# **Wyoming Council of the Blind**

Minutes from August Regular Board Meeting held via phone on August 20,2019

The August meeting was called to order by President, Sherry Leinen, at 7:09 pm. Roll call indicated that 5 members were present, thus constituting a quorum.

Officers Present:

President – Sherry Leinen

Secretary/Treasurer – D’Anna Feurt

Board Members present:

Marti Blough, Jacquie Flatley and Chris Johnson

Guests: Marcy Schaepe

Absent:

Vice President – Mikaela Piasecki

Board Members – Kendall Bays, Cheryl Godley and Dolores Dolbare who recently resigned from the board.

D’Anna Feurt read minutes from July meeting. Marti Blough moved to accept July minutes as read. 2nd by D’Anna Feurt. M/C.

D’Anna presented Treasurer’s report for July 2019 as prepared by Ilene Whiteley, former Treasurer. Beginning balance from 7/01/19 was $9,377.32. Current ending balance as of 7/31/19 is $8,984.22. (Detail will be filed with minutes.) D’Anna also read report from accountant regarding review of council books dated 7/31/19. Review indicated books were in order. Jacquie requested that a copy of the report be put in the annual meeting folder for the secretary. Chris Johnson moved to accept Treasurer’s report. 2nd by Jacquie Flatley. M/C.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Website – need Annette to remove Dolores from website. Jacquie said Marcy needed another application and Jacquie was unable to find it on the website. The application needs to be easier to find or added to the website if not already on there.

Advocacy – Sherry reported that they had a meeting at the end of July for the White Cane law. They are trying to find statistics for accidents or injuries that involved anyone with a white cane or guide dog, but they are having a hard time finding anything. She expressed that they fear that the legislature won’t take it seriously without any statistics. She said they were thinking of having it added to driver’s education information. Jacquie suggested looking at AFB for statistics information. D’Anna also suggested contacting Wyoming Department of Transportation regarding accident reporting forms being changed to add fields related to white cane and/or guide dog.

Convention – Sherry asked about anyone being interested in being on convention committee with Marcy. Sherry and Jacquie want to be on it. Sharon Byers will also help. Marcy and Jacquie looked at several locations for next year’s convention including the Casper Senior Center, Evansville Senior Center, and the Methodist Church downtown as well as Restoration Church. Restoration Church would be $350 for both days if we cleaned up and $450 if they cleaned up. The best place they found was the Community Center in Evansville. This place offered access to a commercial kitchen and the restrooms are nice and accessible. The location is also easy to find and there is plenty of parking. They want a check to hold ($500 deposit). The check won’t be cashed, just held until we are checked out at the end of the convention. Marcy also stated that she needs help finding speakers. She might know of someone that is knowledgeable in taxes if interested.

This year’s convention theme is History. Marcy also stated she needs the date for the convention. June 26th and 27th was decided by the board. There was also a need expressed for sub-committees for catering, decorating, theme and speakers. We also need volunteers to help clean up. Jacquie suggested that all board members be required to help set up and clean up. It was also suggested that we also investigate getting decorations donated if possible, to save money. Marcy will keep looking for other facilities but so far, the community center appears to be the best option as it had more of the items that we wanted. Marcy will go ahead and get our name on the books for those dates and the deposit is not needed until the key is picked up. Marcy will call D’Anna and have application info completed over the phone. Chris goes to a church near the planetarium and said he will talk to the Pastor about using the church for the convention.

Fundraisers – Marti and D’Anna think raffle packages are the way to go. Both will try to get donations for packages. Marti mentioned maybe doing calendars as well.

(Jacquie dropped off call due to dead phone battery and was unable to return for remainder of meeting.)

Scholarships – We need a new person to take over scholarships since Dolores resigned. Sherry needs to get information from Dolores. D’Anna will get more info and numbers for District Special Services as contacts for scholarships for blind and low vision kids.

Brochures – We couldn’t do much about brochures as Jacquie was heading these up and she dropped off the call. We may need to have another meeting to discuss brochures and costs.

No new business.

Marti Blough moved to adjourn meeting. 2nd by D’Anna Feurt. M/C

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.