Call to order:

The NJAGDU meeting was called to order at 7:15 a.m. on November, 9th, 2013

Roll call:

Vincent Chaney, President

Alice Eaddy, Secretary

Anna DeSantis, Treasurer

Lyn Reynolds, Board

Joe Ruffalo, NFBNJ President

Lydia Keller

Michele Chaney

 Tara Facchini

Dan Facchini

Les Cameron

Angela Perone

Kathy Rawa

Jerilyn Higgins

Trish Ebel

Jack Truehaft

Dan and Jerilyn comprising the nominating committee presented the slate of officers as follows:

President Vincent Chaney

Vice President Trish Ebel

Secretary Alice Eaddy

Treasurer Lynn Reynolds

Board Anna Desantis

Joe explained the election process and stated that you had to be paid members for the 2013 year, if not you were disqualified to vote. In the future NJAGDU voting members must be guide dog users, live with an active guide dog, have a retired guide dog; if not they would then be associate members without a vote nor able to hold an office. You all are guide dog division members with or without leadership roles (78% of memberships have guides from the Seeing Eye). Les Cameron nominated Kathy Rawa for President. A poll vote was taken, with a winner being required to have 8 votes. Vinnie had 11 and Kathy had 3 votes. Vice president Trish-Dan moved to accept Trish as VP by acclimation, I Alice seconded. The vote for recording secretary Alice Eaddy was closed by Dan by acclimation seconded by Trish. Lynn Reynolds for Treasurer Dan moved to close by acclimation and the same for Anna Desantis for board, seconded by Lydia. Joe stated that we all spend time and money here regardless of the glory or honor of a position but because someone helped you. Thank you all for election participation.

Dues time

Vinnie said, thank you to Joe for running the election. Marion Gwizdala put together a 4 minute message similar to the presidential release which Vinny played over the iPhone via speaker. NAGDU President congratulated NJAGDU for our 4th anniversary and being one of the fastest growing divisions in the nation, we now have 10 affiliate divisions and 4 guide dog users’ committees on the path to becoming divisions within the next year. He further acknowledged our work on Dustys’ Law and wants us to use our legislative contacts to work to move forward our resolution from 2010 to strengthen NJ’s access laws. The NAGDU information advocacy hotline is a national toll-free service available 24hours a day, 7days a week, 365 days a year. The hotline offers information about the legal rights and responsibilities of individuals who use service animals under ADA and specific guidance concerning restaurants, and healthcare facilities. In the future we hope to have the hotline information available in Spanish, Mandarin and Arabic. You may call anytime at 888-624-3841. NAGDU has a presence on twitter, and face book, in addition to our website [www.NAGDU.org](http://www.NAGDU.org) and our news letter “harness up” is published on [www.wordpress.org](http://www.wordpress.org). Finally the NAGDU Board of Directors generally meets the last Sunday of every month via teleconference at 8 p.m. Our meetings are open to anyone who wishes to observe the proceedings. Our next meeting will be held on November the 24th and due to the holidays there will be no meeting in December. Our next meeting after that will be January 12 Th and beginning in February we will resume our regular meeting schedule of the last Sunday of every month.

Vinnie thanked us for coming together. Vinnie discussed drawing a ticket for the gift bags that were donated by the Seeing Eye. Two will be going to the auction and one will be drawn here. Tara drew the ticket won by her.

Finances:

Anna Desantis said that our balance was $235. Michele, we spoke to TD Bank regarding separating our accounts and relating the respective EIN number from the diabetes division so that there will be two different accounts. Vinnie, we now have 14 members and Trish has invited Babs Atwell and Suzanne Woodward to attend. The Link to sign up for the New Jersey Association of Guide Dog Users is: <http://www.nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfo/njagdu_nfbnet.org>

If you have a problem, please let me know.

We will continue to work on Dustys’ Law but right now we are just waiting to mobilize again. I do know that Mainor won re-election during the general session. Give your dues to Lynn Reynolds, Treasurer and your e-mail to Vinnie so that your information gets recorded. Please feel free to join in on our monthly call. Trish moved that the meeting be adjourned and Dan seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 a.m.

Minutes are submitted by

Alice Eaddy

Recording Secretary