**Wyoming Council of the Blind**

**December Board Meeting**

**December 13, 2022**

**The December board meeting was called to order by President, Cheryl Godley at 7:04 PM. Those in attendance were as follows:**

**President – Cheryl Godley**

**Vice President – Tom Lealos**

**Secretary – Sherry Leinen**

**Treasurer – D’Anna Feurt**

**Directors: Debra Thompson, Sharon Byers**

**Members: Jacquie Flatley**

**Absent: Chris Johnson**

**Cheryl talked to Chris about paying his dues so he can continue to be on the board. He said he would pay his dues and was interested in continuing on the board.**

**Six board members were present, thus constituting a quorum.**

**Minutes: The November minutes were sent before the meeting. No corrections noted. Minutes accepted as sent.**

**Treasurers Report**

**Beginning balance: $3592.02**

**Ending balance: $3565.37**

**Debra made a motion to accept the treasurers report as sent, Sherry 2nd, report approved.**

**Old Business**

**Brochures**

**Cheryl mentioned that there isn’t a physical address on the brochures. D’Anna is okay with things being mailed to her. Her address is on the membership application and on the website.**

**Cheryl talked to DVR and they will put some brochures up.**

**There were several discussions about individuals who were seeking help and information from WyCB. Cheryl doesn’t want her personal information released, so she will use the WyCB phone for contacts. Sherry will mail the WyCB phone to Cheryl and send a receipt to D’Anna for reimbursement.**

**Website**

**The WyCB phone number will be used on the website for contact information.**

**Cheryl will contact Annette about changing the email address,** **president@wycb.info** **into her name.**

**Newsletter**

**Tom Lealos will have the newsletter information to Tom Smyth on December 15. It will include a president’s message, convention information on presentations and the annual membership meeting, bylaw changes, new officers and directors, possible fundraisers, and that the newsletter will be released twice per year instead of four times.**

**There was some discussion about who the newsletter should be sent to. For example: eye doctors in the state and/or past members. Cheryl plans to eventually go to eye doctors in Casper and ask them to be members and give them a newsletter. Debra mentioned that personal contact with individuals is important. Tom will add a blurb in the newsletter about membership renewal reminding members to send in their applications and suggesting they find new members.**

**The newsletter will go out in mid-January.**

**Braille Transcriptions**

**Cheryl hasn’t heard back from the prison about Braille transcriptions. Cheryl will continue to research possible resources for Braille. It was suggested that Debra check into the Montgomery Trust Foundation as a resource for a new computer. Tom suggested asking MTF about providing WyCB with a Braille Embosser. Cheryl mentioned that there is a new Braille system. Cheryl will get more information about this new system and report back. Everyone will continue to search for someone to help with the Braille.**

**Updated Bylaws were sent to everyone on the board.**

**Talking Books**

**After the beginning of the year, we will check with the Department of Education about funding and go from there.**

**White Cane Law**

**The committee consists of: Tom, Sherry, Debra, and Sharon. Flyers were sent to news outlets asking for testimonials. We have three.**

**Sherry spoke with Renée Kocina who is the Deputy Program Manager with WyDOT about the Drivers Education Manual possible additions and suggestions. She stated that if we email her the proposed additions that she will look them over with her committee and possible submission into the new manual. She suggested that we check out the Parent Supervised Driving Program Handbook online. She stated that this would be a good place to add our proposed changes. She also suggested that we talked to Trenton VonBerg with the Department of Education. He is in charge of the approved drivers education classes across the state. There will be a white cane law committee meeting Monday, December 19, at 5 PM.**

**Fundraisers**

**Thankful Thursday**

**WyCB would be responsible for processing credit card payments during Thankful Thursday. We would need to get an app or a credit card reader in order to do this. Some research needs to be done to find out the cost for this. Cheryl will talk to past member Mikaela Piesecki about the credit card reader she uses for her business. There were several discussions about how successful the raffle baskets were in the past and about what it would take to make either fundraiser successful. We will make a fundraiser decision at the next meeting.**

**New Business**

**Jacquie gave Cheryl a list of old members. D’Anna will send a current membership list to Cheryl. Tom Smyth will work on a spreadsheet.**

**Sherry was contacted by Lillian Zuniga, who is the program lead for Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Access, and Functional Needs Program. She is building an access function work group in order to build capacity for preparing, planning, and recovering from disasters with at-risk populations. Sherry has a meeting with Lillian on Thursday, December 15th to discuss joining the group.**

**There was a discussion about whether the dues should be pro-rated if paid later in the year. Our membership is based on a calendar year, our fiscal year is June 30th to July 1st. Any changes would need to be made in our Bylaws and would need to be voted on at our annual membership meeting.**

**Grants**

**Cheryl is still researching grant information.**

**Tom needs the scholarship recipient’s information for the newsletter. D’Anna will send this to Tom.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sherry Leinen, Secretary**

**The next regular board meeting will be Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 7 PM. Please mark your calendar.**