ACBN Executive Council Meeting

Teleconference 712-432-3447/251516

March 5, 2019 7:00pm

President Mark Bulger called the meeting to order at approx. 7:13pm. Present were board members Mark, Jim, Dale and Barb. Sharon was the only guest in attendance.

The purpose for the call was to continue 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

•Nancy Coffman: to talk about emerging adaptive technology making employment possible for the blind

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

•Robert Newman: to talk about Friends of the Commission 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

Other speakers being discussed include:

•Jim: to talk about life as a blind entrepreneur

•Tyler: to talk about life as a blind massage therapist

•Tracy: to talk about life as a blind person with a counseling degree

•Becky: to talk about life as a blind Wells Fargo employee

•Warren: to promote Ski for Light

Other topics discussed included:

•A presentation on teamwork and mentoring

As Chris was not on the call, there was no update on Christian Record’s availability. Jim spoke with Claire who was sure she was available but would confirm via email. She will also indicate her desire to present in-person or via phone.

The next meeting to continue the plenary process is March 12 at 7pm.

The meeting adjourned at approx. 8:09pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Jirak

Secretary