

National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi

AGENDA

49th Annual State Convention

March 26, 2021 Through March 28, 2021

Anywhere and Everywhere
“Resiliency: Unifying Our Future Together”

Helpful Zoom shortcuts

Phone command to mute/unmute is: star 6

Phone command to raise your hand is: star 9

Computer shortcut to mute/unmute is: Alt+A

Computer shortcut to raise/lower hands is: Alt+Y

App shortcuts to mute/unmute or to raise/ lower your hand are:

Go to the more button and swipe until you see the action and double tap

Proposed Voting Procedures

For the 2021 virtual convention

As a result of the pandemic, the NFB of Mississippi will be holding a virtual convention. This will cause the convention to consider alternative ways to conduct business than we usually do when we are together in person. None of these proposed procedures are meant to alter our current constitution. The convention remains the supreme authority of the affiliate and the convention must consider and approve any proposed changes.

This will serve as the platform for how we will conduct our elections and any policy adoptions.

1. As stated in our constitution, in order to participate in voting, membership must be verified. This is being done by reviewing the Mississippi membership list to prove payment of affiliate dues, and/or verifying with chapter presidents of current chapter membership rosters. Members must be present during the business meeting to participate in the elections.
2. A nominating committee will be assigned by the President as in years past and the nominating committee will make recommendations. Nominations will also be taken from the floor during elections.
3. Members will be asked to raise their hands to vote, and three minutes will be allowed for all votes to be cast and three minutes for all votes to be counted.
4. Any questions regarding membership or voting will be referred to Angel Darden-Kennedy, who has been assigned the responsibility of handling any questions or issues that may occur during the elections process.

Friday Evening - March 26, 2021

5:10 p.m. -- State Executive Board meeting;

Open to everyone. Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS

6:00 p.m. -- Music Trivia night;

Come out and test your music knowledge. See if you can name the song and Artist! Carrie Johnson, Music Disc Jockey, Jackson, MS

Saturday Morning - March 27, 2021

Door prizes will be drawn during the General Sessions and Banquet. You must be present to win!

9:00 a.m. -- Opening Session;

Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS,

9:05 a.m. -- Invocation;

Linda Howard, Member, Jackson Chapter, Madison, MS

9:10 a.m. -- Welcome Ceremony;

-- NFB Pledge and Pledge to the American Flag: Iyanu Carson, Third Grade Student at Casey Elementary School, Jackson, MS

-- National Anthem: Polly Johnson, Member, Jackson Chapter, Jackson, MS

9:20 a.m. -- Convention Arrangements;

Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS

9:30 a.m. -- National Report: COLLECTIVELY SHAPING OUR FUTURE;

Ever Lee Hairston, National Board member, National Federation of the Blind of California, Los Angeles, CA

10:10 a.m. -- Non-24;

Shauna Jatho, Clinical Nurse Educator, *Vanda Pharmaceuticals Inc., Washington, DC*

10:30 a.m. -- Working Together: Survivors Task Force;

Cheryl Fields, National Federation of the Blind of Ohio, Shaker Heights, Ohio

10:45 a.m. -- Disability Connections on the Gulf Coast;

Janie O'Keefe, Executive Director, Disability Connection, Gulfport, MS

11:20 a.m. -- Benefits of Supporting Mississippi Prisons;

Dr. Patricia Jackson, Transformation Reentry Project, Jackson, MS

11:35 a.m. -- Maximize Your Potential in Giving Back; Gina Huylbroeck, Victoria Disability Resource Center, LEAD coordinator (Lived Experiences Around Disability and the Peer Outreach Coordinator), Victoria, Canada

11:45 a.m. -- Next Generation Assistive Technology;
Robert Felgar, CEO, Raz Mobility, Tysons Corner, VA

12:00 p.m. -- Adjournment for Lunch

Saturday Afternoon – March 27, 2021

2:00 p.m. -- General Session;
Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS

2:05 p.m. -- Updates from MDRS and OVRB;
Chris Howard, Executive Director, MS Department of Rehabilitation Services, Madison, MS and
Dorothy Young, Director, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind, Madison, MS

2: 25 p.m. --Updates from MSB;
Eddie Spann, Principal, Mississippi School for the Blind, Jackson, MS

2:40 p.m. -- Forever Winning: Mississippi Blind Students At Home edition;
Casey A. Robertson, BELL Academy Teacher and Board Member of MS Parents of Blind Children, Hamilton, MS

2:50 p.m. -- Blind College Students: Sharing Their Experiences of Being Optimistic through Covid-19; Larensy Rogers, Sophomore, University of Southern Mississippi, Natchez, MS; Michael Gretchokoff, Freshman, Hinds Community College, Ridgeland, MS; and Jaylan Patrick, Sophomore, Hinds Community College, Canton, MS

3:15 p.m. -- Tech Talk;
Min. Thomas Williamson, Member, Jackson Chapter, Jackson, MS

3: 35 p.m. -- Envision Glasses;
Jose Cintron, Assistive Technology Specialist, Fort Lauderdale, FL

4:00 p.m. -- End of afternoon session

Saturday Evening – March 27 2021

6:30 p.m. -- Annual State Banquet;
Candice Chapman, Toast Master, 1st Vice President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Farmhaven, MS
Order of program
Invocation: Robert Skillon, State Board Member, Tupelo Chapter, Tupelo, MS
Welcome/Occasion: Verdina Buckner, President, Greenville Chapter, Greenville, MS

Song: Sharon Perry, Secretary, Tupelo Chapter, Tupelo, MS
Introduction of Speaker: Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS
Keynote Speaker: Ever Lee Hairston, National Board member, National Federation of the Blind of California, Los Angeles, CA
Fund Giving: Supporting the Affiliate: Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS
Remarks and closing

9:00 p.m. -- Nominating Committee Meeting (Close door meeting);
Minister Sam Gleese, Chairmen, President Emeritus, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS

Sunday Morning – March 28, 2021

9:00 a.m. -- Annual Business Meeting;
Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS,

9:05 a.m. -- Song;
Barbara Hadnott, Member, Jackson Chapter, Jackson, MS
-- Invocation: Robert Cotten, Member, Jackson Chapter, Madison, MS

9:15 a.m. -- State of the Affiliate;
Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS

9:35 a.m. -- Nominating Committee Report;
Minister Sam Gleese, President Emeritus, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS

9:50 a.m. -- Elections;
Ever Lee Hairston, National Board Member, National Federation of the Blind of California, Los Angeles, CA

10:15 a.m. -- Financial Report;
Angel Darden-Kennedy, Treasurer, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Gulfport, MS

10:20 a.m. -- Board of Director's Report;
Wanda McKinney, Secretary, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Sardis, MS

10:30 a.m. -- Legislative update;
Candice Chapman, Legislative Coordinator, Jackson Chapter Member, Farmhaven, MS

10:40 a.m. -- Closing Thoughts;
Ever Lee Hairston, National Board Member, National Federation of the Blind of California, Los Angeles, CA

Adjourn

Patrina Pendarvis, President, National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi, Jackson, MS

The National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi would like to extend a special thank you to our many members and friends who provide us support in many ways. 2020 brought so many challenges to our affiliate, but we are stronger and more unified than ever. The executive board and chapter/division leaders are excited and hopeful for all of us to be together live and in person in 2022. We have been resilient through a challenging year, but are stronger and more unified as we strive for a brighter future! We are living the life we want; blindness will not hold us back!