

NFB of SC
Board Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2018

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Coppel. Debra Canty opened the meeting in prayer.

Members present were Frank Coppel-President, Debra Canty- Second Vice President, Valerie Warrington-Treasurer, Shannon Cook-Secretary, JW Smith, Garrett Mosley, Steve Cook, Jamie Allison, Tiffany Mitchell, Ed Bible, Loretta Green, and Isaiah Nelson. Lenora Robertson was on the premises preparing the evening meal, but not present in the meeting. Linda Dizzley was absent, and Keith Redding has gone into a nursing home out of state. Others present were Daisy Drakeford, Diane Singleton, Pat and Dale Wolthoff, Jennifer Bazer, and David Houck.

Only Tiffany Mitchell had to pay \$5 in NFB pin money this time.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The April minutes were read. One correction was made that Steve Cook was not present at this meeting. With that correction being noted, Isaiah Nelson moved for adoption. The motion was seconded and approved by the board.

The August minutes were read. Corrections were noted that Debra Canty did not attend. Also, Tiffany Mitchell was listed as a guest, not as a board member, which should have been the other way around. The final correction was that Donald Capps was said to be one of the founding members of the NFB of SC, with Marshall Tucker and Ruth Weaks. This was not accurate. These three corrections will be noted on the previous meeting minutes. With those corrections having been made, there was a motion to adopt by Debra Canty. The motion was seconded and passed by the board.

Treasurer's Report:

Valerie Warrington read financial statements from April through the end of November.
Account balance: \$2564.02

FEDERATION CENTER REPORT:

Ed Bible gave the Federation Center report. The training room was painted. New floors were laid. New lighting was installed. The new custom-made storage building was delivered on Thursday. The plugs were updated to 3-prong at a cost of \$100 each.

The milestone program MOU allows for the Federation Center/NFB of SC to train SCCB staff on things like blindness etiquette. Ed Bible also mentioned bringing activity therapists from assisted living facilities to teach them how to best meet the needs of their blind and low vision residents. There are 3 VA referrals for the FCB to train veterans.

The FCB can now take credit cards, which was required by the VA to become a vendor. .
David Houck has been working tirelessly to secure the vendorship through the VA. .

Training Stats

2017	2018
3 instructors	4 instructors
15 students	40 students
1500 hours of instruction	2573.5 hours of instruction
JAWS, ZoomText, Guide	JAWS, ZoomText, Guide, ZoomText Fusion, Google Docs, iPhone, iPad
Students came from SCCB	SCCB and VA

The FCB helped RBRCCB with the cost of the mold abatement.

There was a Baltimore bus trip in April to the national headquarters that FCB helped with. Other activities the FCB assisted with included the 3rd annual Sweetheart's Dance, the March leadership seminar, the statewide seminar, and state convention fees. The center also gives \$500 for the Kline Scholarship each year.

The FCB participated in the SCCB Braille Challenge, the Vision Summit, the Assistive Technology Expo, and the Columbia Chapter annual BBQ. The center purchased a braille Emboss-It, which is a braille production press. Barry Chavis and Jack Haygood came on board as staff members of the FCB this year. Barry is doing the bulk of the renovation and repair work at the center. Jack is the one-man cleaning crew.

Successful Transitions: Jennifer Bazer says SC is the only state that provides all 5 services in the wioa law. The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) governs agencies and programs that provide direct rehabilitation services to consumers. RSA's administration changed, so now the only population ST can serve is the blind students. ST is renewing contracts with SCCB. Training is conducted for use of Uber/Lyft for job readiness. Social etiquette, and professional networking. Students also receive self advocacy training on beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels.

The mentoring program through Successful Transitions allows for 8 hours of mentoring per month. Once a quarter, there will be a retreat held at RBRCCB. There will be a retreat next weekend. Mrs. Bazer expects to have between 6 and 8 students attend. There are students already planning to attend the Washington Seminar, including Derique Simon. The student division is headed up by AJ McFadden. Mrs. Bazer reports he is doing a great job with them. They meet monthly. Children's Camp will be held June 9-15, 2019.

Van Insurance:

Major changes have occurred. The NFB of SC realized that Auto Owner's was only allowing travel in a 50-mile radius. When pressed, Auto Owners dropped the van coverage. The state affiliate also needed sexual molestation insurance for the organization. Chapters have 35 days, or until December 15th, to secure van insurance on their own.

Washington Seminar:

The dates are January 27th-30th, 2019. Room rates are \$196 per night + 14.95% tax. Attendees must make reservations by December 28th, 2018.

The reservation number is 877-572-6951, and the booking code is N28. Frank is not sure if he and Shelley will be able to attend due to the health of their grandson, but at present, they are on the list. Jennifer Bazer, Ed and Julie Bible, Frank and Shelley Coppel, Lenora Robertson, Ellen Taylor, Debra Canty, and Diane Singleton are all planning to go, in addition to the students from Successful Transitions. The Chair stated that he would like to be able to cover the cost for the per diem and rooms for those on the board. Successful Transitions covered their board officers' costs last time, which helped lighten the load on the NFB of SC. Unfortunately, there is not enough funding available to cover non-officers or other members who would like to attend.

Ed Bible is the chair of the Legislative Committee. He would like to plan a March on Columbia, similar to the Washington Seminar.

The 4th Annual Sweetheart's Dance will be on February 16, 2019. Debra Canty and Tiffany Mitchell are working on this event together, along with the other committee members.

The Leadership seminar is March 16, 2019 at the Federation Center from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

NFB of SC Website:

Steve Cook reported on the changes and improvements to the site. There are now Positive Note archives, the NFB of SC state constitution, upcoming events for chapters, the state affiliate, and national events, the NFB of SC PSA, past awards, one minute message, contact info for the leaders, RBRCCB link, donations page, in memorium page, the Palmetto Blind issues, the newly adopted Code of Conduct, past award recipients, and a link to the RBRCCB site. Steve encouraged members to send him updated information about chapter events, labelled pictures from events, and other relevant details to enrich the info provided.

Announcements:

Frank will be going to Darlington to reorganize that chapter on December 8th.

The NFB of SC will host the BELL program at the FCB next summer. The sexual molestation insurance will be in place by then. Tracy Spittle is the BELL coordinator

2019 State Convention:

It is the 75th anniversary of the NFB of SC. Frank called the Marriott. The rate agreed on was \$112/night and \$10,000 for food costs to fulfill the contract. It helped that the morning session and luncheon will be in the same room. That will save on food costs. (Frank believes that having a central location like Columbia will help bring larger crowds. The board discussed the plans. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to have the convention the weekend of August 9-11, 2019. Jennifer Bazer will head up the convention planning committee to make sure there are many special and unique events to commemorate 75 years of service. Shannon Cook also volunteered to help with the committee.

Mr. Coppel will have sponsorship letters prepared listing the sponsorship levels available to use to solicit outside funding for the convention. He will have those ready by the statewide seminar.

Tiffany Mitchell reports that there are 72 people flying out of Charlotte thus far to attend the 2019 NFB National Convention. Mr. Coppel said that only 155 bus tickets have been sold so far. President Coppel says, "Let's sell these tickets." Bus fund money raised will not roll over to next year. It will be distributed to those attending the national convention in some way, not yet determined. For those not flying with the group in Charlotte or Greenville, Tiffany Mitchell suggested paying for their ride round trip between the hotel and airport and also, the state could pay the registration fee for that same person for the national convention.

Minutes on Website:

Just as in the RBRCCB meeting that took place earlier today, it was Moved, seconded, and approved to put the NFB of SC board meeting minutes on the website with two stipulations. One is that no personnel issues will be included. Second is that all minutes will be approved by the NFB of SC Board before the minutes will be uploaded to the site.

The 2019 board meeting schedule is as follows:

January 5, 2019, statewide seminar, Federation Center

April 13, 2019, Federation Center

August 9, 2019, NFB of SC state convention, Columbia Marriott

December 7, 2019, Christmas board retreat, RBRCCB

Shannon Cook
NFB of SC Secretary