OAGDU Minutes, August 13, 2023

ATTENDANCE:

Marianne, Diane, Deanna, Asia, LuAnn Paula, Debbie, Shane

Motion: Shane/Paula to approve July minutes as corrected. Apologies to Diane: her name was mis-spelled. My computer keyboard is sensitive and sometimes causes me to put double letters where they don’t exist.

There was no treasurer’s report.

Suzanne Turner came to the call to introduce our new feature—“I Am Ohio-Talk.” This month’s presentation will be on August 25, 5:00 PM, and will focus on Women’s Equality Day. Part of the presentation will introduce Isabel Grant, former NFB member and teacher. Next month, (date and time to be determined,) OAGDU members will present information about guide dog handling, rideshare denials, discrimination, advocacy, preparing for first service animal, etc. The virtual audience for “I Am Ohio-Talk” is encouraged to ask questions, to comment and interact. Presentations will be recorded, available on the NFB Ohio website, and shared outside the Federation.

FUNDRAISING

Deanna will post our Honey Baked Ham fundraiser again, also on Facebook, with the thought of purchases made for Labor Day. Marianne also introduced a possible fundraiser—selling 1.5-ounce bags of buckeyes, perhaps priced up to $2.00 a bag. Further discussion of this idea was tabled.

GAVEL

Gavel questionnaires have been sent on behalf of the Awards Committee. Completed chapter and division reports are due by October 1.

STATE CONVENTION

Once approved, we will begin the sale of buckeyes at state convention. LuAnn and Deanna will again offer chair massages during exhibits at state convention. We are reminded that the convention hotel is pet friendly for pets up to 50 pounds. Just make sure that you are not charged a pet fee for your service animal.

NEW BUSINESS

Deanna offered to set up an info table on September 23 for OAGDU during the Vision Walk at the Foundation for Fighting Blindness.

Motion: Debbie/Deanna, OAGDU to send $100.00 to The Seeing Eye in memory of our former member Annette Anderson. The motion passed. Motion: Paula/Marianne: September is Service Animal Month. As members are able, OAGDU will present programs to lions clubs, etc. The motion passed. We again discussed the necessity to file a complaint with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and with the Federal Civil Rights Commission or Justice Department when we experience a rideshare denial of our right to travel with a service animal. The handler has up to 18 months after the denial to file a complaint.

Our next meeting will be September 10, 7:00 PM, on Zoom. There was no motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Baker, Secretary