Board Minutes for the Greater Alexandria Chapter

Of the National Federation of the Blind August 31, 2017

The meeting was held via conference call and was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Brian Miller

In attendance were Brian, Evelyn, Terri, Wanda, Jeremy, Renee  and Beverly Savoy who is interested in attending our meetings and a possible new member.

Wanda made a motion that the agenda be accepted with an addition that script-talk presentation possibly be at our October meeting.  The motion was passed.  Jeremy made a motion the may minutes be approved and the motion passed.  Brian gave a brief financial report.  He and Andre have not gotten together yet to set up the account.   There is currently $265.00 in the treasury to be deposited.  Jeremy said they he would set up direct deposit as soon as the account is set up.  Brian then gave a brief explanation on ways dues are utilized.  Wanda made a motion the verbable report be accepted and Jeremy seconded the motion and it was passed.

There was then discussion on the three voting machines that Evelyn and Wanda tested.  Alexandria will adopt which machine they will be using.  The consensus was they all had audio but one machine offered the best audio, there were tactile keypads; one which only had three buttons and the other two had Braille located on the keypad.  One was grade one Braille and the other abbreviations.  Terri reported that one of the machines they tested was the one used in Fairfax voting polls.  The scanners used to place your ballot were all accessible so that a blind person could place the ballot in it independently. They said a decision would be made August 30.

Jeremy suggested that the chapter thank vice mayor Justin Wilson for his reaching out to us directly for our feedback on the voting machines. we all agreed.

Brian discussed the activity for September to be lead by Patricia Ryan, who will offer a presentation on urban gardening that will be held at the Fairlington Community Center.  He will try to aim for September 30th.  He encouraged us to spread the word.  He is not sure if there will be a fee.

The October meeting will be held October 26 at The Meridian at Eisenhower building, 2351 Eisenhower Avenue in the Club House right across from the Eisenhower Metro station.

Jeremy suggested we have a five minute tech corner portion of our meetings held quarterly.  Wanda and
Terri will demonstrate the Script Talk at the October meeting.

There was then discussion on the screening of the movie Do You Dream in Color.  NFB is asking that all affiliates promote the movie as part of Meet the Blind Month.  Brian mention knowing personally the film makers and hopes to have them during the screening to be available for questions.  Jeremy said if they could not be there in person he could connect them via Zoom video/audio conferencing.

It was also suggested that we invite a broad swath of the community, including the area NFB chapters and other blind organizations such as the local ACB chapter members. Wanda is going to look into popcorn.  The meeting time and day may need to change to the 26 or 27th depending on availability of the film makers.

The chapter discussed the up-coming State Convention.  Jeremy would like to bring to the membership of giving a pledge to the State affiliateWe all agreed and he will bring it up at the October meeting.  Brian is working on music entertainment.  Wanda and Evelyn are working with the hospitality committee.

For future activities Wanda suggested Quantico marine museum as a tactile tour.

 Kim from the Alexandria Talking Book Library and her husband give the tactile presentation on astronomy if they does not get a spot at the state convention.

A Christmas performance by the barbershop chorus The Alexandria Harmonizers in December Wanda and Jeremy will look into it and obtaining tickets etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Terri Nettles, Secretary