



DHHCAN Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 05, 2018

Gallaudet University – Peikoff Alumni House

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

Roll Call

Voting Members – quorum achieved

- Zainab Alkebsi, NAD
- Marcia Zisman, GUAA
- Al “Sonny” Sonnenstrahl, DSA
- Eric Kaika, TDI
- Art Roehrig, AADB
- Lise Hamlin, HLAA
- Michelle Mulligan, CPADO

Organizational Partners

- Ron Sutcliffe, CSD
- Neal Tucker, RID
- Tom Dowling, NVRC
- Barbara Raimondo, CEASD

Interpreters

- Pat Richey
- Mary Beth Morgan
- Jayne Tubergen

Visitors

- Sam Jones
- Bill Mulligan

Chair Zainab Alkebsi called the meeting to order at 12:27 p.m.

Officers' Reports:

Chair's Report

- Praised the recent DHHCAN 25th anniversary reception, it was a wonderful event. Thanks to the planning committee, especially Al. About 70 people were in attendance.
- Two organizations have expressed interest in joining DHHCAN as organizational partners– Deaf Women United (DWU) and the National Association of State Associations Serving the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NASADHH). Because the DWU representative is not local to the DC area, they've requested having video meetings. Should we consider having our meetings online from now on?
- Liz Moore inquired on behalf of an organization in Prince George's County about becoming a member of DHHCAN. DAWN might be interested as well. Both organizations can check our website for membership criteria.
- A suggestion was made to consider ways to make our organization more visible in the deaf community through social media.
- Dr. Martha Sheridan's social work class will once again come to observe our meeting in November. Note: November meeting will take place on the upper level of the building.

Vice-Chair's Report

Not present, so no report.

Secretary's Report

- Art Roehrig (sec) moved to accept the minutes of the September 5th meeting as read. PASSED

Treasurer's Report

- As of September 30th, our bank balance was \$30,910.42.
- Awaiting invoice from the caterer before he can finalize the financial report for the 25th anniversary celebration. He thanked Neal and Marcia for their assistance.
- The 3 top sponsors – Ultratec, Hamilton, and Gallaudet University will have their logos shown on our website. We need to discuss for how long.
- Tayler Mayer continues to work on our website and will be adding the logos next week. Tayler has offered to maintain our website for \$20.00 per month
- Should we post membership dues on our website?
- Al will soon send out membership renewals.
- Discussion on whether we should become a 501c3 organization and/or get tax-exempt status from DC. We already have an EIN. Most of the lunch providers have offered tax exemption.

Committee Reports

- *Civil Rights Protection and Enforcement:*
 - NAD put out a video about the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh – his judicial record, effect on disability community

- *Education:*
 - Personnel prep funding for the Department of Education – the House increased the number; Senate kept it at the same number. The increase was \$3.5M, which is a lot for CEASD. There will be a meeting with the Department of Education on how to use the additional funds. The National Association of State Directors of Education will have a meeting to discuss how the Department will use the additional funds as well.

- *Employment :*
 - No report.

- *Health Care:*
 - Update on hearing aids being sold over the counter. Awaiting the rules that will govern this process.

- *Housing:*
 - No report

- *Telecommunication:*
 - Report about captioned phones and how the minutes are billed. Some feel that the states should cover the costs instead of FCC; however, while some states are able to cover the costs others are not.

- *Transportation:*
 - The cabin announcements task force has not yet had a follow up meeting.
 - NAD is working on a project – studying the status of accessibility across different modes of transportation.

- *25th Anniversary Planning Committee*
 - It appeared people enjoyed the celebration and there were two potential new members.

New Business

Moved and passed that we add policy tabs to the DHHCAN website.

Moved and passed to leave anniversary sponsor logos on our website for one year after which time it will be renewable.

Moved and passed to post membership fees on our website.

Moved and passed to continue paying Tayler \$20/month to maintain our website.

Moved and passed to revive the DHHCAN Facebook page and explore other social media.

A discussion followed on the possibility of making our meetings accessible by using Zoom or other software. RID has moveable cameras that we can use in our meeting room. We also can use RID's "Go To" meeting account. For "Zoom" – interpreters must have good quality microphones.

We need more information and should do a test run at our meeting in December. For the December meeting, we are asked to arrive by 11:30 a.m. – the meeting will begin at 12:00 p.m.

Announcements

RID CEO Joey Trapani has resigned. The President of the RID board has announced that community involvement is welcome in the search for a new CEO. If you are unable to volunteer your time, contact Melvin Walker to make suggestions.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 7th on the second floor of Peikoff Alumni House.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.