**Meeting Minutes**

**National Federation of the Blind of Virginia, Alexandria Chapter**

**October 26th 2017**

**Present.** Brian Miller, Tajuan Farmer, Bob Hartt, Bonnie O'Day, Frank Riley, John Bailey, Evelyn Valdez, Jeremy Grandstaff, Jerry Jayjohn, Susie D’Mello, Joanne Maldonado, Aaron Simoneau, and Wanda Taylor. (Terri Nettles was ill and asked Bonnie O’Day to take minutes.)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. Bob Hartt stated that Bonnie O’Day was present but was not listed as attending. The minutes were approved as corrected.

The agenda as sent by Brian was also approved.

There was no treasurer’s report as Andre had family issues. We will keep him and family in our thoughts.

**Smart 911.** Joanne Maldonado, Manager of the City’s Call, Click, Connect Service, presented on the Smart 911 Program. Under the new system, individuals can create a personal profile and the emergency dispatcher can review information before arriving at your destination. Those who create a profile will be reminded every six months via email or text to update their information. To protect your privacy, the personal information disappears from the screen once the dispatcher sees it so it cannot be copied or reviewed later.  Profiles can contain as much or as little information as desired. If there are difficulties completing the form, you may call 703 746-4357. Over 400 people have created personal profiles since September 2017. You can put in multiple phone numbers in your account, such as home, work, or cell. You can also indicate that you speak a language other than English and that you have pets or service animals. You can also text 911 rather than call. You can also call in case of mandatory evacuation and te responders will know you don’t drive.

**State convention.** Evelyn explained that next week (November 3-5 is the 59th NFB State Convention. The Potomac Chapter is the host chapter for the convention. The hospitality festivities will launch on Friday evening with a western theme. Everyone must be registered for the convention to attend the hospitality night. She asked for volunteers to staff the table for the Alexandria chapter on Friday between noon and about 4"30 PM. John Baily, Brian Miller and Evelyn Valdez volunteered. Evelyn suggested that the chapter give out signature guides to those who visit the table. A signature guide that attaches to a keychain cost $2.50; those with a magnifier cost $2.00. It was moved and seconded that the chapter purchase 15 of each type. The motion passed.

**Talking Prescription System.** Wanda demonstrated ScripTalk, a free prescription identifier.  You must request the device from your drug store and they will order it from ScripTalk. Wanda will send the phone number that can be used to check to see if a pharmacy’s prescriptions will work with ScripTalk.

**Other Business.** Wanda described the toy drive for needy families that will take place from November 13 to December 13. Pick up for gifts is December 13-15. Evelyn is interested in collecting the toys from chapter members.

The Alexandria Harmonizers are performing their holiday show December 2 and 3 at TC Williams High School. Brian will send a flyer to chapter members. There will also be an auction at the event.

**Do you Dream in Color?** Ivy Fullerton, one of the movie directors, spoke by telephone. She described how the movie was initiated, asking the question how blind people dream. She and her co-director attended a camping trip with high schoolers who taught them about what it is like to be blind. They wanted to create a film that would inspire other blind and visually impaired youth, their families and teachers. They began the movie-making process in 2009 and it was released in 2015. The first 30 minutes of the movie was shown.

**Vision Zero.** Jeremy described Alexandrians for Safe Streets, an organization that is advocating for implementation of a Vision Zero policy that is actionable and accountable. The goal of Vision Zero is to adopt policy that will bring the number of pedestrians hit by autos or bikes to zero. He asked members to sign a petition and to forward it to anyone who visits Alexandria. The goal is 1,000 signatures.  He asked chapter members to attend a City Council meeting on November 16th.

**New Member.** The chapter unanimously voted to accept Beverly Savoy as a new member.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie O’Day,

Substituting for Terri Nettles