

American Council of the Blind Maine Board Meeting

August 8, 2024, | Location: Virtual

A: The meeting started at 7:30 P.M.

B: Roll call.

Frost, Amanda – President – P

Porelle, Linda – Vice President – P

Batson, Nathanael – Secretary – P

Peabody, Cheryl – Treasurer – P

Archer, Bruce – P

Fuller, Roger – P

Richards, Linda – P

Sukeforth, Nichole – P [arrived around 7:40 P.M.]

Tabor, Courtney – E

B: Acceptance of Agenda

- The agenda was accepted

C: Acceptance of Minutes - April and June

- February
 - Bruce motioned to accept the February minutes
 - Linda R. seconded
 - The February minutes were unanimously accepted as distributed without any objections or abstentions
- April
 - Linda P. motioned to accept the April minutes

- Bruce seconded
- The April minutes were unanimously accepted as distributed without any objections or abstentions
- June
- Bruce motioned to accept the June minutes
- Linda. R. seconded
- The June minutes were unanimously accepted as distributed without any objections or abstentions

D: Treasurer's Report

- An update will come in October

E: White Cane Walk

- Pine Tree decided they will not participate in the walk, but encouraged others to participate in it with another organization taking part
- This is taking place on 12 October in Portland
- Given the late notice, ACB Maine will likely not participate
- Roger proposed a separate white cane walk by participating in an already organized event. For example, Memorial Day Parade.
- At the same time, ACB Maine would also have their conference.
- **THIS IS NOT FOR THIS YEAR**

F: Scholarship Application

- The application is posted on the ACB Maine website
- There have been no applicants

- Deadline is September 30

G: ACB National Conference

- During the event, ACB National discovered a way to gather with National Association of Blind Veterans to further their outreach and mission
- Next year will be in Dallas; no location has been chosen for 2026
- What will be worked on?
 - o Tactile shapes to identify products rather than Braille
 - o QR and barcode accessibility improvements
 - o National Library Service option for spelling author's names, and including sections regarding racial identity
 - o Promoting military dining facilities
 - o Audio descriptions for streaming subscriptions
 - o Making paratransit more affordable

H: Committee Reports

1. Constitution and Bylaws

- We cannot overhaul the entire Constitution but can revise certain sections
- The main changes proposed concerned language

2. ACB Maine Convention

- Invite Ron Brooks to talk about transportation; he is a nationally recognized transportation advocate

- Someone from DBVI and someone from American Printing House to discuss employment.
- Steve will also talk about technology stuff
- It is unknown whether the Board can assist with paying for the rooms

3. Finances

- There will be an update in October

4. Fundraising

- ACB Maine has raised around \$400 in fundraisers
- There will be future outreach to request that other host fundraisers for ACB Maine

5. Membership

- How to continue outreach for others to join ACB Maine is ongoing
- Ideas include nominating someone for leadership awards and paying someone's dues for the year

6. Website

- The website overhaul is almost done; we just need people to keep it updated

I: Next Meeting – 3 October 2024

J: Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 8:56 P.M. without any objections or abstentions