# **Wyoming Council of the Blind**

Minutes from April’s Regular Board Meeting held via phone

 on April 15, 2021

The April regular board meeting was called to order by President, Sherry Leinen, at 7:16 pm. Roll call indicated that there were 5 members were present, thus a quorum.

Officers Present:

President – Sherry Leinen

Secretary/Treasurer – D’Anna Feurt

Board Members present:

Jacquie Flatley, Chris Johnson, and Cheryl Godley

Guests: none

Absent:

Vice President – Mikaela Piasecki

Board Members – Dolores Dolbare and Kendall Bays

Minutes from March’s meeting were emailed to the board by D’Anna Feurt prior to the meeting. No corrections or additions to March’s minutes. Sherry advised that no vote was required due to no corrections or additions.

March’s Treasurer’s report was also emailed prior to the meeting. No corrections or additions to the March treasurer’s report. No need to vote on treasurer report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Convention –

Special convention planning meeting was held on 3/25/21. Those on the call decided on July 24, 2021 as the date for the annual convention and meeting. Jacquie to check on availability for this date at Racca’s and the Evansville Community Center in Casper. Convention to run from 9-4pm. During this call, the board decided on Racca’s for the meeting as the Evansville community center would charge $150 rental fee plus insurance and deposit. Jacquie suggested charging $10 per person for convention and letting attendees purchase their own lunch meals. Sherry will contact WIND and WATR about speaking at the convention. Jacquie also mentioned that her niece could present about how to contact your legislators. The use of Zoom was also discussed but decided to wait and see how many respond to convention registration and proceed from there. No member of the year award this year. Board decided on simple door prizes such as gift cards based on the total number of attendees.

Fundraisers – Not doing any fundraisers right now.

Scholarships – D’Anna emailed scholarship information out to all vision service providers on the list provided. We received only one applicant and that applicant met all requirements. Applicant is Ainsleigh Belveal is a student at Kelly Walsh High School in Casper. D’Anna reviewed applicant’s information with board and moved that the board select Ainsleigh as the 2021 scholarship recipient in the amount of $1,000. 2nd by Cheryl. M/C.

Advocacy –

White Cane Law – Nothing new to report at this time.

Talking Books Program –Bob Walter, an attorney with the Protection and Advocacy Group, is currently working on the white paper and sent Tom and Sherry a lot of information he received from the department of Education. He wants to set up a meeting with Sherry and Tom to get the white paper completed. VOS received money for adult/older blind and in Sherry’s weekly forum a question was asked about using Montgomery Trust money for the talking books program; however, the Montgomery Trust is only for those that are blind or visually impaired and some using talking books are not blind or visually impaired. Sherry was told by Leslie that there was nothing in the recent legislative session regarding the talking books program. They didn’t make it a line item, but they are going to try and scrape up the money to continue the program. 634 total patrons of the program and only 375 of those would qualify for the Montgomery Trust fund.

Website – None

OLD BUSINESS

Brochures – Cardboard brochure holders have been purchased, but D’Anna has not yet had a chance to purchase and print labels for the holders. She will get this done by next month’s meeting so we can get already purchased brochures distributed.

NEW BUSINESS

Cheryl mentioned that the Casper CATC transportation program is potentially being made a part of the city’s services, yet the city has not expressed their intentions with the program should that happen. There are concerns that the program will be discontinued by the city at that point. Sherry stated that she will bring it up in her upcoming meeting.

Sherry also suggested changing meeting nights from the 2nd Tuesday of the month to the 2nd Thursday of the month to ensure there are enough board members able to attend. All agreed to new meeting date.

Next regular board meeting is Thursday, April 13, 2021, at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.