January meeting Minutes

* Introductions
* Secretary Report
* Treasurer Report
* Presidential release Recap
* Legislative Announcements relating to current NFB matters
* Member Announcements
* Chapter Announcements
* Discussion
* Diversity and Inclusion
* Bell Ringer
* Closing

Members

* Christina Daniels-Pleasant Hill, she/her, Black and Blind woman, agnostic
* Amy Mason-she/her, Blind woman, agnostic, ADHD, White
* Bobbi Pompey-she/her/they/them, Blind and Black, member of LGBTQ, cis gender and multiple disabilities
* Jim Barbour-Secretary, White, single cis male, Blind
* Sara Hadsell-Treasurer, White, married mother of two Chihuahuas
* Lisa Irving-she/her, cis gender, Caucasian, Blind, Married, multiple disabilities, student, humanitarian
* Laura Millar-White, cis gender, queer, single mother, poly, kinky
* Taryn Morris-Millbrae, she/her, mixed culture of White and Asian, legally Blind
* Lisamaria Martinez-Union City, she/her, cis gender, female, Blind, Puerto Rican, proud momma of three
* Jeff Buckwalter-he/him, cis gender, male, Blind, European roots
* Cindy Fassler-Concord, she/her, legally Blind, over 60, big bold and brave, hoping to impower those over 60 to be confident in their skin
* Jaime Tomasello-San Ramon, she/her, legally Blind, proud of HER one year old
* Sheri Albers-Alameda, she/her, Blind, Caucasian, single, Bi-Sexual, mother of two daughters
* Sherry Pablo-she/her, Blind, amputee, Filipino American, grad student
* Serena Olsen-cis gender, female, foodie, mother of two furry cats

Secretary report

* There were no December minutes due to the Holiday party
* November minutes were sent out
* Motion was made by Amy and all approved of secretary report

Treasurer Report

As a total we currently have $1,424.07

Motion was made by Bobbi and all approved of Treasurer report

Presidential Release Recap

* The Independence Market has masks back in stock and are either 3 for $10 or one for $4
* The NFB reached its goal with Vispero to match both donations equaling $100,000
* Washington Seminar will be virtually from February 8-11 with a great gathering starting on February 8th starting at 5 PM EDT
* On December10, 2020 The Department of Transportation of Service Animals made a ruling regarding passengers with service animals that went into effect on January 11, 2021 enforcing all travelers to fill out a form
* On December 20, 2020 the NFB sent a letter opposing and the National Association of Guide Dog users will continue to advocate
* The NFB is still deciding on holding the National Convention in person or not but is leading to virtual
* From January 2021 to July 2021 there will be phasing and training to build a safer environment free of any mis conduct for all National staff, chapters, and the affiliated training centers
* President Riccobono has released an open letter on December 16, 2020 that was published on the January 2021 Braille Monitor
* We are being advised to read the newly adopted code of conduct that went into place in December
* The NFB has been newly partnered with the largest anti-sexual violence organization in the nation called RAIN
* There is a survivor task force to collect stories and make recommendations to our National President

 Legislative Announcements

* In December2020 US Congress passed consolidated act 2021 provides additional recovery funds amount of 600 per person or 1200 for a joint couple or 600 per kid under the age of 16 based on your tax return
* NFB sent legislative alerts from Job Parley Jr. advocacy and policy e center
* There is a litigation involving a Blind patient, John Bone, due to not making his Hospital bills accessible and not in a timely manner which involved a big settlement but there are ongoing cases with other Blind patients
* NFB lawyers are working to have healthcare providers give medical documents in accessible Braille or electronic format
* There is no legislative agenda yet regarding Washington Seminar, it is too late to apply but all are welcome to come join and sit in, stay tuned for more details

Member Announcements

* Lisamaria and Laura are holding a workshop on Thursday at 5 PM about talking to Blind kids about sexuality, if interested contact Lisamaria or Laura
* Lisa has sent out an email to register for an upcoming workshop with the Andrew Talking Library in New York about the Apple Watch on Thursday from 3-4:30 PM
* Lisa also sat in on two different meetings regarding gaining disabled Californians and COVID-19 hospital priorities
* If you are a blind person who Identifies as a victim or survivor of any type of violence or abuse (see #MarchingTogether on Facebook), there is a private Facebook page that is not NFB affiliated and is facilitated by survivors. Please reach out to > blindsfcollective@gmail.com >

Amy has a friendly reminder that Lighthouse still has virtual activities and Tech Together is every Tuesday from 2-4 PM

Chapter Announcements

* We will have elections next month

Discussion

* The positions up for election are secretary, treasurer, board position one and two
* There will be no nominating committee as we want everyone to feel welcome to run as long as you are dues paid
* The person nominating you must also be dues paid and you may not nominate yourself
* We will write out the description for each position and it will be sent to the list serve
* All board members must commit to meeting once a month to plan the chapter meetings on Zoom the first Tuesday of every month at 6PM.
* The secretary will take meeting minutes, and do any other admin related tasks
* The Treasurer collects all dues and deals with our financial account
* Both board members are there to help support the chapter by helping with running parts of the meeting, doing member outreach, and help the meeting run smoothly
* TO pay dues there are many options including Venmo, apple pay, or PayPal
* For venmo pay to Sara Hadsell 510-387-0766 saraahadsell@gmail.com
* For PayPal send to Christina at ms.christinadaniels@gmail.com
* For ApplePay send to Christina to (925)-768-0061
* If you cannot afford dues and would like to be a member please reach out to aboard member and we will waive your fees
* If you have paid dues between November and December 2020 you do not need to pay dues

Diversity and Inclusion Discussion

* Everything boils down in community to consent violations in any situations of interacting or touch in any environment
* Planned parenthood has consent acronym that they go by that is fries
* F is for freely given consent with a decision made together
* R is for reversible consent and can be revoked or changed at any time
* I is for informed consent for honest relationships
* E is for enthusiastic consent with an affirmative decision
* S is for specific consent exactly what we want or no
* There was an Open letter written with a marching together movement task force
* Survivors are allowed to hold both positions and it has taken awhile to publicly mention their stories
* If you are not aware of what is going on spend time to listen to the Presidential release, there are lots of posts on Facebook with #marching together, and there are also articles on the Braille monitor

Bell Ringers

* Lisamaria is very happy to report that her case regarding issues filling out a form for her coaching business has been dismissed and she goes to settle next month
* Lisa survived second semester of Grad School very well
* Taryn is happy to report that she is in her second month of training to be an Assistive Technology Trainer for Adaptive Technology Services
* Jaime has been out for a while but happy her niece turned one, and has lost 28.5 pounds in pursuit of her knee surgery
* Lisa is a proud grandma of a baby girl

Bobbi made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lisa seconded, and all approved