# **Wyoming Council of the Blind**

Minutes from September’s Regular Board Meeting held via phone

 on September 8, 2020

The September regular board meeting was called to order by President, Sherry Leinen, at 7:07 pm. Roll call indicated that there were 3 members were present, thus no quorum.

Officers Present:

President – Sherry Leinen

Secretary/Treasurer – D’Anna Feurt

Board Members present:

Marti Blough, Chris Johnson joined much later

Guests: Tina Bennett, Sam Burkett

Absent:

Vice President – Mikaela Piasecki

Board Members – Dolores Dolbare, Kendall Bays, Jacquie Flatley and Cheryl Godley

Minutes from August’s meeting were emailed to the board by D’Anna Feurt prior to the meeting. Minutes could not be approved due to lack of quorum.

August’s Treasurer report was also emailed prior to the meeting. Treasurer’s report could not be approved due to lack of quorum.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advocacy –

Tina Bennett with Wyoming Independent Living stated they are going to the Visual Impairment Program specialist and working on contacting those that receive services. Beginning 10/01/2020, services are moving to vision outreach services. WIL has 2 centers for Wyoming – east/west. When the change takes place, all those in the western counties will no longer be receiving services from WIL. Only those in eastern counties will continue to receive services. Vision outreach services administers the Montgomery Trust, talking books, etc. WSIL will provide services for western counties.

Talking Books Program – Guest, Sam Burkett with Wyoming Disability Peer Advocacy Group. Sherry has made many calls to NFB, ACB, SILC and she has been told that so far our voices are being heard and to continue to spread the word. The Protection and Advocacy system would like users of the program to contact them personally about the program going away. The letter Sherry drafted will be sent to the Wyoming Superintendent of Public Instruction. Sherry read the letter to meeting attendees (see attached). Marti brought up that defunding Talking Books could conflict with the ADA and Sherry agreed. The advocacy group suggested they go the route of the letter first. Tina will check into ADA and whether this has an effect. People need to send letter to Vision Outreach Services, Leslie, Margie Robertson as well as others.

White Cane Law – Sherry reported that they are in the last steps of finishing up the proposal. They are going to work on getting it to the legislators. They made changes to the wording for “cane” and “guide dogs” (see attached draft).

Fundraisers – None

Scholarships – Sharon still needs scholarship information from Dolores and D’Anna will reach out to Ginny Chidsey with Department of Education for physical addresses for Sharon. No other updates at present.

Website – None

Convention - None

OLD BUSINESS

Brochures – none

NEW BUSINESS

None.

No other new business.

Next regular board meeting is Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.