ACBN Executive Council Minutes

April 9, 2024 7:30p.m.

President Kristal Platt called the meeting to order at 7:40p.m . Present was Kristal, Tyler, Jim, Dale, Becky, Amber, Chris and Mark.

As Jim had emailed the minutes prior to the start of the board meeting, it was assumed that all had already perused them. Chris moved their approval as distributed and Becky seconded. The motion passed.

Dale reported a checking account balance of $4,952.56. There was no bond fund update. He reported deposits of $360 and $685. Convention deposits totaled $895. Jim reported a convention balance in PayPal from registrants totaled $3,656.36. The funds will be transferred prior to the start of the convention. Jim also reported he had made a deposit earlier in the day totaling $545. $45 is for convention registration for the priest doing our morning invocation and the tactile stations of the cross booth. The $500 was secured by Tyler from one of his massage clients. Tyler moved and Chris seconded the report.

Tyler reported we had a total of 16 exhibits. (\*\*Note: at the time of the meeting, we only have 15 confirmed.) A discussion then took place as to whether we should raffle off the donated Ski for Light trip and sell chances online for $20 per ticket. Jim moved to sell online with online sales stopping at 5:30p.m. Becky moved in-person sales stop at 6:00p.m. Chris seconded both motions, which passed. Tyler also mentioned that each registrant would be given a card to take to the exhibitors for them to mark to show the booth was visited. From the completed cards that are turned in, one lucky person will receive a $100 bill. Becky announced that only convention registrants will be getting a convention bag. Each registrant will be given a bidder number to participate in the auction. Gary Juranek is doing the auction. As he is a professional auctioneer, things will be different. We will move quickly with no reading of the donated items descriptions. Individuals wishing to participate in the auction will need to either read the descriptions online, in the Braille program or visit the table where Amber will be available to assist. For those participating virtually, Becky D will secure bids via the Zoom chat feature. We currently have 41 items up for auction. Independent Living Aids has donated 2 talking Moshi alarm clocks. Tyler also announced that ACBN is attempting to partner with Radio Talking Book for the use of Assistive Listening Devices (ALDS.) More information is forthcoming. Jim and Amber visited Tyler’s home Monday evening and the Zoom platform is ready to go. Prior to the meeting, Kristal sent a description of MC duties and board roles we should follow. Each speaker will be receiving a thank you note, a coaster from ACB and a coin token. Each speaker, of which there are 17, will be receiving a 3 minute verbal warning to wrap up. . Exhibitors will also be receiving a thank you note for their participation.

As ACBN and OCB have received donations from both individuals and organizations either equaling or exceeding the Nebraska life membership amount, the question was posed whether organizations can sustain a life membership in Nebraska. Amber suggested to acknowledge organizations with a plaque. Tyler suggested a verbal recognition.

Kristal reported that at the prior meeting, Chris expressed a desire to have Lincoln merge with Omaha’s membership. Chris reported there are only 5 members in Lincoln all from the same family and the desire to continue as a chapter is lacking. Amber suggested a heavy recruitment campaign to attempt to increase membership. Jim mentioned that he doesn’t believe there is a residency restriction in the Omaha articles or bylaws about membership. The discussion of Lincoln’s future will continue at future board meetings.

Chris asked about what to do with the Braille Bibles in his possession. It was suggested they could be brought to the convention and displayed. If there are no takers, they must be taken back to Lincoln.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Jirak

Secretary