**ACBI Board Minutes**

**April 24, 2021**

# Welcome and Roll Call

Barbara welcomed everyone to the meeting. Kari took roll. Present at the meeting were Kari Goodman, Barbara Salisbury, Rita Kersh, Cindy Brooking, Ted Boardman, Dolly Sowder, Regina Vonderhaar, Vicky Western, Dee Ann Hart, Gerry Koors, Lynn Powers, Mary Stores, Mike Adams, Michelle Hahn, and John Huffman. Guests on the call were Pat Tussing, Deanna Austin, Katrina Anderson, Darren Tomblin and Don Koors. Not present was Bill Sparks and Melissa Wobschall

# Secretary’s Report

Barbara asked if there were any questions about the minutes from the last meeting. There were no questions or comments. Mary made a motion to approve the minutes, Gerry seconded. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.

# Treasurer’s Report

Barbara said we do not have a treasurer’s report at this time due to some personal health issues occurring in Cindy’s family. Barbara proposes that we table this report, and she will send out an email with a few possible dates to have a special meeting just to review the treasurer’s report in the next two weeks. Rita made a motion to table the treasurer’s report and for Barbara to email dates for a special meeting in the next two weeks. Dee Ann seconded the motion. Barbara asked if there was any discussion. There was none. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.

# New Business

1. ACB National Convention Virtual Voting – There will be virtual voting at convention this year. There will only be voting to address board positions. There will be no voting on resolutions or constitution amendments. All members will get a ballot prior to the convention. Most people will get an email link for a ballot and the same link will be used for every voting action at the convention. If you do not have email, you receive yours via regular mail. Voting will begin the first night of convention. If there is a position that has a nomination from the floor, that action will be moved to the next day. If there are no nominations from the floor the person will be voted in by acclamation. If we get to Friday and still have positions to elect, then we will have thirty minutes to caucus. The presidents or affiliates will be casting votes and be put into a separate zoom room. Barbara will call together a committee. Dee will help. We need to come up with a way for our state to caucus. Possibly, phone, text, or email. ACB will also have a town hall in early July or late June to learn about the candidates before voting happens. Barbara proposes that after we hear from these people, we have a state zoom call to talk about the candidates and give feedback. Barbara asked if there were any questions. Dee Ann added that this year is the first year that every member has the option to vote. Dee also said that resolutions are being reorganized and discussed and further information will come out on those. Barbara asked if there were any further question? Don has a comment. Don said they must be certified members. Anyone who joined between May 1 and June 15 can vote. Their dues must be sent to the national office. Barbara asked if there were any other questions. Dee Ann said that today at 2:00 there is a community call covering this issue if you want to learn more. Barbara said we will keep everyone informed on what our process will be. Dolly asked how we get the message to those who do not use computers. Barbara said people can volunteer to make phone calls. Possibly a phone tree. Dolly said she does not have a problem helping with a phone tree. Rita said there will also be information in the Forum. Dee said it will be in one of the print issues. Barbara has asked Dee to be an alternate delegate.
2. Dobson Scholarship – Rita shared for our guests the details about this scholarship. The committee worked to update the criteria. The criteria was changed for not only for people in Indiana, but opened up to states that border Indiana. The people who apply must have a high school diploma from a school in one of those five states and are getting ready to go into internship part of their program. The program can be an undergrad or grad program. Most of the other criteria is the same. The scholarship is $1000 per award. Our account has around $4000. The programs must be certified colleges through AER. We will also contact AER and vocational rehab in the 5 states as well. Barbara asked if there was any further discussion. Dee Ann makes a motion to change the criteria for the Dobson scholarship. Kari seconded the motion. Barbara asked if there was any discussion. Mike said if we opened to other people, try to open it up to just Indiana for people already in that profession to further their education. Barbara said this scholarship is for anyone seeking a degree in vision rehab. Barbara asked if there was sny further discussion. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed
3. ACBI Fiftieth Anniversary celebration, committee report--Rita
Rita, Mary, Deanna and Pat are on this committee. The committee is exploring two possibilities for Saturday, August 21. Both are state parks, Brown County and Fort Harrison. Rita described the amenities of each park and entry fees and lodging costs. Mary said both locations have plenty of room to social distance. Regina asked if Fort Harrison would be closer for northern Indiana people. Vicky said she was excited to come to Brown County. Rita made a motion for the organization to cover the cost of the picnic rental and food. John seconded the motion. Barbara asked if there was any further discussion. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.
4. Brenda Dillon Memorial Walk – Kari shared about the memorial walk that takes place during national convention. She shared how ACBI will have a team this year and how to go online to join the team. The top name among the committee so far is ACBI’s got s-o-l-e but if anyone else has any ideas to send them to Kari.
5. Portfolio committee report--Vicky, Michelle and Barbara are on the committee. Michelle and the committee are putting together a portfolio intending to reach out to potential donors and members. There are two versions depending on need: tri-fold version and front and back version. The portfolio outlines who ACBI is, what they do, their benefits and services, local chapters, and the awards and scholarships the offer. The portfolio us visually appealing and accessible for screen readers. The committee agrees that we should have a mission statement to put into our portfolio. Barbara asked John if we need to take action on a mission statement. He said he can help with that. Barbara said if anyone has interest to let her know. Dee said having a solid mission statement helps an organization move forward.
6. Financial Committee Report – This is still a work and progress and not ready to be presented yet. Barbara said as a side note, $28,000 in short term bonds have been purchased with the advisement of Chris from Baird.
7. Voting Update – Dee updated the board on where we are on the lawsuit. As of April 4, the lawyers are taking statement from witnesses. They are projecting that the middle of July or August for taking action and possibly going to trial. Dee shared that yesterday Governor Holcomb signed two pieces of legislation on early voting and other election matters that will allow us to receive and return our ballots electronically using UCAVA, which is part of the overseas voting act.
8. Announcements
	1. Information Station – Kari shared about our April meeting with Matt Norris and Peter Berg presenting. For May we are working on a meeting about accessible appliances. The committee is meeting on Monday to finalize the May meeting. Barbara said if you have ideas for the Information Station calls to please share with the committee.
	2. ACBI/O convention will be in person this year with Ohio in the lead. The convention will be in Columbus the weekend of Halloween. If anyone is interested in helping with convention planning, let Barbara know. We will need help with vendors and auction items.
9. Chapter Announcements
	1. Regina shared that SCAVI had Kari do a BARD demonstration at our last meeting. SCAVI is going to have a presentation from the fire department to talk about different hazards and June will be our picnic.
	2. Ted shared that Heartland talked about community outreach. One working with the low vision and optometry club at Indiana University. They will be scheduling a walk with some of these students to have some conversations. Heartland is also looking at reaching out to crisis centers in the area to help them work with low vision and blind clients who come to their centers. They will also be possibly having a face-to-face get together later in the year.
	3. Circle City is going to try to have a picnic possible in August. Gerry said that they had a phone meeting about places to go visit and shared about Benjamin Henry Harrison’s home.
10. Barbara said the next meeting is scheduled for July 31 which is also the same date of the ADA celebration in Bloomington. She is not sure if we will need to reschedule the meeting. Barbara will email about the possible need to reschedule this meeting.
11. General membership and public comments – Don shared about some legislation about websites and how they are not covered under ADA. Dee shared that the vision expo is set for September 11. Katrina asked about getting the information stations meetings recorded. Barbara said she is working on getting this done.

Rita makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gerry seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. The meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Future Meeting Dates:

Saturday, July 31 at 10:00

Saturday, October 30 at 10:00

Respectfully Submitted,

Kari Goodman

Secretary

Addendum

Special Meeting on May 7, 2021

Treasurer’s Report

Present at the meeting were Kari Goodman, Barbara Salisbury, Rita Kersh, Cindy Brooking, Regina Vonderhaar, Michelle Hahn, Dee Ann Hart, Mike Adams, Gerry Koors, Lynn Powers and Melissa Wobschall. Not present were Ted Boardman, Vicky Western, Mary Stores, John Huffman, and Dolly Sowder.

Cindy went over the treasurer’s report and answered the questions that had been emailed to her. Barbara asked if there were any questions or comments. There was no further discussion.

Dee makes a motion to accept the treasurer’s report pending audit. Rita seconded the motion. Barbara asked if there was any further discussion. There was none. All were in favor. None opposed. The motion passed.