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5/7/21

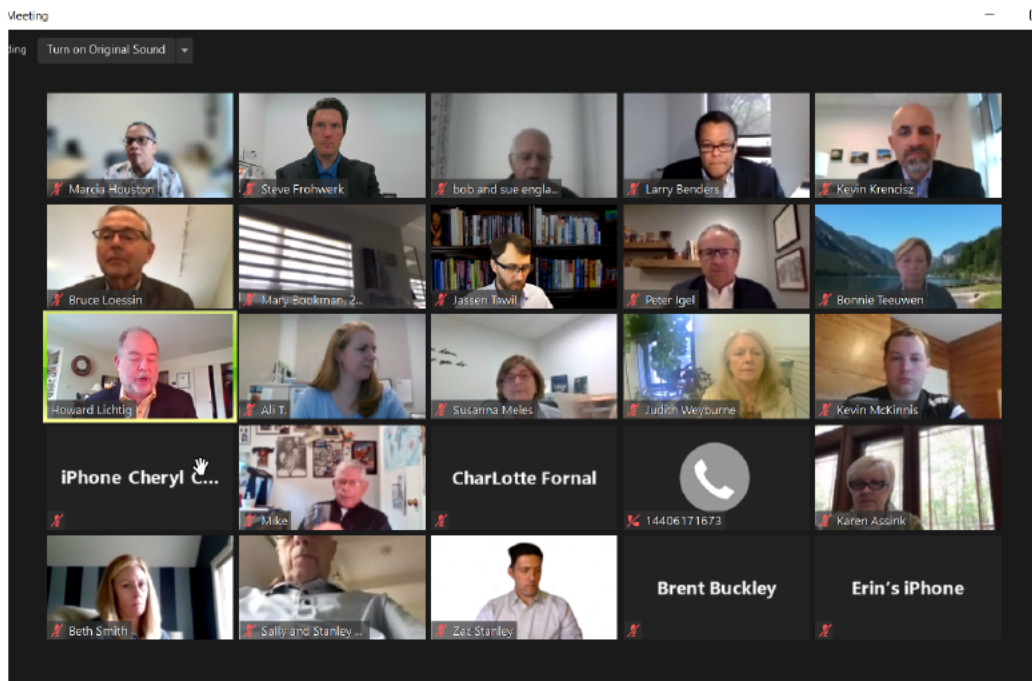
CSC Holds Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees:

-The Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held Thursday, May 6th. The virtual meeting began with Board Chair Howard Lichtig welcoming all and was followed by Board Trustee and Immediate Past Board Chair Sheryl King Benford, who presented the report of the Board Development and Governance Committee and presented the slate of Trustees for the coming year. CSC welcomes Caitlin Beck, Bruce Loessin, Joseph Schafer and Zachary J. Stanley to the Board of Trustees! Larry Benders followed with his remarks on the last year and how the professional team at CSC has adapted to the challenges around COVID-19. To conclude his remarks, Larry shared a video of a preschool student reading a counting book in braille. The Board then held the election of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee and Board Chair-Elect Bonnie Teeuwen outlined her thoughts for the coming year. Congratulations to the following Officers of the Board:

- Bonita (Bonnie) G. Teeuwen, Chair
- Wally Anders, Treasurer
- Joan U. Allgood, Secretary
- Karen P. Assink, Vice Chair
- Nathan Kelly, Vice Chair
- Erin C. Ploucha, Vice Chair
- Linda Smythe, Vice Chair

The Annual Meeting concluded with a special recognition and thank you to Howard Lichtig for his two years of leadership as Chair of the Board of Trustees and presentation of the Partner for Life Award to Jill Marcotte for her strategic expertise, visionary leadership, committee chairing, fundraising efforts and many volunteer hours over the last 11 years to better Cleveland Sight Center.

Screen shot of Zoom virtual meeting attendees



Telling the CSC Story: 2020 Impact Report

-The Cleveland Sight Center 2020 Impact Report is now available online! Thanks to the Marketing and Development teams for their collaborative effort in getting the annual report piece produced as well as all CSC departments for providing data and content to continue to tell the CSC story in a most unique year. A hard copy summary of the 2020 year will be delivered to work areas in the next few days and additional copies will be available in copy centers at the agency. To view the full digital impact report, click here: impactreport.clevelandsightcenter.org

Strengthening Partnerships and Educating the Community:

-The Outreach team has connected with Northeast Ohio Association for Hispanic Health (NOAHH) to schedule a presentation about CSC programs and services in May and sent information about the Independent Living Older Blind (ILOB) program in both English and Spanish. Special thanks to Registration Coordinator Olga Rosado for translating the ILOB flier into Spanish and the introduction to NOAHH.

-The Outreach team made inquiries to the Ohio Association of Senior Centers (OASC) to give a CSC presentation at one of their meetings and asked Nordon Hills Rotary Club to recommend CSC on their "Find & Share a Speaker" page of the Rotary District's website. The Rotary District encompasses over 50 Rotary Clubs within CSC's service area.

-Cleveland Sight Center and the ILOB program is featured again in the May edition of the Lorain County Office on Aging's Senior Years newspaper.

-Alicia Howerton, Dawn Jones and Megan Sigler traveled to Saint Ambrose Catholic School in Brunswick to talk with 50 8th-graders about potential career paths, giving them an overview of CSC and engaging them in activities under blindfold. All had fun with bowling, cup stacking and water pouring activities. The team also talked with a school official about his family member who is struggling with losing their vision.

-Thanks to Anthony Griffin and Toni Catron-Andrews for inviting Alicia Howerton and Tom Sawyer to the Vision of Success (VOS) meetings to talk with clients and to Radio Reading Coordinator Glenn Wickline for putting together a public service announcement about the Independent Living Older Blind program which airs daily on CSCN Radio during the month of May.

-The Outreach team wants to know if you belong to a group or know of a group who might be interested in hearing about CSC's mission and the programs and services offered. Please contact Alicia Howerton (x4587) or Tom Sawyer (x7339) if you have questions, need more information or to provide your group's contact information.

-Spectrum News 1 ran a story earlier this week about braille menus at a local restaurant in Ohio City. The piece features CSC Switchboard Operator Cathy Javorsky. To check out the story, click here: <https://bit.ly/3b6czVJ>

What's Happening at CSC:

-The Development Team was awarded two grants this week to benefit both the Children and Young Adult Services (CYAS) and Leisure and Lifestyle Services Department. A \$1,500 grant from Christ Child Society of the Western Reserve was secured for recreation activities to clients this summer, helping fund field trip costs. A \$500 grant from University School to purchase tactile books for our Early Intervention families. These tactile books will be loaned to families to begin introducing reading, textures and shapes to clients.

-The Bright Futures Preschool team saw how impactful music therapy was on their students during the 2017-18 school year when Bright Futures Preschool received music therapy classes for free for a year. Since then, they have been eager to get it back in the classroom to help more kids. Through the generous support of a donor, we are excited to announce that Bright Futures Preschool and summer day camp attendees will receive music therapy on a weekly basis for the next five years!

-Happy Teacher Appreciation Week! We cannot thank our teachers here at Cleveland Sight Center enough for all that they do every day. Their impact is immeasurable. We appreciate you and all of the other teachers around the world! #ThankATeacher

-This year's graduation program for students in Bright Futures Preschool will be held on Thursday, May 27th.

-A group of volunteers from student group Case for Sight at Case Western Reserve University paid a trip to CSC on Wednesday, May 5th to organize and catalog CSC's recreation room! One by one, volunteers reviewed all materials and made a list of the resources that are available and helped get the area in tip-top shape for future on-site programming. We are so grateful to the students for helping us prepare for summer programs!

-CSC is recruiting for summer volunteer positions! Know someone who would like to contribute to CSC's mission and make summer programs fun as a field trip volunteer? If so, refer them to CSC's volunteer page and invite them to apply, or encourage them to reach out to Melissa Mauk, X4581.

-The Leisure and Lifestyle Services weekly programming schedule for the month of May is available! All programs are still currently virtual, but stay tuned for an exciting announcement about upcoming summer programming! For more information, contact Bobbie Szabo (x4597).

Mondays

10am Stretching/Meditation

Tuesday

11:30am Meditation

5:00pm Yoga

Wednesday

10am Coffee Chat

2pm Improv (4/12, 4/26)

Thursday

10am Activities Vary

2pm Poetry with Katie Daley (4/6, 4/20 FINAL)

Friday

10am Fun Friday

2pm Trivia

Additional Activities are as follows:

Tuesday, May 11th

12pm Book Discussion #1

6:45pm Music Group

Thursday, May 13th

2pm Jam Session

Monday, May 17th

2pm Piano

Wednesday, May 19th

2pm Jam Session

5pm Sing It Out

Thursday, May 20th (subject to change—stay tuned for more information)

10am Speaker Series: Mental Health

Monday, May 24th

1:30pm Poetry with Shayna Sharpe

Tuesday, May 25th

12pm Book Discussion #2

–Check out the Eyedea Shop’s webpage, which has been updated with new products and features for the month of May. Eyedea Shop Home – Products for living well with vision loss: eyedeashop.com

Virtual White Cane Walk on Saturday, June 5th!

–Cleveland Sight Center’s 16th Annual White Cane Walk will be held virtually on Saturday, June 5th, 2021!

White Cane Walk is the agency’s annual fundraiser to raise awareness and support for the blind and visually impaired community. We are excited to build on the success of our first virtual White Cane Walk last year in 2020 and reach even more people through this interactive virtual format.

Please participate in this year’s event by making a donation, registering to walk (on a route and time of your own choosing) and/or creating your own fundraising team: whitecanewalk.org. If you are walking, a \$15 per person registration fee will qualify you to receive a pre-event box in the mail that includes a t-shirt and materials for our exclusive blindfolded activity! Walkers must register by Friday, May 21st to receive the pre-event box.

If you have any questions or would like help setting up a fundraising page please reach out to Steve Frohwerk (x4562) or Megan Sigler (x4568). Let’s make this the most successful White Cane Walk yet! To visit the 2021 event fundraising site,.

Thanks for your support of CSC!

Items of Note:

–Do you use Freedom Scientific/Vispero low vision hardware products? If so, we need your help! We want to make changes that ensure a hassle-free experience for you when using our products.

Please take our three-minute survey to tell us what is most important to you. In appreciation of your feedback, you will be entered to win one of five Amazon gift cards. The grand prize is a \$100 gift card, and the other four gift cards are \$25 each. Take the Vispero Video Magnifier Survey today. The survey ends May 31. You must be 18 years of age or older to win the gift card. Vispero employees are not eligible to win: <https://bit.ly/3nWoYAR>

Did You Know:

-Did you know blindness and low vision impact over 282 million people globally and that number is expected to increase by 72% over the next 11 years. To learn more, click here: <https://vispero.com/>