



DHHSC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 8, 2013

- I. Call to Order – **7:09 pm** Amanda Sortwell (AS), president
Board Members Present: Jonathan Silva , Vice-president (JS), Sue Stone, Secretary (SS), Jill Nolen (JN), Chad Catron (CC), Melissa Sortwell (MS), Tess Contreras (TC)
Board Members Absent: none
DHHSC Staff Members Present: Michelle Bronson (MB), Executive Director
Visitors: James McGuire, Stefani Santos, Beatriz Pireto, Mike Hernandez, Jeremy Thomas, Reno & Martha Coletti
Interpreters: Pam Warkentin, Nikki Wolfe
- II. Public Comments (3 minutes per visitor) – Martha Coletti: picnic June 15 in Merced from 10-4 @ Yosemite Lake Lodge.
- III. Approval of Agenda Items – approved by consent
- IV. Approval of **April** Board Minutes –approved by consent
- V. President’s Report – AS Congratulations to Tess on her engagement to Elias Garza. Rummage sale: Friday friends of DHHSC, Sat 7-2, please bring donations; EHDI meeting in AZ provided a lot of new information and plans to bring to SDD first Friday in June. I will be gone next month. JS will run the meeting.
- VI. Vice-President’s Report – JS comedy show \$217, another show in June;
- VII. Secretary’s Report – SS no report
- VIII. Treasurer’s Report –
April Financial Report distributed but not reviewed.
- | | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Checking/savings balance | \$221,766 |
| Accounts receivable total | \$318, 270 |
| AR grants | \$125,614 |
| AR interpreting | \$192,655 |
| Accounts payable | \$2,919 |
| Board private fund balance | \$1,573 |
| Profit/loss | \$25,892 |
| Grant awarded 12-13 | \$650,564 |
| Grant spent | \$512,313 |
| Grant balance | \$138,250 |
- IX. Executive Director’s Report – MB

Funding:

Just want to share with you that it is becoming increasingly difficult to apply for grants because of increased competition, additional expectations, required fundraising, partnership criteria, etc.

Our management team is now discussing ideas for different fundraising efforts in conjunction with the Board's. If we do find a grant that fits DHHSC's mission and goals, I will most definitely share that with you and seek your approval.

We will reapply for the ROCK (Reaching Out and Communicating with Kids) grant for the Visalia office at end of this month, for new cycle to start in October.

Lighting Bid:

About two weeks ago, I met with Joan C. LeRoux from Rotary Club to discuss our lighting request, and she was very supportive of our agency and our needs. Because she was so impressed with DHHSC, she explained that while Rotary Club is nearly out of funds, she will bring our request to a foundation with which she has contact. She also asked if we had partners who would assist with the lighting request, and that very afternoon we found one who already gave us a check for \$3,000 for this specific purpose! I love how things just work out. A BIG THANK YOU TO THAT ANONYMOUS DONOR!!!

Review:

We will complete our DOR review next Thursday, May 16th. Rudy visited our Visalia office today and will visit Merced tomorrow to review each office's "safety and health" handbook. When we reconvene on the 16th, Rudy will then provide us with recommendations and suggestions based on his findings.

Training:

Our Merced staff recently attended a 2-day domestic violence workshop "Because We Have Daughters" in Oakland, and they will soon share that information with us at an upcoming Staff Development Day. Funds from LEAD and D-Well covered their training as it benefits the families and individuals they work with.

On April 17th, Cheryl and I provided our 4-hour emergency preparedness training to 15 individuals in Madera, which earned \$2,000 for the agency. We also made some great contacts, especially with one in the school system. We will do our next one next week on May 15th in Oakhurst. That will also earn another \$2,000 for the agency.

On April 24, I attended our Sierra Partners' Work/Life Balance workshop, which provided great information on how people tend to waste time on non-urgent, unimportant things, such as meetings without agendas, or urgent matters that could have been better dealt with if prepared in advance, such as having resources ready for emergency situations (without having to run around looking for those resources). I will share this information at a future SDD.

Christy and I recently presented in Rosemary's class to do a brief presentation on employment for the D/HH and those with disabilities. We partnered with RICV in this presentation because we also showed the disABILITIES video we made last year, the same one that had Shane and Stacy in scenarios with do's and don'ts when working with the D/HH and individuals with other types of disabilities.

Meetings:

I attended a Health Net Disability Advisory Committee meeting on April 26th, and they are interested in recruiting D/HH individuals who are on Health Net or Cal Viva insurance to obtain constructive feedback. If you or someone you know are on this health plan and would be interested in participating in this committee, please see me so I can give you contact information.

Staffing Updates:

We are pleased that Francisco Carrasco is back after leave. He is such a hard-working individual, and during his absence, we had Sabrina Prader fill in on temporary basis. She also did a fantastic job keeping the building clean. Thank you, Sabrina!

I would like to share that Monica Davis, our temporary Client Services Specialist in Visalia, recently resigned from DHHSC, and we wish her all the best.

Because Monica is no longer with us, we have hired Victoria Graves for temporary work to fulfill ROCK grant hours and goals. The grant ends in October.

Events:

Our Martha's Vineyard event on April 13th was a huge success, and 295 people attended. We raised \$1,975.25! This includes the Deaf Blind bake sale, raffle ticket sales, and admissions fees. We had a great time and I would like to thank Susan and her sister Carol, for planning this annual event.

Susan also planned the May Day Mother's Day Medley, whereby we invited D/HH and hearing vendors to show their products and crafts. It was our first time and a success, and our next one will be hosted in December.

We are now preparing for our 11th Annual Deaf Women's Conference, which will take place on May 18th, and we hope to see you there! Christy will be presenting on self-esteem throughout life, and we will also have a panel consisting of women in different age categories from 20's through the 80's.

On May 17th, Omar and Lisa Painter will host a DOR orientation meeting, so if you or someone you know would like to learn more about DOR services, please come to this meeting. It will be from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Light refreshments will be provided.

Also on May 21st, we will host our 2nd Annual YES! Career Fair, and we will have D/HH students from local school districts attending this special event. Our staff are working hard on this event as we want to include as many D/HH professionals in this event to inspire students that they can work in whatever field they desire.

Last, but not a DHHSC event, I would like to share that I attended Fremont's "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" play last Saturday, and it was fabulous! Was able to network and briefly meet with Dr. Sean Virig, the new superintendent of Fremont. He will be working closely with Fresno Unified School District on improving education for the D/HH.

X. Committee Reports –

- a. Bylaws Committee – SS no report
- b. Fundraising Committee – JN 1) 5K run/walk "soak me pah" like "color me rad" September 15 early am, info & registration on-line only 2) June 14, 4-8 fundraiser @ Sweet Tomatoes on Fresno north of Herndon. You will need to bring the flyer to earn \$\$ for DHHSC.
- c. Grant Monitoring Committee – JN no report

XI. General Board Comments – MS regarding discussion last week of interpreting services in hospitals. MS demonstrated a website she created for documenting complaints. She plans to have a meeting to get feedback from the community

XII. Unfinished Business – none

XIII. New Business –

- A. Community Summit for hospitals and interpreting concerns: see general Board comments

XIV. Public Comments (specific to agenda – 3 minutes per visitor) –James McGuire suggested adding some info to the comment website re what the struggles with hospital interpreting services might be.

XV. Announcements –

- A. Rummage Sale!!!

XVI. Adjournment – **8:05 pm**

Date of Next Local Board Meeting: July 10, 2013 7-9 pm @ DHHSC – Fresno