**2024 American Council of the Blind of Nebraska State**

**Convention Minutes**

St. James United Methodist Church

4343 Capehart Rd

Bellevue NE 68123

President Kristal Platt called the annual business meeting to order at 4:51p.m.

Following the introduction of all members and guests in attendance and the reading and approval of the 2023 convention minutes, Dale reported as of January 2023, checking account funds totaled $6,519.65. ACBN had $5,188.46 in income and $3,497.44 in expenses. Our checking account balance at the end of 2023 was $4,216.71. The bond fund as of January 2023 had 3,540 shares. In 2023, ACBN earned 182 shares and spent 170 shares which resulted in a net gain of 11.876 shares valued at $95.82. ACBN received $606.77 in the Brenda Dillon Memorial Walk and $840 in Jean Jirak memorials. Dale reported $1,203 in insurance expenses; $450 spent on website maintenance; $160.39 for our Zoom renewal and $226 for our PO Box. Tyler moved and Amber seconded the approval of the report as given. The motion passed.

* Mark, Jim and Amber represented our interest promoting the 2023 state convention to center clients in Lincoln.
* Thanks to Mark and Katie, Kristal reported we were represented in Kearney at the NCBVI sponsored Silver Summit.
* June 6, Mark and Amber represented our interest at NCBVI’s employment conference.
* Kristal and Francie visited retirement communities and talked about services for people with vision loss.
* Winnerfest was held December 16. Mark and Kristal spoke on our behalf.
* April 17, Mark and Kristal spoke to center students about the upcoming convention April 20.
* Kristal reported the board currently meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30p.m. The thought process was to meet more frequently and reduce the length of the meetings.
* Patti Schonlau is the new commissioner to the NCBVI Board as submitted to the governor’s office. No appointments to any boards or commissions have yet taken place.
* Constitutional and bylaw amendments will be presented at the 2025 state convention.
* We were advised of an opportunity from Computers for the Blind. We made our membership aware and encouraged those wishing to make a purchase to do so. Because of a generous Dale donation of $250, we were able to subsidize part of the cost.

Following the president’s report, Mark moved and Chris seconded the report.

Tyler reported that the convention committee had been working on the convention for the past several months and thanked the committee for their hard work. Jason’s Deli provided lunch. He also noted that this is the first hybrid convention that involved both streaming on ACB Media 8 and the ability to participate by Zoom. He thanked Jim for hosting Zoom and working with Annette to get online registration up by February 1. Tyler also highlighted the parent/child panel and believed that panel went well. He also reported that Church Crystal and Church Sarah were very supportive during the process. Tyler also thanked Radio Talking Book for the first time use of Assistive Listening Devices (ALDS) for the deafblind population. He also thanked Kristal for the chairmanship opportunity.

Mark reported on behalf of the nominating committee the following persons for office: Kristal for President, Dale for Treasurer and Francie for Corresponding Secretary. All positions were elected by acclamation.

In charge of the Brenda Dillon Memorial Walk again, Amber explained how it worked and that our team name was once again the Corncobs. Mark is in charge of call blasting to promote the walk while Amber will handle email blasts. The goal is $1,000.

Jim reported the availability of the Genensky-Foley Magnification Award being offered by CCLVI. **Instead of CCTV’s as in year’s past, iPads are now being awarded. Jim encouraged those interested to apply.**

**The meeting adjourned at 5:25p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Jim Jirak**

**Secretary**