



DHHCAN Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

Gallaudet University – Peikoff Alumni House

(Thanks to Alumni Relations/GUAA for allowing DHHCAN to use the conference room)

Chair Zainab Alkebsi called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM.

Roll Call

Voting Members – quorum achieved

- Zainab Alkebsi, NAD
- Bernie Palmer, ALDA
- Eric Kaika, TDI
- Art Roehrig, AADB
- Al “Sonny” Sonnenstrahl, DSA
- Marcia Zisman, GUAA

Organizational Partners

- Neal Tucker, RID
- David Bahar, CSD
 - Ron Sutcliffe, CSD
- Barbara Raimondo, CEASD
- Dr. Caroline Pezzarossi, ADARA
- Bob Loftur-Thun, NVRC
- Michele Mulligan, CPADO

Guests

- Sam Jones
- Bill Mulligan

Interpreters

- Jan Nishimura
- Pat Richey
- Mary Beth Morgan

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the meeting on May 2, 2018 were accepted as read.

Officers' Reports:

Chair's Report (Zainab)

- Zainab shared the wonderful and exciting news about her new baby daughter's arrival that prevented her from attending our May 2nd meeting.
- We were reminded of the meeting communication rules. Art explained that he and interpreter Pat have agreed that instead of transliterating the meeting proceedings, Pat will be interpreting and providing summaries. This will ease the pressure on Art's shoulder.
- Zainab provided new placards to help identify each participant. Salmon color placards indicate voting members, blue represents organizational partners.
- Zainab officially welcomed NVRC as DHHCAN's new organizational partner
- We will invite representatives from Gallaudet University and NTID to our November meeting. Everyone was in agreement with this.
- Due to numerous DHHCAN members attending the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting on October 3rd, we have to change the date of our October meeting. The conference room is available on Friday, October 5th or Friday, October 12th. A vote was taken and we'll meet on October 5th.

Vice Chair's Report (Bernie)

- Bernie will be attending the ALDA conference in Portland, Oregon

Secretary's Report (Marcia)

- No Report

Treasurer's Report (Sonny)

- The balance as of August 31st was \$27,289.42. The increase from last month is due mostly to payments from sponsors for the 25th Anniversary celebration. Recent expenditures have been for interpreters for our meetings.
- Zainab requested a separate report for the 25th Anniversary Celebration. Sonny will provide after the event has taken place.
- He'll be sending out membership renewal letters this month. Also, the updated website will have application forms for those interested in becoming new members.
- DHHCAN has a contract with Tayler Mayer to update our website with list of members with links to organizations; sponsors of our reception along with their websites. It will now be easier for us to post things on the website.

Committee Reports

- *Civil Rights Protection and Enforcement (Zainab Alkebsi):*
 - Things have been quiet over the summer. She'll be scheduling meetings to touch base with people on the Hill.

- *Education (Barbara Raimondo):*
 - Capitol Hill Advocacy Day took place in March. They were seeking support for the Cogswell Macy Act Bill. Met with Senator Casey who although not willing to support the bill, he did send a letter to Secretary of Education DeVos. The response from the Secretary's office said that the government is already invested.
 - Another letter was sent in July to the assistant secretary asking for more financial support to ensure funds go to the right programs
 - Meeting with the House Appropriations Staff requesting more money; the Senate said no. Hoping the Conference will agree to the increase.

- *Employment (David Bahar):*
 - Attended a meeting with different organizations about how to define a person with a disability for the 8A bill. Those with targeted disabilities have problems finding jobs.
 - Attended the Chair of Democratic Governors Association meeting and met with staff members. They are willing to give him one hour to talk with the governors and can add another hour to talk about education. They are looking for low hanging fruit to focus on at the state level.
 - Bob Loftur-Thun shared about NVRC's new job initiative.

- *Health Care (Lise Hamlin):*
 - Lise was absent, so no report

- *Housing (Al Sonnenstrahl):*
 - No report

- *Telecommunication (Eric Kaika):*
 - See attachment for report

- *Transportation: (Zainab)*
 - Things were quiet over the summer, so nothing to report.

- *25th Anniversary Planning Committee (Sonny)*

- Everything has been prepared for the event – there will be enough food for 75 people. Room in “Ole Jim” has been reserved which will include cash bar. DAS will provide six interpreters. So far, \$11,000 has been donated by sponsors and will cover all of the costs of the event. Gallaudet generously allowed us to use their DC tax-exemption for food.
- Zainab will open the program; the 2 major sponsors will present; and then Claude Stout will explain the history. After that Zainab will close the program and people will be free for pictures and mingling.
- We will have two posters – one on the first floor (directing people upstairs) and another on the 2nd floor (program and sponsors)
- Still awaiting rsvps – will invite some Gallaudet students involved in politics or advocacy; Congressional staffers, Graduate Student Association, SBG
- Marcia will send a list of invitees to everyone
- Zainab thanked Sonny for doing the lion’s share of work related to the event

Old Business

- There was no old business.

New Business

- There was no new business.

Announcements

- Carla announced that the Association of Medical Professionals with Hearing Loss (AMPHL) will meet on June 1st through 4th, 2019. Submit proposals for presentations to ADARA.

The meeting adjourned at 1:59 p.m.!

Submitted by

Marcia Zisman, GUAA

Secretary