Meeting called to order at 3:25 on October 21, 2011. Board members present were Mike Freeman President, Ben Prowse first vice-president, Maria Bradford second vice-president, Doug Johnson treasurer, Michael Mellow board member,

Gary Mackenstadt board member. Absent Marcy Carpenter board member. Absent for a portion of the meeting Don Mitchell secretary, and Les Fitzpatric board member.

Members and guests present were introduced. 21 members and guests were present.

The board discussed holding the 2012 state convention in Everett Washington. The minutes were called for, but the secretary was absent.

Mark Ricabono National representative to the convention and director of the Journigan institute, and Natalie Shaeen, Director of Education of the NFB were introduced.

Mark Ricabono made some introductory comments to the board meeting.

Treasurers report was given for the physical year Oct 1 2010-sep 30 2011. The affiliate did not lose money. Income $21023.33Expenses $19988.87. Checking balance $4637.91. Savings: $10240.00 Morgan Stanley funds $47078.91.

Motion made to accept the treasurer's report. Motion was seconded and passed.

President Mike Freeman thanked the local chapters of the affiliate for their contributions to the state funds. The affiliate is searching for new funding sources after the disillusion of past funding sources. Noel Nightingale asked about any income from wills. We had none, but there is a contribution in the works. James reported that he is working to get donations from the Safeway store monthly charity donation program. He will hear from them within 30 days.

Mike thanked James for his handling of our P. O. Box.

Mike requested a list of the EIN numbers for the local chapters. Gary M. said that he used to have such a list, but he thinks he forwarded that on to Doug. He said that the local bank account number should be the EIN number. Much discussion of the need for EIN numbers took place. Doug Tremble asked about Getting on the state list for state agency charitable donations. He will get the paper work for this program. The National NFB receives contributions nationally from company charitable contributions.

Mike gave a report on the Pierce county chapter. Neil Vosburg, the chapter president and George Miller have not been able to participate much so the chapter is struggling.

The motion was made to authorize the President and treasurer to pay our convention bills to the hotel. The motion was seconded and passed.

Gary Mackenstadt reported on the Information fair that was conducted in the Squim area. 38 persons participated. A new possible Squim chapter member was found. The possibility of a Port Angelus support group, which may be a possible future chapter.

Mike was asked to give a synopsis of the convention activities which he did.

Don Mitchell asked to read the minutes of the last board meeting.

Mike Mellow brought up the future of our scholarship program. He asked the questions: How does the program work? How do we select winners? How much should we give? How do we follow up with our winners to bring them in to our organization? Is this program doing what we want it to do? This is not a criticism of the scholarship chair or the program it is just a suggestion for us to look at the program.

Gary Mackenstadt pointed out that the Kiser funds are restricted funds earmarked specifically for education. This has been interpreted as for College degree programs and vocational scholarships, and for some convention scholarships.

Much discussion of the scholarship program ensued.

Mike expressed the opinions that the scholarships offered by the NFBW are to bring members in to the organization. He also stated that because of the nature of modern society people are not joiners like they were in the past. These are observations and not excuses for the state of our retention of scholarship winners in the organization.

Noel suggested that we could do some tweaks of the program to make it more conducive for the winners to participate in the convention and to continue as members in the future.

Doug Tremble defended Rita by saying that we have never had the board meeting in the afternoon before and it might not be as easy for working and studying persons to be available for a Friday afternoon meeting. He said that more follow-up by all of us as members could help with the outcomes of the scholarship program.

Don Mitchell suggested that the application be looked at and that specific criteria be set down for the recipients like must attend an NFB meeting or activity. Mike pointed out the fact that we don't have too many events and that they might not be in the applicant's city, so the idea is not very practical.

Ben stated that there is always room for improvement and we could review the program and developed goals and objectives to direct the work of the scholarship committee.

Mike appeared to appoint Ben to be the chair of the scholarship philosophy committee. Other members were discussed. Ben said that the committee would meet with in the next two weeks and discuss the scholarship program.

Mark Racabona suggested that this was good discussion but that he was brought in to the organization by the scholarship. Sometimes it takes a long time for the work of the scholarship committee to come to fruition. It might take years for someone to come to the organization. We are planting seeds. Don't lose sight of the fact that the process of receiving scholarships can be and is a life changing experience.

Mike freeman gave the board the opportunity to hear the minutes from the last board meeting or to dispense with the reading.

Gary moved that if the minutes could be made available in hard copy or on the internet, we dispense with the reading of the October 2012 board meeting minutes.

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned.

Don Mitchell, Secretary.