

DHHSC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 10, 2009

Call to Order – 7:15 p.m. Dave Smith presiding

Board Members Present: Dave Smith, President (DS), Bryan Minas, Vice-President (BM), John Eberwein, Treasurer (JE), Renee Nealy, Secretary (RN), Alissa Vigil (AV), Rosemary Diaz (RD)

Board Members Absent: none

DHHSC Staff Members Present: Michelle Bronson, Executive Director (MB), Jesse Lewis, Operations Director (JL), Susan Coulter, Program Manager

Visitors: Jovette & Marilyn McCallon, Ronald Reagan II, Jacquelynn Fitzpatrick, Ray Dean, Lauren Lara, Erin Uribe, Martha Coletti, Annette Carter, Tami Garcia

Interpreters: Pam Warkentin, Nicole Wolfe, Amanda Bosworth

Public Comments (3 minutes per visitor) –

Marilyn McCallon stated she was happy to see so many people at the board meeting. Marilyn expressed her concerns about the state budget not being passed and possible cuts to the budget. She's concerned about the future of DHHSC and asked if DHHSC has a plan to keep the agency going. DS explained that there have been discussions with our CPA and if the state funding stops, DHHSC has enough money to continue for five months. We do indeed have a plan in place and may need to downsize if it continues beyond the five months.

Martha Coletti asked if people are getting the information about events and when the board meetings are held. Annette Carter asked who is in charge of the website because a lot of the notices are late. The most recent board minutes on the website is November and events are not listed on the "Calendar of Events". JL explained that a few months ago we got a new system for the calendar and all staff are now responsible to post their own events. JL also explained that he posts the minutes as soon as the board approves and forwards them to him. RN explained that the minutes cannot be posted until the board approves them. DS said we'll double check the information on the website.

Approval of Agenda Items – approved by consent with the addition under "New Business" to designate Michelle Bronson and Jesse Lewis as authorized signatures.

Approval of January 13, 2009 Board Minutes – approved by consent as read

President's Report – DS

At the last meeting we approved the hiring of Jesse Lewis as Operations Director and Michelle Bronson as Executive Director. Everything is now official and all employment contracts were signed. We also want to welcome Rosemary Diaz as a new member of the board.

Vice-President's Report – BM

Thank you everyone for coming tonight. Congratulations to Michelle and Jesse on your new positions! I hope everything runs smoothly; take your time to learn and get adjusted. I hope you don't get overwhelmed with your duties; you have a good management team.

Secretary's Report – RN –

Welcome Rosemary to the board!

Treasurer's Report – JE

Treasurer Report not available; JE is still waiting for the information. DS stated we have not had a report for two months now. MB will check with Paul. RD explained that the board needs to have at least 11 reports in a year. If there is no report available for the board meeting, the board needs to have an explanation. As an alternative, we can use the bank statement. It's important we have something to show the community as well as for the board to be able to review on a monthly basis.

Executive Director's Report – Michelle Bronson

Last Friday was our Staff Development Day and it was very positive. We explained how we want to lead as a team and what our expectations are; we have a wonderful management team. We did some team building activities and had a lot of discussion about the vision of DHHSC. There were so many positive ideas. In the afternoon we had an “Advocacy Team Discussion” on how to improve services to our clients. RD did a wonderful activity on how to figure out if the new or old system is more effective. JL explained that everyone had a positive attitude and all staff got a shirt with the DHHSC logo along with the phrase “Together We Can”. MB would like to get the board members a shirt as well and asked for their size. RD requested a type-written summary of everything that happened during the SDD and submit it to the board.

Committee Reports –

Personnel Committee – none

Bylaws Committee – RN

RN reported that the position of “Operations Director” was added to the bylaws.

Fundraising Committee – AV

AV has been in contact with Barnes & Noble; our next event will be in May.

RD announced that the ASL movie “The Legend of the Mountain Man” will be shown in Fresno on Friday, March 20 and Sunday, March 22. It is open captioned for the “signing impaired”. The net proceeds from the admission for Friday’s showing will benefit Bridge to Empowerment; the net proceeds from Sunday’s admission will benefit DHHSC. RD also explained that our goal is to have a Wine and Cheese event on May 1. She is still working with Sam Coulter and Joyce from Kearney in trying to find a venue. DS added that we cannot have the event at DHHSC because of the liability.

Outreach Committee – none

General Board Comments –

RD announced that the Fresno Deaf Church is having a fundraising event on March 22 (same day as the ASL movie). They will be selling lunches for \$5 and proceeds will benefit the church.

RD also mentioned that we have about 40 people signed up for the “Booster Club” and we still need 160 more to reach our goal of 200.

RD would like the following put on the agenda for next month’s board meeting:

discussion of board retreat

changing the meeting day and time

how to involve businesses in bringing revenue to DHHSC

There was a discussion by the board members to possibly change the day of the board meetings but it was agreed the meetings will continue on a Tuesday night.

Unfinished Business – none

New Business –

A. Ratification of changes to bylaws to reflect the position of “Operations Director”.

B. Approval to designate Michelle Bronson and Jesse Lewis as authorized signatures for any and all official DHHSC business. RD motioned, JE seconded, M/S/P

XIV. Public Comments (specific to agenda – 3 minutes per visitor) – none

XV. Announcements –

All events are posted on HYPERLINK "<http://www.dhhsc.org>" www.dhhsc.org

B. Martha’s Vineyard is March 7 and all board members need to be here at 9:00 a.m.

C. Our first ASL story time at Barnes & Noble will be on February 28 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Emails and flyers have been sent to schools in Fresno Unified School District and to Fresno State University. The event is also posted on DHHSC’s event calendar; a community email was also sent out. MB asked if flyers were sent to Clovis Unified School District. AV needs a contact person for Clovis then she will notify them. Marilyn McCallon suggested sending flyers to the adult school.

D. Valley Deaf Festival is June 6 at Clovis Veterans Memorial.

XVII. Adjournment – 8:05 p.m.

Date of Next Local Board Meeting: March 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. DHHSC – Fresno

Approved 3/10/09: submitted by Rosemary Diaz, Secretary

PAGE

PAGE 3