Minutes for the National Federation of the Blind of Virginia board meeting

January 15, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM.

Andre Hill gave the invocation.

Everyone present introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report: The report was accepted as read. The minutes will be distributed to our email list prior to future meetings.

Treasurer’s report: The report was accepted as given.

A discussion of Richmond Seminar issues followed.

Washington Seminar: Anyone wanting to attend should email Deepa and Tracy as soon as possible.

Project Rise: They have 17 students and have formed positive relationships with TVI's in Northern Virginia. They plan to start a 5-month program on February 17.

Chapter presidents were asked to send a list of chapter members to Mark Roane, along with contact information and the amount of money their constitution says they should pay. Chapters were asked to identify how much money they are pledging to our 4 funds.

2018 state convention: The Virginia affiliate will be one of the three host affiliates for 2018 national convention.

McDonald Fellowship/Jernigan scholarship: Applicants were asked to email their letters to Mary Durbin.

membership: Mark Canamaso is the new Prince William chapter president.

scholarship: We brought nine students to our state convention, more than we have had in several years. Several of the applicants are now involved in various capacities in the NFB of Virginia. The application period will begin in August

public outreach: They had a walk with several other chapters. They went to an afternoon at the theater for The Sister Act. They are working to get more chapters involved this year.

chapter presidents retreat: It will be continuing this year. They have had several informative guest speakers, including Chris Danielson.

fundraising: They're looking for people to help organize volunteers for our table at national convention.

communications: They are working on updating our web site this year. Anyone wanting to post to our email list serve should email Sarah Patnaude. Anyone with articles for our newsletter should contact Joe Orozco.

bell program: We are having 2 this year, one of which will be in Harrisonburg in the last 2 weeks in June. The Arlington program does not have a scheduled date yet.

state convention operations and logistics: Our 2018 state convention will be from November 8-11 at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House Hotel & Conference Center. We are still looking in to options for our 2019 state convention.

division Reports

students: Three scholarship finalists became Vabs board members. Blind students were encouraged to apply to the national scholarship. Any students applying will be entered into a drawing for a cash prize. They are planning a student retreat in August.

seniors: Their next conference call is on January 24th. They are considering a statewide senior event at some point this year.

guide dog users: They have an email list and a Facebook page. They are planning a conference call to discuss goals for this year.

merchants: Chapter presidents were asked to invite any blind merchants they may know to chapter meetings. They will have 8 members at Washington seminar. They are having a merchants event in November.

The next board meeting will be on Saturday, May 19 at 11 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 PM.