

Bay State Council of the Blind

Minutes of board call on July 12, 2020

#### Bay State Council of the Blind Officers and Board Members

- Brian Charlson President
- David Kingsbury First Vice President
- Frank Ventura Second Vice President
- Jerry Berrier Secretary
- Rick Morin Treasurer
- Rose Miller board member
- Dianna Leonard board member
- Cheryl Cumings board member
- Mary Haroyan board member

#### Ex Officio

- Steve Dresser Webmaster
- Bob Hachey BayLines editor
- DeAnn Elliott Legislative committee chair

Brian called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. All officers and board members were present except Bob Hachey.

Also in attendance were Sharon Strzalkowski and Jessica Barr.

President's report; Brian

Brian reminded us that we had agreed to limit this meeting to discussion of topics related to our next convention.

He reported that the recent virtual ACB President's walk he and Kim participated in has raised \$16,326.00, half of which will go directly to BSCB. He said 5 BSCB board members and 3 chapter presidents contributed.

Kim continues trying to reach the caterer we had booked for our spring convention, no success so far.

The MA secretary of state's office recommended that we extend the terms of our current officers until we can hold a convention that does not violate our constitution or bylaws.

## Motion

After some discussion, Jerry made, Steve seconded, and the board approved a motion to continue with our current officers until we can hold an in-person convention.

Any officer or board member who wishes to resign always has that option.

## Motion

Rick made, Jerry seconded, and the board approved a motion as follows: Brian will appoint a subcommittee to draft a set of recommendations to remove ambiguities in our current constitution related to holding remote meetings and conducting business. The draft recommendations will be sent to the constitution and bylaws committee for consideration.

The constitution and bylaws committee will be asked to propose updates to the constitution to remove ambiguities and bring clarity wherever it is needed.

Brian appointed Frank, Jerry and Rick to write the suggestions to be sent to the constitution and bylaws committee.

DeAnn expressed the importance of keeping our membership apprised of our activities.

## Discussion of remote voting

Brian reminded us that we must find a way to accommodate all members who wish to vote.

Other points made included:

Secret ballots are a must

Voting must be private, independent and verifiable.

## Motion

After some discussion, Frank made, Jerry seconded, and the board approved a motion to hold a virtual fall conference. The motion was approved.

Frank said this will be a good opportunity for us to test how to handle polling and other things remotely.

We will decide later who will manage the virtual fall conference.

Our next board call is scheduled for Sunday August 9 at 7:30 PM.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 PM.

Respectfully,

Jerry Berrier, Secretary