# **Wyoming Council of the Blind**

Minutes from June’s Regular Board Meeting held via phone

on June 9, 2020

The June regular board meeting was called to order by President, Sherry Leinen, at 7:07 pm. Roll call indicated that there were 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 Cheryl Godley

Guests: Sharon Byers

Absent:

Vice President – Mikaela Piasecki

Board Members – Dolores Dolbare, Chris Johnson and Kendall Bays

Minutes from May’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 corrections or additions were made to the minutes. Cheryl Godley moved to accept the May minutes. 2nd by Marti Blough. M/C.

May’s Treasurer report was also emailed prior to the meeting and reviewed by all board members. No corrections or additions were made. Beginning balance from 5/01/2020 was $6,686.85. Ending balance was $6,557.09. Marti Blough moved to accept treasurers reports as presented. 2nd by Cheryl Godley. M/C.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advocacy – White Cane Law – Sherry was gone last Tuesday, so she doesn’t believe that they had a meeting. She will try to reschedule it. She has not gotten any more testimonials other than the two she mentioned in last month’s meeting. This year’s legislative session is a budget session so next year will be a full session. They will see where they are at by July and determine if they can present in 2021 or if they will need to wait until the next full session in 2023. COVID-19 and the associated closings have impacted their ability to get the word out.

Cheryl informed the board that she has a SILC meeting tomorrow and will remind everyone at the meeting to get the word out about the white cane law. Sherry also joined a disability support group and they meet on Wednesdays and most everyone in the group already knew about the white cane law they are working on. Marti suggested they still try to move forward even without a lot of testimonials. Sherry and Tom are planning to meet with a couple of senators and representatives about the legislation and see what they need. One witness is willing to travel to testify in front of the legislature. Cheryl also agreed that a lack of testimonials should not prevent them from moving forward and believed that the disparity between Wyoming laws and other states’ laws can be used for support as well.

Fundraisers – Sherry has nothing to add right now. Jacquie received an email response on May 21st from Donovan with Town Square Media stating that Thankful Thursday scheduling is on hold for the moment and that they have to reschedule the charities that got shut down from their preempted spring season and then they will be back to making their way through the waitlist. They are still unclear how “gatherings” will be treated by fall, so all is fairly stalled now waiting to see how things play out with state and local health guidance. She also received an email from Connie with Thankful Thursday advising that we are now on the waitlist. Cheryl asked if Jacquie knew when we might be up, but Jacquie thinks it will be sometime in 2021. Jacquie suggested we wait until November to put some packages together and then maybe sell raffle tickets at the malls if they open for Christmas time.

Scholarships – Sherry hasn’t heard from Dolores lately and she’s still getting all the emails, but she hasn’t received any formal resignation from her. Sherry suggests scrapping it for this year and picking it up for next year (2021-2022 school year) due to everything going on and the lack of response from Dolores. Sherry asked Sharon if she would be willing to take over the scholarship for next year. D’Anna will mail the contact list from Ginny Chidsey with Department of Education to Sharon.

Website – None

Convention - None

OLD BUSINESS

Brochures – Brochure holders – Where do we want them sent? D’Anna will call the company and see if the shipment can be split up and sent to multiple locations and then email everyone and let them know. D’Anna will also get labels printed up and sent to Sharon along with the information for the scholarship.

Phone – Jacquie informed the board that she checked on other phone plans and didn’t find any that were cheaper than what we currently have with AT&T.

Ink Cartridges – Sherry hasn’t purchased any ink cartridges yet, although the board approved money for her to purchase more. She can’t buy any in Newcastle, so she will have to either order online or buy from somewhere else. She was able to find one at home that she can use for now.

NEW BUSINESS

ACB Convention –Sherry made a recording that will be played during the virtual conference. They are doing this with all the affiliate presidents. They are also doing weekly meetings with the affiliate presidents and they discuss ideas and issues they face. Jacquie asked if she had mentioned the white cane law they are working on and she said that she had.

D’Anna verified that both an annual Treasurer report and annual meeting minutes are needed. Sherry said that she needs to review the bylaws and find out if we are even allowed to vote on new board members since we are not having a convention this year. If it is not in the bylaws, then we must go by Roberts’ Rules of Order. It was suggested that we could do a Zoom meeting or even a phone conference. Marti asked about a date for the meeting if we were to do a Zoom meeting. Sherry thought maybe in August to give us time to prepare documents for the meeting. Jacquie also stated that she talked to Sandy Behounek and she said “no” to being on the board. So far, they have not found anyone to fill the vacant positions.

No other new business.

Next regular board meeting is Tuesday, July 14, 2020, at 7:00 pm.

Jacquie Flatley moved to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Cheryl Godley. M/C. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.