American Council of the Blind of Nebraska Minutes

November 11 Meeting Agenda

Following connection difficulties by some board members, President Kristal Platt called the meeting to order at 7:46p.m. With the exception of Chris, all board members were present with Mark as the only guest.

As Jim emailed the October minutes soon after the prior meeting, Tyler moved and Amber seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dale reported a checking account balance of $6,550.24. Our account was debited $171.09 for Zoom for the upcoming year. Annette was paid her usual $75 for services rendered on October 20. Dale reported that he set up Zell at a cost of $5 for future monthly payments to Annette on the 20th of each month not to exceed $75. Should Annette perform work on the website that goes over the amount, she will let ACBN know so payment can be generated. Dale also reported a $2 monthly Zell statement fee. PayPal generated dues of $11.27 were deposited in late October. Dale also reported that, while he did not have immediate access to the Vanguard Fund account, he believes the balanced increased by $130 as it has in months passed. Francie stated she got an email from Vanguard stating that the Beneficial Owner documentation was missing. Dale will work with Francie to determine whether that form is applicable to ACBN. Tyler then asked whether Vanguard funds were being transferred to a Money Market account as a result of the recent completed paperwork. Dale believes the account type to be the same but the classification is different. Kristal then asked Dale & Francie to track the value of shares given the recent election outcome. She also asked Dale to email the board specifics as to value per share and the most recent dollar amount for not only the past quarter but since the November 5 election by weeks end. Jim moved the approval of the report. Francie seconded it. The motion carried.

As Chris was absent, Kristal reported that Iris Reyes, a relatively new Omaha member was added to the membership/at large committee. Kristal asked for volunteers to assist with this project. As the committee did not meet November 6, the next meeting is planned for December 4.

Tyler reported the plenary committee met and set March 22 as the date for the state convention at St. James United Methodist Church in Bellevue. Outlook was considered but concerns about cost and space constraints were the determining factor to move to the church in Bellevue. A hybrid event is planned from 9am to 7pm. Tyler asked Dale for a budget for prizes. Dale indicated once we understood what the big ticket items were, a budget could be better created. Tyler also asked Jim to include a tentative agenda to the board. (\*\*Note: The emailed agenda was sent as a separate attachment.) Kristal remarked that the March 22 date was announced at the most recent NCBVI Board of Commissioners meeting. Jim remarked that April 18, 2026 was announced as well and that this would be ACBN’s 50th anniversary. Jim, with Kristal’s backing, expressed interest in chairing the 2026 convention because of the historic significance.

Regarding the ACBN Constitution, Jim sent an email to Becky and Chris stating once his audiology issues were resolved, the committee would resume meeting.

Next, regarding the website, Francie again expressed concern about the logo. Francie’s brother suggested the logo was not organization specific. Tyler stressed the importance of keeping the angel concept as did Jim. Amber, Dale and Mark are of the opinion a change is an order. Both Dale and Amber offered a verbal description of what they’d like the logo to look like. As Tyler and Amber both have contacts that can perhaps assist with a redesign, they were both tasked with bringing back estimates to the next meeting. Jim reminded the board that any new logo needs to not only be low vision friendly but also contain alt text for surfers using screen reading technology.

Kristal next stated that she has yet to have someone review the paperwork received for ACBN from Gunderson’s estate

As Amber suggested a fund raising agenda item, resulting from a contract received from the Shriners for the 2025 state convention, she suggested perhaps once again participating in the Brenda Dillon Memorial Walk as well as online sales such as Blind Girl Designs and the like. 32auctions is also a possibility in the fund raising arena as well. Amber and Jim will spearhead this project.

Finally, concerning received online memberships and payments, Dale moved to load received information into AMMS as soon as it is received regardless of the membership cost to ACBN to ACB. Francie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Kristal then asked Dale, Francie and Mark to spearhead a finance committee.

Following adjournment at 9:22p.m., the next meeting is December 9 at 7:30p.m.

Jim Jirak, Secretary