ACBN Executive Council Meeting

Teleconference 712-432-3447/251516

February 19, 2019 7:00pm

President Mark Bulger called the meeting to order at approx. 7:09pm. Present were board members Mark, Chris, Jim and Barb. Guests in attendance were Sharon, Janet and Becky.

The purpose for the call was to begin the plenary process of the upcoming state convention scheduled for April 27 at the Divine Sheppard Lutheran Church located at 15005 Q St. Like 2018, there is no cost for the facility. The agreed upon theme was “Working Together” with the emphasis on employment strategies. Tentative speakers and topics include:

•Carlos: to provide an agency update and the impacts of order of selection

•Working from home: tips and tricks on navigating home employment

•Technology: a commission representative to talk about emerging adaptive technology making employment possible for the blind and visually impaired

•OIB: a discussion of older blind services as well as the upcoming OIB conference in May in Kearney

•Friends of the Commission: an update from Robert Newman on how this entity is aiding the commission during the current financial crunch

•Christian Record Braille Foundation: an update from this entity on available services for the blind

•Claire Stanley: an update from her on ACB happenings nationally as well as her take on employment opportunities for the blind as the office liaison to ACB’s Employment Task Force committee

Mark requested Chris follow up with Christian Record and Jim to follow up with Claire Stanley on presenting. Mark also requested Jim give Claire the choice on whether to present via phone or in-person, recognizing there is something lost when a representative from ACB isn’t on site.

Concerning food, Mark indicated that Hy-Vee could provide catering services. Being recommended for lunch is ham and turkey at an approximate cost of $9. Being recommended for the banquet is beef or chicken at an approximate cost of $15. Vegetarian will also be available for those requesting that option.

Finally, it was decided to have early bird registration available at a cost of $50. Registrations postmarked after April 13 would be assessed a $5 late fee, or $55. Per the discussion had, online registration will also be available.

The next meeting to continue the plenary process is February 26 at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at approx. 7:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Jirak

Secretary