American Council of the Blind of Nebraska

Executive Council Meeting Agenda

January 9, 2024 7:30 PM

President Kristal Platt called the meeting to order at 7:38p.m. Present was Kristal, Tyler, Jim, Dale, Becky, Barb, Chris and Mark.

Following the reading of the December 12 minutes, Mark moved and Chris seconded their approval. The motion passed.

Dale reported the checking account had a balance of $4,153.71. As of January 8, the bond fund had a balance of $32,288.88 or 4,046.225 shares valued at $7.98 per. Kristal asked whether the usual dividend transfer had taken place. As of January 8, Dale reported it had not.

Mark and Kristal attended Winnerfest on December 16.

Patti Schonlau was appointed to the NCBVI Board. As of the time of the meeting, she has not yet been officially confirmed by the Unicameral. Her first meeting as the ACBN designee on the board is February 3 in Lincoln.

Kristal reported she had sent a copy of the Nebraska Combined State Plan and asked whether any board members wished to peruse it. Tyler expressed an interest.

Kristal reported that she had emailed Lisa about a grant writing update. As of the time of the meeting, Lisa had not responded.

Following the last meeting, Mark had sent a call blast about Computers for the Blind. Tyler Juranek, Mary Sheldon, Gloria Olivo & Sherryl Rissi expressed an interest. As of the meeting date, Tyler was the only individual to actualize the purchase of a refurbished computer. Dale reminded the board of the offer of funding upwards of $250 towards the technology for those that wished to take advantage of the opportunity.

Jim advised the board that there had still been no movement on updating the constitution and bylaws. He further requested this agenda item be permanently removed until the committee actually met.

Tyler reported that the state convention is being held April 20 at the St. James United Methodist Church located at 4343 Capehart Rd in Bellevue. He also announced that, for the most part, all of the speakers were confirmed. Patti Schonlau has been tapped as the banquet speaker. The convention committee hopes to have online registrations available no later than February 1. The virtual element is coming together. In addition to Tyler streaming on ACB Media, Jim has volunteered to facilitate the Zoom element. For ACBN members, in-person registrations prior to April 1 is $20. For ACBN members whose registrations are postmarked after April 1 is $30. For those attending the convention that are not ACBN members, the registration fee is $30 with a $10 late fee to be assessed after April 1. For those attending only via Zoom, the registration is $20. Exhibit registration is also $20. The charged cost for lunch per convention attendee is $15 and $20 for dinner. Jim encouraged the body to charge an extra $5 for dinner to ensure we broke even. At the board’s request, Jim will check with Cathy’s Catering to see what can be offered for $20 for upwards of 60 people. And Ward Kinney has been asked to help with transportation for those attending from Omaha. Tyler mentioned that Jim has been added to the convention committee based on his Zoom expertise. Kristal added he was added because of his connection with Annette and Cathy for catering purposes.

Dale asked the board to pursue some other investment options other than the Vanguard Bond Fund. He is suggesting putting 50% of the funds in a stock type fund to generate revenue. Unanimous consent was to let Dale pursue available options.

Jim reported that he is unavailable for the February 13 7:30p.m. board meeting as he is attending Sagebrush in Las Vegas sponsored by RSVA. Tyler will facilitate the Zoom moderation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Jirak,

Recording Secretary