

**Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
November 9, 2020

**Members Present**

Bob Kresmer, Chair  
Ted Chittenden  
Nathan Pullen  
George Martinez

**Members Absent**

Allan Curry  
Amy Porterfield  
Bea Shapiro

**Staff Present**

Lindsey Powers

**Guests Present**

David Steinmetz

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**Call to Order and Introductions**

Bob Kresmer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:12 am. Introductions were made and a quorum was present.

**Approval of October 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Ted Chittenden moved to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2020 Executive Committee meeting. Nathan Pullen seconded the motion. Ted Chittenden requested the meeting minutes be corrected to indicate that Ed Gervasoni was not in attendance at the meeting. Ted Chittenden also requested the minutes be corrected to indicate the national American Council of the Blind (ACB) would decide on holding a virtual conference. The amended meeting minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Slate of Candidates Discussion**

Bob Kresmer stated he brought an Executive Committee meeting together to discuss the potential nominations of Bob Kresmer as Chair, Terri Hedgpeth as Vice Chair and Amy Porterfield as Secretary at the upcoming GCBVI Full Council meeting. Ted Chittenden motioned that Bob Kresmer be nominated as Chair, Terri Hedgpeth as Vice Chair and Amy Porterfield as Secretary at

the next GCBVI Full Council meeting. Nathan Pullen seconded the motion. Bob Kresmer inquired whether the Executive Committee members would like to discuss the nominations. Mr. Kresmer stated that Allan Curry was happy to step down from the Secretary position as he would be the Chair or a newly created committee. David Steinmetz inquired whether Terri Hedgpeth would be able to serve as the Vice Chair and noted that she was part of several committees and had to step down from council activities in the past due to work constraints. Bob Kresmer stated that Terri Hedgpeth had requested that she be considered for the Vice Chair position and that her work schedule would accommodate her participation on the council. Bob Kresmer called for the vote, and it was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Bob Kresmer stated that Ed Gervasoni had submitted his recognition from the GCBVI. Bob Kresmer stated that Ed Gervasoni had served on the council for several years and had been a strong advocate for the deaf-blind community. Bob Kresmer stated that all committee Chairs were council members, and they would seek committee membership from the community. Mr. Kresmer stated that Ed Gervasoni was the only council member on the Deaf-Blind Issues Committee and the committee would require a council member to be the Chair. Bob Kresmer stated the Chair would not need to be an expert in deaf blindness but would need to be able to manage the committee and to obtain information from the community. Bob Kresmer stated that Executive Committee members could send any Chair recommendations to him. Ted Chittenden stated that Steve Tepper had not been appointed as a GCBVI council member, although his application indicated that he had experience working with deaf-blind individuals. Bob Kresmer stated he had a conversation with Steve Tepper regarding his interest in joining the council, and Mr. Tepper did not mention experience with deaf-blind individuals. David Steinmetz stated he spoke to Steve Tepper also and he was unaware of Mr. Tepper's experience working with deaf-blind individuals, although the Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ACBVI) had been working with the deaf-blind population. Bob Kresmer stated he would contact Steve Tepper, although Mr. Tepper might want to learn more about the council before taking a leadership role. Bob Kresmer stated that if Ed Gervasoni would be willing to attend the next Full Council meeting, Bob Kresmer and Lindsey Powers could create a tribute that could be read at the meeting.

### **GCBVI Annual Report Discussion**

Ted Chittenden stated the Public Information Committee received the required committee reports and had completed a draft Annual Report, which had been sent to Executive Committee members. Ted Chittenden stated the Annual Report was due September 1<sup>st</sup> and he would like the Executive

Committee to consider approving the submission of the report. Ted Chittenden stated the upcoming GCBVI Full Council meeting agenda would be quite full, and he was unsure whether the council would have sufficient time to vote on the report. Bob Kresmer stated the Executive Committee would be able to vote on approving the Annual Report for submission. David Steinmetz motioned to submit the GCBVI Annual Report. Nathan Pullen seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **Agenda Items and Date for Next Meeting**

The next meeting date of the Executive Committee would be determined.

### **Announcements**

Ted Chittenden stated the National Board of the AzCB voted to hold a virtual convention via Zoom rather than holding the conference in Phoenix. Conference would be held on July 23, 2021. Mr. Chittenden stated the AzCB State Convention would be held via Zoom in March or April of 2021.

### **Public Comment**

A call to the public was made with no response's forthcoming.

### **Adjournment of Meeting**

Ted Chittenden motioned to adjourn the meeting. Nathan Pullen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 am.