seconded it. Wilbert Turner was elected by acclamation.

For the second Board officer, JoAnn Williams was nominated and by following the same process as above, Denise made the motion to elect JoAnn Williams by acclamation and Delcenia seconded it. JoAnn Williams was elected by acclamation.

For the secretary position, William Turner followed the same procedure and none was nominated for the position. He asked for nominations from the floor three times in a row, and none was nominated. Ceasil made the motion to close the nomination and keep the position vacant till further date and Linda seconded it. So, the secretary position stayed vacant until a further date. Suzanne Turner encouraged nominations and urged all members to Step up and try it and we will make sure that help is provided for you until you are on your own.

New Member:

Mr. Harty, a new member on zoom, introduced himself and told us how he lost his vision and how happy he is by joining us and talking to us. Suzanne Turner gave him a short presentation about us, who we are, what we do and how to benefit from us. Dr. Peters, President of Communities-of Faith Division, told him how glad we are for having him with us and thanked him for being with us. She added that we are a division meeting every fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 P.M. and all denominations are represented as well as other religions.

Parental Rights Bill:

Both Eric Duffy and Todd Elzey informed us about the status of the bill, thanked us about our advocacy and promised to keep us informed about any further developments and/or actions.

Cooking demonstration on zoom in December:

Suzanne Turner, President, informed all members about the cooking demonstration by many members that is going to take place during the month of December on the State zoom platform. She added that Many dishes and their ingredients will be posted on Ohio list. Every Chef will walk us through the preparation and cooking process. She concluded by mentioning that there will be a lot of fun and a lot of work at the Ohio level. She urged everyone to participate and learn how to prepare new dishes from the experts.

Cleveland sight Center:

Cheryl fields, informed all members about the two activities run by the Cleveland Sight Center. The first one is the “Gratitude Day” which will be on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 and the second one is “Old time radio” on Monday, November 29, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

Way Around App Presentation:

Jessica Hip, the guest, talked about the Way Around App, what is it, what does it do, how to use it, where to use it, and how to download it. She gave a live demonstration on how to program a label, answered questions and how much it will cost to have such technology. She added that it requires an iPhone 7 or more to use it. She concluded that she has four YouTube videos and urges those who would like to explore and learn more to watch/listen to them. Suzanne Turner thanked her on behalf of all members for such a great and beneficial presentation.

President’s Announcements/reminders/Remarks:

Suzanne Turner, President, made the following announcements/reminders/remarks:

1: She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

2: She raised the possibility of having a Christmas Party for the Chapter. The matter was discussed and the board decided no Christmas Party and no meeting during December.

3: She reminded everyone about the December presidential release which will be on Thursday, December 2nd, 2021. She urged everyone to attend!

4: She urged everyone to pay/Bring your dues for January 2022!!!

5: She urged all members to tell our Affiliate President, Richard Payne, which committee you would like to be in for the coming year.

6: She urged all Cleveland Chapter members to tell her which committee you would like to be in for the coming year.

Senior Division:

Gloria Conway reminded everyone about the sharing solutions meeting on Sunday 11/21/22 at 7:00 P.M. and the fabulous topic presented by William Turner and his Guest, the Lawyer, Robert Campbell. She urged everyone to participate and listen/learn about the “Power of Attorney” matter and the legal advices he will present. Also, she reminded all that you do not need to be a senior or a member of the National Federation of the Blind to participate!!! She concluded by mentioning that we will be on the State zoom platform.

Shout Out:

Denise expecting her grandbaby soon. All members congratulated her for such great news!

Cheryl fields informed all members that our very Natassha Ricks is now a published author and her book is titled “Santa Club Came in town.” All members congratulated her for such a great achievement!

Meeting Adjourned at 6:39 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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