

NFB of SC Board Meeting Minutes
JANUARY 4, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by President Frank Coppel. NFB of SC Board members present were Jamie Allison, Ed Bible, Debra Canty, Shannon Cook, Steve Cook, Frank Coppel, Linda Dizzley, Loretta Green, Tiffany Mitchell, Garrett Mosley, Isaiah Nelson, Lenora Robertson, Derique Simon, JW Smith, and Valerie Warrington. Others present were Jennifer Bazer, Brooklyn (?), David Houck, Joe Urbanek, Belinda Banks, and Pam Checksnider.

Derique and Debra did not have an NFB of SC logo item and paid \$5 each.

President Coppel asked for a motion to dispense with the minutes from December to save time, since this meeting is shorter than usual. Lenora Robertson made the motion, which was seconded, and approved by the board. The same motion for the financial report was made by Shannon Cook, seconded, and passed by the board.

Washington Seminar:

The dates are February 10-13, 2020. The Great Gathering In will be held on February 10th. A van from SC will go up on February 9th. Mr. Coppel will go up early. There is a leadership seminar on the 9th, where he will ask the national organization to become a sponsor for RBRCCB. Those who are going have until January 8, 2020 to get that done; otherwise, the room block will not be held. A Congressional reception will be held on the evening of February 11th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The three issues for discussion this year are the AIM High Act, The GAIN Act, and the Tax Affordability issue. Those going are Frank and Shelley Coppel, Lenora Robertson, Ellen Taylor, Debra Canty, Diane Singleton, Belinda Banks and her husband, Linda Dizzley, Jennifer Bazer, and a group of students and staff of Successful Transitions. Jennifer Bazer is arranging transportation leaving on the 9th. Rooms are \$198/night plus applicable taxes. Mr. Coppel reminded everyone that the NFB of SC will pay for the rooms. Each person is responsible for their own meals.

Sweetheart Dance:

Debra Canty stated that the 5th annual Sweetheart's Dance will be on February 15, 2020, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person in advance. The deadline is February 5, 2020. This will allow time to notify the caterer of the number of people expected to come.

Leadership Seminar:

Mr. Coppel stated he is trying to decide whether or not to have a leadership seminar again in March. If one is held, he does not want it to be a repeat of the seminar last year, with the same speakers. He asked for opinions from the board by the end of January. He asked for people to let him know first, if they would like to have the

seminar this year and second, if they have ideas as to the content too. If it is held, it would be from 10:00 – 3:00 with lunch being provided.

Statewide Picnic:

Tiffany Mitchell reported that there will be a statewide picnic held on May 30, 2020 from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Saluda Scholls Park. The feedback she got after the 2018 picnic was that the event was a little early for those who came from farther away. That was the reason for the later time frame this year. Also, that was the only available time slot available. The other slots were already booked. The park has volleyball, horseshoes, paddleboats, and other activities available upon request.

2020 Houston Bus Ticket Sales:

Lenora Robertson reported that at the time of the meeting, the bus ticket sales were not going well. At last count, there were only 2012 turned in. The amount left after giving the drawing awards to the buyer and seller, as well as the chapter selling the most tickets, left only around \$1300, not nearly enough to charter a bus. President Coppel asked the board members what should be done with the proceeds of the drawing. Some options were to split it up among those attending the national convention, roll the money over to next year, or wait until the end of the day to see if the numbers greatly increase. A lengthy discussion followed giving pros and cons of each choice, ultimately being decided by a roll call vote. President Coppel asked for a motion. Steve Cook moved to roll over the proceeds and have the drawing that same afternoon, as planned. The vote was called and there had to be a roll call, since the yays and nays were so close. The vote was evenly split. Mr. Coppel broke the tie and voted the motion down. Therefore, the money in the bus fund will be dispersed and the drawing will be held today. Shannon Cook suggested changing the name of the fund from the bus fund to the transportation assistance fund. This would make the purpose of the fund broader and easier to use, given that almost no one wanted to ride/charter a bus.

James Byars from Cherokee asked how the award to the chapter who sells the most tickets, is fair to smaller chapters. Several people brought up that the Loris Chapter took the grand prize several years ago, beating out much larger chapters.

State Convention:

The 2020 state convention will be held at the North Charleston Marriott the weekend of August 21-23, 2020. Reservations can be made now. Details to follow. The room block is not as large as last year. The NFB of SC will have an electronic preregistration form this year.

Registration Fee:

President Coppel suggested increasing the fees by \$5 each. That would mean the pricing is \$85 per adult; \$55 per student; and \$25 for youth under 18. Room rates are

\$115/night plus tax. Ed Bible made the motion for the registration rates to increase by \$5 for each. The motion was seconded and passed by the board.

Election of National Convention Delegates:

Customarily, there is a delegate and an alternate delegate voted on by the board. Mr. Coppel asked Lenora Robertson to conduct the delegate election. She asked for nominees. Frank Coppel was nominated By Debra Canty, seconded, and elected by the board. Frank reminded everyone that the delegate has their way to convention paid by the national organization. The alternate delegate options were discussed. Frank Coppel said that he thought it was the secretary's turn to be alternate delegate, which would be Shannon Cook. Lenora Robertson said that it was Debra Canty's turn to be alternate delegate as second vice president. A vote was taken to decide between Debra Canty and Shannon Cook, and Debra Canty was elected as alternate delegate.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on April 4th via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned by President Coppel.

Submitted by,
Shannon Cook
NFB of SC Secretary