November 12, 2020

NFB Potomac Chapter Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. and 19 members were present.

The icebreaker question was either, the absolute worst advice you ever received, or your ideal tranquil environment.

The minutes from the October meeting were approved without correction.

The treasurer’s report was approved. The current balances are $405.00 in the general fund and $750.00 in the youth fund.

This month’s guest speaker was Toya Horton from the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind. She is the director of administrative operations.

CLB is located in Silver Spring, MD, but provides services to people living in MD, DC, or VA. They serve DBVI-sponsored clients and can also provide limited services to people who don’t have a DBVI case.

Toya announced that CLB is offering several virtual classes such as travel with mobile apps, cooking, and assistive technology classes.

Interested individuals can email thorten@clb.org Or call the hotline at 240-373-5100.

After the presentation, members asked questions and received more information.

Christine announced our comedy fund-raiser which will be held on Friday December 11 at 8:00 p.m. The event flyer will be released shortly and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Christine would like to hold an additional fund-raiser where people are invited to enter a talent show-type contest for $5. Anyone interested in participating or developing this should reach out to Christine.

Tracy announced that the Potomac chapter raised about $1,900 at the state convention auction. These funds will come to the chapter by the end of the month.

Tracy suggested, based on guidance from President Riccobono, that the chapter collect payment directly from members using Zelle, Paypal, or Square instead of having payments flow through the treasurer’s personal account. This facilitates cleaner bookkeeping and keeps the chapter funds safe. Chapters can use Zelle or Paypal, but cannot use Venmo since Venmo is only for personal accounts, not nonprofit accounts.

Sean will work to set up a PayPal and/or Zelle account specifically for the chapter.

Chapter members shared feedback on the recent state convention. Tracy requested for members to provide feedback via the brief postconvention survey at <www.nfbv.org/survey>.

Christine suggested developing a group of Zoom experts to co-host meetings and provide technical training.

Christine encouraged members to fill out the NFB national voter survey at <https://www.nfb.org/resources/voting-resources>.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arielle Silverman, Secretary, Potomac Chapter, National Federation of the Blind