**Wyoming Council of the Blind**

**August Board Meeting**

**August 11, 2022**

**The August board meeting was called to order by President, Sherry Leinen, at 7:03 PM. Those in attendance were as follows:**

**President – Sherry Leinen**

**Treasurer – D’Anna Feurt**

**Directors: Tom Lealos, Cheryl Godley, Sharon Byers**

**Absent: Secretary – Jacquie Flatley. Directors: Chris Johnson, Nick Brattis.**

**Five (5) members were present, thus constituting a quorum.**

**The July meeting minutes had been sent via email for the board’s approval, so they were not read at the meeting. No corrections noted, minutes approved.**

**The Treasurers Report had been sent via email.**

**Balance as of 7/31/2022 is $4870.14. No corrections noted, report approved.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Advocacy**

* **Talking Books**

1. **After the election an email or call will be made to the new Superintendent of Public Instruction to let that person know what has been happening with the Talking Books. We will also make contact with the Department of Education as it gets closer to 2024 to find out if the program will receive new funding.**
2. **Tom will be involved in a Zoom meeting in September pertaining to the NLS updates. Tom will share these updates with the board.**

* **White Cane Law**

1. **White Cane Day is October 15. It was suggested that we have a short write up about what White Cane Day is and send it to newspapers and have a PSA to send to the local radio stations. Everyone needs to do research on White Cane Day and send it to Tom. Tom will write a short article on white Cane Day to use for the newsletters in the PSA.**

**Convention**

* **Tom, D’Anna, and Sherry met with Joell with WI L to go over the Zoom etiquette for the convention.**
* **The Red Cross added an email about providing smoke alarms to Wyoming residents and installing them at no charge. This information will be added to the next newsletter.**
* **An election of officers list and an annual business meeting agenda will be sent to the registrants of the convention.**
* **It was suggested that we contact Amber Alexander with WI L to see if last year’s Zoom annual business meeting was recorded. We could check to make sure we cover all of the unfinished business from last year.**
* **A meeting room will be available at the Casper WI L office for people to listen to the convention together.**
* **We will be awarding this year’s scholarship during the lunch break and giving away four raffle prizes throughout the day. D’Anna will get 4-$25 gift cards.**
* **D’Anna will send the convention cover letter, a registration form, the proposed bylaw amendments and the WyCB membership application by the 15th.**
* **Laurel Henry will make up Braille copies for the convention as needed.**

**Fundraising**

* **Jacquie will check on Thankful Thursday updates.**

**Membership**

* **D’Anna will send Sherry a new membership list. A list of members running for board and director positions will be sent along with the convention packet.**

**Newsletter**

* **The newsletter has been sent.**

**Scholarship**

* **The scholarship application filled out by Trent Slade was sent to the board members before the meeting. It was discussed and it was unanimous that he be this year’s scholarship recipient. D’Anna will send an email to Trent informing him that he has been accepted as our scholarship recipient.**
* **It was suggested that we contact the Trade Schools and provide them with our scholarship information next year.**

**Website**

* **D’Anna will send our Website Master Annette the convention information to add to our website.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

* **The Proposed By-law Amendment #2-Professional and Organizational Memberships was sent to all board members prior to the meeting. This proposal was discussed. A member of VOS was interested in becoming a board member and it was suggested that we add an organizational membership to our bylaws. Tom wrote proposed bylaw amendment #2 and sent it to the board members before the meeting. He discussed this with Leslie Van Orman also with VOS. During the meeting Tom suggested that the organizational membership be $200. He also suggested that we be careful not to overload our organization with sighted individuals. Cheryl mentioned that there could be a potential conflict of interest if other organizations that worked with the B/VI community were on the board. Individuals of the blind community need to be able to go to the individual organizations and ask for help without there being a conflict of interest. Several of the board members agreed. The board decided to not move forward with Amendment #2.**
* **Regional Affiliate-Sherry talked to Cindy with ACB, Cindy felt that it was best to wait on any regional Zoom events at this time. She will be planning some regional Zoom events that ACB will be sponsoring in the near future. She will let us know when those are planned. Cheryl talked about the Montana Association of the Blind. She will be able to talk to some of them during their upcoming convention that she will be speaking at. She will update accordingly.**

**NEW BUSINESS-No new business**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:44 PM**

**The next regular board meeting will be Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 7 PM. Please mark your calendar.**