# **Wyoming Council of the Blind**

Minutes from April’s Regular Board Meeting held via phone

on April 14, 2020

The April regular board meeting was called to order by President, Sherry Leinen, at 7:03 pm. Roll call indicated that there were 7 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, Chris Johnson and Cheryl Godley

Guests: none

Absent:

Vice President – Mikaela Piasecki

Board Members –Dolores Dolbare

Minutes from February and March meetings 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 corrections or additions were made to the minutes. Kendall Bays moved to accept February and March minutes. 2nd by D’Anna Feurt. M/C.

February and March Treasurer’s reports were also emailed prior to the meeting and reviewed by all board members. Beginning balance from 2/01/2020 was $6,979.39. February ending balance was $6,789.92. March beginning balance was $6,789.92 and ending balance was $6,893.32. No corrections or additions were made to the Treasurer’s reports. Kendall Bays moved to accept treasurers reports as presented. 2nd by Chris Johnson. M/C.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Website – none

Advocacy – White Cane Law - Sherry stated that they had a meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2020. The committee got all their lists of agencies and organizations put together including organizations such as Wyoming Independent Living, all schools, Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis, WSIC, support groups, senior centers, etc. They are also going to work on radio, newspapers and Facebook. Tom contacted all the support groups and will also get on the radio in Powell. They have already received contact from an individual with a school. They also received testimonial from someone in Gillette. They are concerned that the current COVID-19 situation may slow things down a bit. Cheryl clarified whether we wanted stories from people only using canes or if someone using a guide dog is acceptable. Sherry advised that both are acceptable. Sherry will forward a copy of the letter to everyone and would like people to send it to other people they know as needed. Responses are requested back by July 1, 2020, but that date may need to be pushed back. They have a timeline set up to stay on track. Jacquie asked about emailing the letter to support group attendees as well. Sherry said they are working to get those lists if available.

Convention – The board had already decided not to do the convention for 2020. She finished the newsletter and emailed it to all who wanted the newsletter emailed. She is waiting on hard copies from Quality Office to send out to those who requested mailed newsletters. In the newsletter, she mentioned that members would receive either email or paper ballots to vote on board members. She also mentioned that an annual Treasurer’s report is needed. Positions up for vote this year are President, Secretary, and Marti’s board position. D’Anna asked about the Vice President position since Mikaela has not been on a regular board meeting call since July. Jacquie suggested we look at bylaws and consider amending them to address this issue. D’Anna to send membership list to Jacquie and then she and Sherry will call members about board positions coming up for election. D’Anna to have annual Treasurer’s report done by June 1, 2020. Sherry recommends postponing member of the year award until we do the convention next year in 2021, but she is not sure if we need to vote on it. Jacquie Flatley moved to postpone 2020 Member of the Year award and pick it up at 2021 Convention. 2nd by Marti Blough. M/C.

Fundraisers – Thankful Thursdays? - Jacquie went to the event but found out it was cancelled. She went in anyway to see if she could find someone to talk to and get more information on it. She ended up calling Hometown Media and was told that spring and summer events are postponed, but she was not sure if they were getting pushed back or cancelled in general. She was able to get an email address for someone to contact. Jacquie believes we should pursue it, but maybe not for 2020. Given the current situation, Sherry believes it would be hard to sell tickets. Sherry thinks we should wait until summer and talk about it more then.

Scholarships – Cheryl inquired about whether we were going to have a scholarship recipient this year. Sherry is not sure if Dolores is still going to do this or not as she keeps changing her mind but has not submitted a formal resignation from the board. Sherry does not believe that anything has been sent to the schools yet either since schools are currently closed. Chris helped Dolores set up a group email list and sent it out, but some of the emails were old. He does not know what else has been done to date. Chris inquired as to what all the scholarship process entails. Sherry briefly explained the process. Sherry asked if there was anyone that would help Sharon Byers if she were willing to do it. Kendall volunteered to help. Sherry will call Sharon about taking over from Dolores. Chris could help get information from Dolores and could get it to Kendall or Sharon. D’Anna Feurt moved to change the scholarship deadline to June 30, 2020 with the award and disbursement in August for 2020 only due to current COVID-19 situation. 2nd by Cheryl Godley. M/C.

OLD BUSINESS

Brochures – Brochure holders – Jacquie said the company she contacted regarding the plastic holders charges $10 for a sample unless we have a UPS or FedEx account. She was not sure if we wanted to spend the money for the sample. Jacquie reviewed the costs again for those members who were not on the last board meeting call. Clear holders are $1.20 and colored are $1.50. Imprinting is $0.50 additional each holder so total costs would be $1.70 to $2.00 each. Cheryl and Marti think we should order a sample to make sure it is a quality product before we bought them. Jacquie cannot recall if she asked Mountain States Lithographing about brochure holders when she ordered the brochures. She will check with them and see if they can get them and if possible, give us a discount and then will email everyone about it.

Phone – New phone number (307) 629-1916 - Jacquie informed the board that she got the new phone activated for $30/month. This is charged whether you use it or not. Jacquie did not put new labels on the brochures yet because she was not sure if we were going to keep the phone with this phone number. Sharon Byers has the brochures right now. Jacquie asked D’Anna to get labels and print them up and send to Sharon to put the labels on to correct the phone number. Jacquie will send brochure samples to D’Anna to determine the size of labels needed and how to cover it up. Jacquie discussed using color on brochures based on another brochure she came across. Sharon is willing to put labels on the brochures once printed and received.

ACB Convention – ACB has decided to do a virtual convention this year due to COVID-19. Sherry is not sure how they are going to do it yet. Most state affiliates have also cancelled or postponed their conventions as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Lions Club Donation – Sherry had corneal transplant during her December surgery. She never knew where her cells came from, but she received a letter recently stating her cells came from the Rocky Mountain Lions cell bank. She can go online and write a letter to her donor’s family. Sherry suggested the council consider donating to the Rocky Mountain Eye Bank. Jacquie asked about the amount she was thinking for the donation. Jacquie Flatley moved to donate $200 to the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Bank. 2nd by D’Anna Feurt. M/C. D’Anna will get donation made to them.

No other new business.

Next regular board meeting is Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.