# **Wyoming Council of the Blind**

Minutes from February Regular Board Meeting held via phone on February 11, 2020

The February regular board meeting was called to order by President, Sherry Leinen, at 7:06 pm. Roll call indicated that there were 6 members were present, thus constituting a quorum.

Officers Present:

President – Sherry Leinen

Secretary/Treasurer – D’Anna Feurt

Board Members present:

Marti Blough, Jacquie Flatley, Kendall Bays, and Chris Johnson joined later.

Guests: Sharon Byers

Absent:

Vice President – Mikaela Piasecki

Board Members – Cheryl Godley, Dolores Dolbare

Minutes from January’s meeting were emailed to the board by D’Anna Feurt prior to the meeting. All board members had reviewed the minutes, so they were not read. No changes were made to the minutes. Marti Blough moved to accept January’s minutes. 2nd by D’Anna Feurt. M/C.

January’s Treasurer’s report was also emailed prior to the meeting and reviewed by all board members. Beginning balance from 1/01/2020 was $6,678.31. January ending balance was $6,678.88. Jacquie Flatley moved to accept January’s treasurer’s report. 2nd by D’Anna Feurt. M/C.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Website – none

Advocacy – White Cane Law - Sherry stated that they had a meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2020. The committee is ready to start getting letters sent out. They are going to try to get letters sent out through organizations located throughout the state such as Wyoming Independent Living and senior centers. Sherry will put her address on the letters so that they can send testimonials to her directly. Jacquie suggested that we contact newspapers and submit the letter through an editorial which she believes is free to do. She also suggested contacting Oil City News about posting there as well or having them write an article about the issue. Sherry will send copies of the final draft to all board members. Sherry also thought about using the lists for schools and colleges to send letters too.

Scholarships – Sherry has talked to Dolores and each time she seems to change her mind about doing the scholarships. Sherry would like someone else to be willing to contact Dolores and get the list of schools and counselors. Sharon Byers volunteered to get with Dolores and help with the scholarships. D’Anna advised the board that she had spoken with Ginny Chidsey from the Wyoming Department of Education/Vision Outreach services and that she was going to send a list of contacts for vision specialists and O&M specialists as well as asked that she be sent the scholarship information as well so she can help get information out about it. D’Anna will send the list to Sharon as soon as received.

Fundraisers – Fundraisers can still be done any time of the year even if we don’t have as many as last year regardless of whether we do a convention this year. Sharon said that trying to sell raffle tickets at Walmart was very difficult. She suggested putting the package information on Facebook to try and get more interest. Marti said she posted on her personal Facebook page about fundraisers as well.

Convention – Marcy joined the call at 7:54 pm to discuss the convention. She suggested that the first thing the board decide on is whether or not to do the convention for this year and whether it can be put together in time. The convention was initially set for June 26th & 27th, but Sherry has a family reunion in Minnesota to attend at that time. Sherry also stated that she spoke with Allan Peterson from ACB and he said that some states don’t have a convention every year. The board discussed whether we should still do a convention this year or postpone it until next year. Jacquie Flatley made a motion to cancel the convention for 2020 due to low attendance by members and a lack of participation in convention planning and preparation and to resume the convention in 2021 as well as doing board member election via mail in ballots. 2nd by Marti Blough. Roll call vote indicated 5 Ayes/1 Nay. Therefore M/C.

OLD BUSINESS

Brochures – Brochures are completed and were picked up by Sharon Byers. There was no invoice with them, but Jacquie will contact them to get an invoice and will forward it to D’Anna for payment. Jacquie will send out brochures to members for dissemination as needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Sherry informed the board that the phone that she got from Walmart ran out of minutes while she was in the hospital and now the phone number she had is no longer good so we will have to correct the phone number on all of the brochures. Sherry suggested using stickers or labels to cover it and correct the phone number. She was also told that the best route to go for a phone would be to go on a plan that is automatically paid monthly but that it would be about $60 per month. Jacquie believes that we could get it cheaper through Spectrum. She will check with them on plans and pricing for non-profits.

Sherry informed the board that ACB legislative session is coming up soon. Allan Peterson is going to be there and has the authority to vote on behalf of Wyoming on any legislation that could impact Wyoming. Sherry said that she contacts Wyoming’s senators and representative to meet with Allan on our behalf. Some of the legislation involves autonomous vehicles, low vision devices and surface transportation. Sherry sent an email out to the board members about these topics.

No other new business.

Jacquie Flatley moved to adjourn meeting. 2nd by Marti Blough. M/C. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.