# **Wyoming Council of the Blind**

Minutes from July’s Regular Board Meeting held via phone

on July 8, 2021

The July regular board meeting was called to order by President, Sherry Leinen, at 7:02 pm. Roll call indicated that there were 6 members were present, thus a quorum.

Officers Present:

President – Sherry Leinen

Secretary/Treasurer – D’Anna Feurt

Board Members present:

Jacquie Flatley, Cheryl Godley, Kendall Bays and Chris Johnson

Guests: Sharon Byers

Absent:

Vice President – Mikaela Piasecki

Board Members – Dolores Dolbare

Minutes from June’s meeting were emailed to the board by D’Anna Feurt prior to the meeting. Minor typographical corrections were made to minutes. No additions. Minutes accepts as presented.

June’s Treasurer’s report was also emailed prior to the meeting. No corrections or additions to the June treasurer’s report. Treasurer’s report accepted as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fundraisers – No updates

Scholarships – Recipient responded to D’Anna’s email with her acknowledgment of receipt and also informed D’Anna that she and her family will be unable to attend the convention due to an already planned and paid for family trip during this time. D’Anna suggested we request a nice photo of the recipient to include in the convention packets along with her biography. Jacquie suggested we have the newspaper contact her to take photos and write up a little article about her and maybe have a few of the local board members also present her with the scholarship either before or after the convention. Cheryl mentioned the requirements of having recipients attend the convention in order to receive the scholarship. This topic was discussed at length and decided that given that this year has been difficult due to the covid pandemic that the council would not withhold the scholarship due to not attending the convention, but moving forward the recipient will be required to attend in order to receive the scholarship.

Advocacy –

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

Talking Books Program – Sherry and Tom sent information they felt was important to Bob for the white paper. Bob sent them a rough draft to review; however, she is not able to share it at this time. She stated that it includes the history and purpose of the program as well as statistics, etc. There is one section that she feels is a little wordy and would like to revise. She and Tom have both been out of town the past several weeks, but she’s hoping to get with Bob and have it ready to present at the convention. Once the white paper is done, they can send it out to everyone. They are hoping to do some sort of media presentation once completed.

Cheryl provided a brief overview of the pilot program for the braille books that she was invited to participate in. So far, she’s really enjoying it but hasn’t tried all of the new features yet.

Convention –

Jacquie and Sharon are getting all of the convention registration documents mailed out. She received an email copy and is going to forward the documents to several others to share with interested parties.

Sharon dropped the completed convention packets at the post office and said she almost didn’t get them mailed via bulk mail. Sharon managed to get the items mailed because she knew the gal and was able to work things out with her for the mailings. Jacquie has a copy of the free matter for the blind requirements that are different than bulk mail. They will make sure future mailings have no issues.

Cheryl asked about when we would know how many people will want to attend via zoom. We reviewed convention registration and noted that we overlooked getting the zoom option added to the registration form. Tom Lealos was the primary person who requested or showed interest in getting the zoom presentation. Sherry suggested contacting WIL and letting them know we forgot to add zoom information and find out how much notice they need to set up zoom if we find we have members interested in using zoom.

Sherry went over the goodie bag items. We have glass cleaner, playing cards, notepads, magnifiers, jar openers, pill cutters, regular pens, braille bracelets, cold packs, sunscreen packets, and chapsticks. There are also handouts from Natrona County Health that don’t have dates on them that can be used. She put together the 33 goodie bags that D’Anna purchased and sent to her. Sharon will look at Sam’s Club and Staples for some other cheap items to add. We also plan to add a few snack items and/or mints to the bags since outside food cannot be brought in.

Sherry has the flags and believes she has name tags in the convention tote as well. She found some of the pin style badges but there are no labels to go inside the sleeves. Jacquie suggested that she thinks most people would prefer the sticker type name badges over the pin style. Jacquie has some extra sticker name badges that she’s happy to donate.

Cheryl and Gary will bring the PA system with microphones and speakers and get them set up.

Sherry has created an amendment to the bylaws for emergencies and voting powers. Sherry will stay on as President. Cheryl, Tom, Chris, and Sharon will be directors. Jacquie will take over the Treasurer and D’Anna will stay on as Secretary. D’Anna will prepare ballots for voting at the convention.

Jacquie confirmed with Racca’s today as well. Cheryl asked if Racca’s has a projector to use with PowerPoint. Jacquie stated that there is a 60” TV that can be used and connected to a computer. Cheryl has 120 slides in her presentation and wonders if we could print in large print for handouts if needed. We will see how many respond for the convention and then determine what type of documents they request.

Cheryl suggested we have a short meeting before the convention to iron out any last minute details. Registrations are due back by July 19th, so it was decided that we would have a meeting on Monday, July 19, 2021 at 7pm.

D’Anna will prepare 2020 and 2021 annual treasurers reports and send to the board before the July 19th meeting. D’Anna will also send a copy of the 2019 annual meeting minutes to the board to review.

Sherry also mentioned that she would like to bring some brochures back with her from the convention. Jacquie has the brochures and holders and will bring them to the convention in case someone from out of town wants to take some back with them. Jacquie informed the board that she was able to get about 19 holders with brochures distributed to eye doctors’ offices in Casper. Sharon’s daughter has 75 brochures for D’Anna in Cheyenne. D’Anna will get in touch with her to get the brochures.

Website – none

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Next regular board meeting is Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 7:00 pm. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.