**Wyoming Council of the Blind**

**Minutes from April’s regular board meeting held via phone on April 8, 2024**

**The April regular board meeting was called to order by President Cheryl Godley at 7:02 PM. Roll call indicated that there were seven board members present, thus a quorum.**

**Officers present:**

**President – Cheryl Godley**

**Vice President – Tom Lealos**

**Secretary – Sherry Leinen**

**Treasurer – Tom Smyth**

**Directors present:**

**Gary Olson, Sarah Sexton, Debra Thompson**

**Absent: Sharon Byers**

**The minutes from March’s meeting were emailed to the board by Sherry Leinen prior to the meeting.**

**Tom L pointed out that on the AT&T motion Tom S was the person listed as making the motion and seconding it. Sherry checked her notes and found that Debra made the motion and Tom S was the second. The minutes were corrected.**

**Debra made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, second by Tom S. M/C**

**Treasurers report: Tom S**

**Checking Account Balance: $6281.04**

**Certificate of Deposit Balance: $5044.24**

**Total Funds: $11,325.28**

**Checking Deposits: $0.71**

**Checking Expenditures: -$5667.02**

**Checking Account Balance: $614.73**

**Savings Deposits: $5500.08**

**Savings Account Balance: $5500.08**

**CD #1 Balance: $5058.27**

**CD #2 Balance: $2000**

**Total Funds: $13,173.08**

**Tom L made a motion to accept the treasurers report as read, second by Debra. M/C**

**Additional Transactions**

**On March 27 the treasurer transferred the WyCB cell phone from AT&T to Consumer Cellular. This switch had been approved by the board at the March 11 board meeting. The rationale behind the change of carriers was because AT&T was charging a $5.00 convenience fee for debit card payments bringing the monthly charge to $36.95. With Consumer Cellular the monthly charge should be roughly $26. There were no additional fees in making the switch and the $10 paid for a Sim card (not including tax) has been credited to our first month of Consumer Cellular service.**

**Hilltop service charge was for $8.00 for a balance below $1000 and $0.20 per transaction for a total of $8.60. On 4/02/24 I asked Hilltop to waive this fee and transferred $700 from savings to checking to get the checking balance back over $1000. On 4/02/24 Hilltop reversed the service charge and credited checking account $8.60.**

**Membership: Tom S reported that ACB processed our members. We have 14 members at this time.**

**Cheryl reported that a few of the people that she called would become members. Sherry reported that she didn’t get any responses at this time.**

**Cheryl reported that she had lunch with Leslie Van Orman with VOS. They talked about membership issues. Leslie mentioned that The Printing House for the Blind can make cards that would have information about WyCB including our resource page. VOS could give them to our clients.**

**Old Business**

**Sightings (Tom L & Tom S)**

**Send your articles to Tom L by May 15. Please send them in Word Format.**

**WyCB Roundup**

**The Roundup is held every fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 PM. Sherry sent everyone a report on March’s meeting.**

**Scholarship (Debra)**

**No applications at this time. Gary helped with a list of the Special Education Directors for the schools.**

**Convention (Tom L)**

**We have three confirmed speakers at this time. Claire Stanley with ACB, Judy Jones a motivational speaker, and WATR. We are still waiting on DVR and NLS. We are still working on a theme. If anyone has any ideas please let Tom L know.**

**There was a discussion on whether we should use the $2000 donation that we received to pay for everyone’s registration for the convention. It was mentioned that there might be concerns that everyone will expect the convention to be free every year. It was then stated that we could put on the registration form that the registration fee is waived this year due to a donation.**

**Sherry made a motion that we use the $2000 donation to waive the registration fee for everyone for the 2024 WyCB convention and that this be stated on the registration form, second by Tom L. M/C**

**Lunch will be paid separately at $5.00 for those who wish to eat pizza. Tom S will get a variety of soft drinks to go with our pizza.**

**Gary mentioned that the motivational speaker, Judy Jones, would like to speak right after lunch. She will be put in 1:00 p.m. slot. Gary got an email from NLS. They will check with their team and get back to Gary. Sherry still hasn’t heard back from DVR. Sherry suggested that if DVR isn’t interested she will ask Tina Bennett with WI L to talk about an ADA topic.**

**The convention will start at 8 AM with housekeeping and we will have an hour and 15 minutes for lunch this year.**

**It was discussed at our committee meeting that we may need a larger venue. Tom L checked into the Evansville Community Center, Casper College, and VOS. The Evansville community center would charge $150. He hasn’t heard back from Casper College. Leslie with VOS mentioned that we could use a room at the school they use. WI L can do the zoom. They have several different sizes of rooms to choose from and would allow us to bring food for lunch. It was decided that we would use a room with VOS.**

**It was mentioned that Leslie wants to have a cooking competition and asked if WyCB would like to participate. Sarah mentioned that she gave her information to a few individuals on the MTF meeting.**

**Resource Page Project (Sarah)**

**We are waiting on the potential grant before the resources are put on our website. Cheryl will let us know as soon as she finds out about the grant. Sarah and Tom S will work on the list to make sure all of the resource pages are ready to be put on the website.**

**White Cane Day (Sarah)**

**Tom L talked to Robin S who is Gov. Gordon’s scheduler about an event on white cane day. She mentioned that it’s better to have an event as close to Cheyenne as possible. In order to have an event you have to fill out a request for the governor and write a proclamation. The press would probably be there, need to make sure that PBS and NPR radio are involved. Sherry sent Sarah the report that was written about White Cane Day last year. Cheryl mentioned that D’Anna might know about the school to use in Cheyenne.**

**Social Media (Sarah)**

**Sarah found out that WyCB already has a Facebook page that was set up in 2018. We aren’t sure who set the Facebook page up. Sarah will check with Mikaela Piasecki. It may have been set up by Graham a past president of WyCB who is now deceased. Sarah will continue to work on this.**

**New Business**

**Archiving Data (Cheryl)**

**Cheryl talked to Annette about archiving WyCB data. They would be kept in files that the board would be able to access. The files to archive could include: the list of special ed directors for the schools (these may change every year), board meeting minutes, treasurers reports, newsletters, annual membership meeting minutes. Committee meeting minutes. Cheryl will talk to Annette to find out when and how she would like us to start sending these to her.**

**Fundraising**

**Everyone needs to continue thinking about fundraising ideas.**

**Cheryl mentioned that the gentleman that gave us the donation would like to remain anonymous. There was a discussion that it would be nice to give this gentleman either a Lifetime Membership to WyCB or making him an Honorary Member. We appreciate his donation and want to do something special. Cheryl sent a letter thanking him from the board and also called him. Cheryl will talk to him about both of these ideas.**

**Tom L stated that Cleo’s health issues are getting worse and that he will stay on as vice president until the convention but he can’t finish his second term at this time. He will stay on as a member.**

**We will go over the leadership list next meeting and discuss who is running again and which positions need filled.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sherry Leinen – Secretary**

**The next regular board meeting will be Monday, May 13, 2024 at 7 PM. Please mark your calendar.**