



DHHSC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 13, 2013

- I. Call to Order – 7:03pm Amanda Sortwell (AS), president
Board Members Present: Jonathan Silva, Vice-president (JS), Jill Nolen (JN), Chad Catron (CC), Melissa Sortwell (MS), Tess Contreras (TC)
Board Members Absent: Sue Stone (SS), excused.
DHHSC Staff Members Present: Michelle Bronson (MB), Executive Director
Visitors: Susan Coulter, Jeremy Thomas, Brianna Berg, Tabitha Dubois, Stefani Santos, Beatriz Prieto, Erin Gish, Jane Datsko, Jaclyn Kline, Katie Ardizzone, Mike Hernandez, Kaila McEwen, Virginia Ozuna, Lisa Stolz, Corinne Haynes
Interpreters: Pam Warkentin & Nicole Wolfe
- II. Closed Session – This time was used to discuss voting in a new member, Brianna Berg. Invited and accepted the invitation.
- III. Public Comments (3 minutes per visitor) – None.
- IV. Approval of Agenda Items – Approved by consent.
- V. Approval of **October** Board Minutes – Marilyn Mccallon’s name was misspelled in last month’s minutes, and changed/approved.
- VI. President’s Report – **AS:** Had a successful VDF event this year. Appreciative to the teamwork amongst the Board Members.
- VII. Vice-President’s Report – **JS:** Now have a Board panel of 8; now inviting hearing individuals to join the board. Need to have a 51% Deaf/Hard of Hearing and 49% Hearing.
- VIII. Secretary’s Report – **SS:** No report
- IX. Treasurer’s Report – **JS:** Still looking for someone to take over this position. Money is looking good! Glad to see we are in “great shape”
- X. **November** Financial Report distributed and reviewed.
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|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Checking/savings balance | \$257,649.16 |
| Account receivable total | \$364,257.91 |
| AR interpreting | \$139,986.55 |
| AR grants | \$224,271.36 |
| Account payable | -\$10,515.26 |
| Board private fund balance | \$2,114.66 |
| Profit/loss | (\$9,803.62) for 4 months |
| Grant awarded for 13-14 | \$650,564 |

Spent	\$225,576.85
Unspent	\$424,987.15

XI. Executive Director's Report – **MB:**

Funding Updates:

We are pleased to share with you that our GOALS grant has been approved by Monterey Peninsula Foundation for \$10,000. This second grant cycle will also include working with children in elementary schools to plant the seed of employment goals.

I am excited to share that Dr. Ogden's book, *Secrets from My Silent Eden*, fundraiser has already brought in over \$7,500. All proceeds will benefit our ROCK program. I would like to thank everyone for supporting this fundraiser. We still have books to sell, so if you know of someone who would like the book as a gift, especially for the holidays, please see me.

We hosted the book-signing party on Oct. 30th, which was a very nice event. We had about 40 guests, and I would like to thank my staff for their assistance with this event.

I would like to thank staff, board, and volunteers for their involvement with our 25th Annual Valley Deaf Festival on Nov. 2nd. So far, our records show we have profited \$2,788, but this is after expenses. This VDF was particularly expensive because of the site, security, entertainment, and tech needs, but overall, it was a successful and fun event. We had more than 560 people in attendance, not including staff, board, and volunteers. Thank you to everyone who came to our VDF!

I would like to share I am very proud of two of our Fresno Advisory Council members, Leanna Thompson and Lauren Marshall, for their ASL performance of the song, "Keep Your Head Up!" They did such a great job, and we've asked them to perform again at our Silent Sleigh event next month.

Services and Program Updates:

Susan and I recently attended Arthur Lopez's Tai Chi workshop because he invited us to see how visual Tai Chi is and what the program entails. He is interested in partnering with DHHSC in setting up D/HH classes, which we hope we will work out soon. Apparently, Tai Chi is excellent for senior citizens, people with mobility issues, and arthritis.

We are partnering with FSU on a Silent Garden/Poverello House grant project, and we would like to share with the community that if you (or anyone you know) are seeking volunteer opportunities, we have approximately four interpreting scholars who are required to complete 30 hours by the end of next semester, and they can interpret for you as you volunteer at Poverello House. That place is amazing because of the many services they provide, and they provide emergency assistance to those in need. Please take advantage of this volunteer opportunity because of interpreting students' availability.

Training Updates:

I would like to share that three of our staff, Shelley Stout, Everett Glenn, and Rochelle Greenwell, are attending Deaf Hope Domestic Violence training this week because I think it is important that each of our four offices have staff trained in domestic violence services and advocacy. Cheryl, who is already certified, is in our Merced office. We are looking to expand our DV services and not limit it to just our Fresno or Merced offices.

Event Updates:

Visalia Office would like to invite you to their Holiday Party on Dec. 14th from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. They would very much appreciate your support and participation.

The Fresno Office will host our 5th Annual Holiday Luncheon on Dec. 18th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This event is to thank our D/HH Community for their support of our agency and to show appreciation to our cherished members. Lunch is free, and we will have Christmas ornaments available for purchase from the Christmas tree we will have on stage. Our Fresno

Advisory Council will also have games planned for adults and children alike. Thank you, AC members! We look forward to having a fun event!

- XII. Committee Reports –
- a. Bylaws Committee – SS No Report
 - b. Fundraising Committee – JN: Just before the meeting MB had brought it to my attention how much profit was raised from the Soak Me Pah! 5K; the grand total neared \$500! Looking forward to next year! I am also looking forward to bringing back Restaurant fundraisers in 2014. Lastly, I promise to make a reservation for Deaf Indoor Soccer soon.
 - c. Grant Monitoring Committee – JN: No report.
- XIII. General Board Comments – None.
- XIV. Unfinished Business – None Tabled.
- XV. New Business –
- A. Susan G. Komen Grant-** MB came up to request approval to reapply for this grant. Change from C.A.R.E to B.E.S.T [Breast cancer Education Support Team] because the staff has noticed that the community was missing having events/workshops that related to health issues such as these. JS then questioned MB about the funds, how much was requested the first time(\$30,000) , this time we will be requesting a smaller amount of money because we plan to host less events related to the grant because we. **Approved by consent.**
 - B. No Meeting in December- JS: made the motion to cancel December’s Board mtg. CC seconded it. Motion was approved to not have a meeting this December.**
- XVI. Public Comments (specific to agenda – 3 minutes per visitor) – None.
- XVII. Announcements –
- A. Susan Coulter- A new event, Holiday Boutique, will be hosted here on Dec. 7th 10am-3pm. A hearing woman (that Susan recognized before) from out of town had requested to use the room a couple years back for this same event; whose purpose is to promote/encourage Deaf vendors to get out there!
 - B. AS: Revisited the VRI form; encouraging the public to to ask us about it and use them. Form is available in a VLOG, online. MS wants to host another workshop related to VRI to educate the community more about our form and the process to fill it out.
- XVIII. Adjournment – 7:55pm

Date of Next Local Board Meeting: 1/8/2014 @ DHHSC – Fresno

Submitted by Jill Nolen, DHHSC Grant Monitoring/Fundraising Chair