**Minutes of the January 16, 2016 Executive Council Meeting**

**of the American Council of the Blind of Nebraska (ACBN)**

The Executive Council meeting came to order at 11:55 AM in Lincoln. Board members Chris Brennfoerder, Sharon Brenfoeder, Mark Bulger, Barbara Epworth, and Jim Jirak and Dale Oviatt were in attendance. Also in attendance as guests were Becky Brennfoerder, Bryan Young, and Tina Lengel.

Mark Read the Minutes from the October 30, 2015 Board meeting. Sharon made a motion "***To approve the July Board minutes as read"***. Chris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item #1: Treasurer's Report**

Dale gave the Treasurer's Report.

Current Checking Amount is $916. This amount does not include Transportation costs to the meeting or the annual Safety Deposit Box cost

Current Savings Amount is $1,842

Current Bond Fund Value is $38,740

The bond fund is generating income but not enough to cover costs. ACBN cannot continue to operate as in the past without additional fundraising or decreased spending. Mark has committed to lead fundraising efforts at Walmart, with support from the Lincoln and Omaha Chapters, to help offset State Convention costs in 2016 when weather is warmer for the outdoor selling activities. No Senators Luncheon will be hosted this year due to limited finances.

Chris made a motion***: "To approve the Treasurer's Report"***. The motion was seconded by Barb. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item #2: Announcements**

Jim wrote a letter from the ACBN recommending that Mark be appointed as the ACB Designee Commissioner on the NCBVI Board. The Governor appointed Mark to the Board effective January 1, 2016. The next NCBVIQuarterly Board meeting will be February 6, 2016 in Lincoln.

**Item #3: Vacancy Announcement on the Library Talking Book Board**

There are currently vacancies on the Library Talking Board. The Board needs to ask around if there is any interest in the ACB membership to serve on this Board.

**Item #4: Midwest Leadership Conference**

ACB's third "Midwest Leadership Conference" will be held in Omaha August 5-7, 2016. The Planning Committee is still developing conference topics and guest speakers. ACBN needs to identify the next generation of leaders and encourage them to attend this conference; Jim needs help hosting this conference.

**Item #5: ACB National Convention**

The ACB National Convention will be in Minneapolis this July. Jim plans to attend.

**Item #6: Chapter Reports**

Lincoln and Omaha gave an overview of their Chapter's activities; Lincoln is grieving the loss of the President Terry Brennfoeder.

**Item #7: 2016 ACBN State Convention**

The ACBN State Convention will be held April 22-24 in Omaha at the Regency Lodge. This Board will serve as the convention planning committee. Potential guest speakers and topics will be Vanda Pharmaceutical, Dr. Van Zandt, One Touch Self Defense, Pat Fischer, Sally Gettinger, and a national ACB Representative.

**Item #7: Additional Business**

None

**Adjournment**

Mark made a motion ***"To adjourn the meeting"***. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:27 PM