ACBN Executive Council Meeting

The Eatery, 2548 S 48th St, Lincoln NE

February 1, 2020

President Mark Bulger called the meeting to order at 12:57pm. Present were board members Mark, Chris, Jim, Dale and Barb. Guests in attendance were Janet, Sharon and Becky.

Mark began the meeting by asking for a Give A Lift status update. Jim reported that soon after the October 26 meeting, he had been in communication with Kerri at Fox Creek Fund Raising. Kerri had mentioned Lisa had received email communication from Dale indicating ACBN’s willingness to aid in grant writing not to exceed $2,000 with the understanding ACBN Lincoln chapter would reimburse the funding.

In a conversation with Jim, Kerri indicated that Fox Creek had adopted a new guideline of not accepting new clientele if a minimum of $5,000 could not be raised based on the client’s program funding needs. Kerri felt that Give A Lift would not be a good match based on not being able to meet the $5,000 revenue stream. She did indicate that if Share A Fare would expand into Lincoln and merge with Give A Lift, new funding sources would enhance Share A Fare’s opportunity in increased funding.

At the November Share A Fare board meeting, the board enthusiastically embraced the idea of Lincoln expansion. Jim advised that Share A Fare had generated a letter, forwarded to Chris, for mailing to all Give A Lift participants informing of the merger with Share A Fare and that in addition to Lincoln, Share A Fare would now be covering the entirety of Lancaster County. Likewise, Give A Lift participants would now be following all of Share A Fare’s program guidelines and processes. A modified application was also included for return to allow Share A Fare the collection of statistical data currently gathered during the certification process for Greater Omaha defined applicants. It is Share A Fare’s belief that this data collection will aid in the necessary information for future grant funding. No current Give A Lift participant will be deemed eligible unless the modified application is received by Share A Fare.

Becky provided Share A Fare with a check for $1,597.64 which, when deposited, will officially close the Give A Lift account successfully completing the merger.

Discussion then turned to the upcoming state convention April 18. The theme will focus on the older blind population with programming to meet their needs. Preregistration will be $60. We will use Hy-Vee Catering for lunch and dinner, with lunch and banquet entrees being beef, chicken and vegetarian choices. Tyler Juranek has reserved ACB Radio for streaming the convention at the usual $100 fee. He will be reimbursed upon submission of an invoice showing payment. Venders will be allowed to present and exhibit provided they pay the $60 registration fee. It was discussed to possibly invite Pat Fischer, Radio Talking Book, Weigel Williamson Center, Share A Fare, NCBVI, Magnification Resources, perhaps someone from ENOA and others. It was also suggested to have Darrell Draper present at the banquet if we don’t fly in an ACB Representative. There was also discussion on having recorded messages from Don Bacon, ACB President Dan Spoone and others. The “By-It-Now” auction will once again be available. The board will meet in the coming weeks to continue the plenary process.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Jirak

Recording Secretary