**October 7, 2024 WyCB Board Meeting**

* President Cheryl Godley called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm
* Cheryl confirmed that the meeting was being recorded.
* Meeting roll call: President Cheryl Godley present, vice president Gary Olson- present, secretary Sarah Sexton- present, treasurer Tom Smyth- present, board of directors: Sherry Leinen- present, Bonnie Harrison- present, Linda Woodruff- present, Robin Lowen- present, Sharon Byers- excused absence, Debra Thompson- absent.
* Cheryl had the new board members introduce themselves. The new board members are Linda Woodruff, Robin Lowen, and Bonnie Harrison.
* Debra Thompson joined at this point.
* Sherry read the meeting minutes from our Sept. 2024 board meeting.
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* Cheryl clarified that the minutes were not generally read at each meeting; we usually ask if any changes need to be made and then make a motion to accept the minutes as presented.
* Gary motioned to accept the Sept. board meeting minutes. Sarah seconded the motion. Motion carried.
* Sherry then read the business meeting minutes from the annual WyCB business meeting, which was held on Saturday Sept. 28th, 2024.
* Treasurer’s Report: please see the report that was sent out by Tom in Sept.
* Debra made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report as presented. Sherry seconded the motion. The motion carried.
* Cheryl noted that the next board meeting falls on Nov. 11th, which is Veterans Day. It was decided that our next board meeting will be on Nov. 4th at 6pm.
* New conference call update: the new number is working and active.
* Old business: a new director list and a new officer list has been distributed to WyCB.
* Door prizes have been distributed.
* Thank-you notes have also been distributed to all of the conference presenters.
* Contacting new members: Gary will call new members. Tom will provide the contact information needed to Gary.
* The board voted to use $20 of the $2000 donation to cover the membership for a new member experiencing a hardship. Sherry made the motion and Debra seconded the motion, the motion carried.
* Tom will call and welcome this new member.
* White cane day march: Great showing in Cheyenne, including some of our board members. 22-25 people marched. ABC news covered the march.
* The Sunshine Lions Club will be getting a huge thank you from WyCB for sponsoring the insurance needed to allow for our march to happen. Ginny Chindsee will also be getting a thank you card from WyCB.
* We are going to look into the reasoning behind the state’s request for a permit and insurance.
* WyCB now has a copy of the signed proclamation.
* Sightings Newsletter: waiting on conference presenters to provide their summaries. Casper support group, senior fair, proclamation, script talk, and president’s address.
* Support Groups: Casper low vision support group will be Oct. 14th at 10 am.
* Sheridan low vision support group: Facilitated by Linda Woodruff. hoping for better turn out next month.
* Gary suggested that Linda reach out to Abby Johnson Taylor who used to run the Sheridan low vision support group.
* Buffalo Low Vision support grp: Decent showings; always hoping for more people.
* Activities: NRAER conference Oct. 14-16.
* Scholarships: Gary suggested that Debra update the list of Sped directors yearly due to how often they change positions. Sherry offered to help with this task.
* Cheryl suggested that we change to an open application instead of a date dependent process.
* Resource page project: Grant funds for this need to be used by March of 2025.
* What remains to be done for the resource page: bioa ns photos to Annette, logo revamp for WyCB archiving information.
* WyCB Facebook page: The “share now” buttons are making it very easy to share our information on Facebook.
* Inclusivity statement is officially posted on the WyCB website.
* Business Postcards from American Printing House for the Blind can be printed in Braille and large print.\*\* This was edited to say “postcards” instead of “business cards” for clarification\*\*
* Cheryl and Leslie Vannorman are to discuss partnering with Vision Outreach to disperse these cards around the state.
* Natrona Collective Health grant: Cheryl and Tom may meet with the administrator of that grant to talk about other ways the funds could be used for WyCB.
* Transportation in Casper: Three new drivers have been hired so the problem is less evident.
* Fundraiser ideas:Ideas for fundraisers? Bonnie talked about Casper Mountain Camp for the Blind. The Lions Club could sponsors a few day retreat for WyCB.
* There will be a conference in Torrington for the Lions Club on April 25 and 26 of 2025 . .
* The Older Blind Report: a tally with feedback of the older blind in the state of Wyoming.. BoS is thinly staffed and the only way to increase staff is through the legislature. How could WyCB be of help with this?
* Gary noted that another vital and under funded program is that of the Talking Book program. Both need attention and financial support.
* Cheryl mentioned that writing a letter as a council may be the best way to show solidarity for this huge undertaking.
* Is NFB in the state of Wyoming?
* Cheryl asked if there was anything more that people wanted to discuss . With no comments or concerns being voiced, the meeting was adjourned at8:07pm. ,