



## DHHSC BOARD MEETING AGENDA

6pm, Tuesday, April 11, 2017

- I. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 6:10pm  
Individuals Present:  
Board Members Present: Janice Smith-Warshaw, President (Absent - Excused), Joshua Blanco, Vice-President (JB), Peter Crume, Secretary (PC), Jill Nolen - (JN), Justin Gaines (JG), Lynn Toschi (LT), Tim Spires (Absent - Excused)  
DHHSC Staff Members Present: Michelle Bronson, Executive Director (MB), Susan Coulter,  
Interpreters: Pam Warkentin, Nicole Chance, Stephanie Santos  
Other community members present: Beth Lipston, John Eberwein
- II. **Community Comments**—limited to 3 minutes - None
- III. **Approval of Agenda Items - Approved**
- IV. **Approval of January Board Minutes**
- V. **President's Report** –Joshua Blanco read Janice Smith-Warshaw notes
  - a. I would like to commend DHHSC for United Way Grant Tulare
  - b. I would like to commend Joshua and Lynn for help with Rummage sale. Also thanks to Justin Gaines and other volunteers. I would also like to extend thanks to DHHSC staff for their help with clean up.
  - c. We have a new treasurer, Tim Spires. Unfortunately, he will not be here this evening as he is recovering from some recent health complications .
  - d. I will have an opportunity to discuss 200<sup>th</sup> year celebration of Deaf Education on Channel 47 on April 25, 2017 at 5pm.
- VI. **Vice President's Report** - Joshua Blanco
  - a. Rummage Sale – We raised \$1,917.37 for the sale. It was very difficult work. Thank you to Susan C. and the DHHSC staff as I know it caused a lot of stress, but we raised a record amount. We had some issues arise during the rummage sale, such as challenges with volunteers, pricing, and things being put on hold and we can talk about the planning for next year. We should have a committee in place to address these issues and to establish some ground rules and expectation. It would be nice to double or triple what we raised this year.
  - b. Deaf-Blind camp – We are excited to be involved with a Deaf-Blind camp that will happen in September. The camp is located in Oregon. We have 30 Deaf-blind

individuals that have signed up for the camp. We will have people from all over the U.S., not only here in California. We need to have about 20 SSPs, we have about 10-15 people in mind that we plan to ask.

- c. DHHSC Board Recruitment – I was speaking to some members in the community about joining the board. Sal Garcia was one person we had in mind, but he is not interested at this time. I recently conducted an interview Serena Johnson to discuss her interest in joining the board. She was supposed to join this evening, but she is out of town dealing with important family matters. She will join the board officially next month and she is terrific. I plan to reach out to other members, potentially in Visalia and other outlying areas.

**VII. Secretary’s Report** – Peter Crume – None to report

**VIII. Treasurer’s report** – Tim Spires (not present) Read by Joshua Blanco.

	<b>Through 3/31/17</b>
<b>Checking/savings balance</b> (Through 3/31/17)	\$304,338.66
<b>Accounts receivable total</b> (Outstanding invoices not yet collected)	\$286,726.09
<b>AR grants</b> (Outstanding invoices not yet collected)	\$160,209.35
<b>AR interpreting</b> (Outstanding invoices not yet collected)	\$126,516.74
<b>Accounts payable</b> (Outstanding bills not yet paid)	-\$641.94
<b>Mortgage payable</b> (Building Loan)	\$0.00
<b>Board private fund balance</b> (Year to date balance)	\$-764.33
<b>Profit/loss Statement Overall</b> (for 3 months)	(\$81,414.88)
<b>DSS Grant for 16-17</b>	<b>\$650,564.00</b>
<b>Grant Spent up to 9/30/16</b>	\$452,604.66
<b>Unspent</b> (6 months remaining)	<b>\$197,959.34</b>

**IX. Executive Director’s report**– Michelle Bronson

**Funding Updates:**

We are very pleased to share that we received United Way of Tulare County funding in the amount of \$9,200! This is the first time we’ve had UWTC in more than 10 years, and we are very pleased that we have been approved as one of their grantees. This grant provides ASL instruction, literacy and tutoring services, and mentoring to D/HH youth. The grant started yesterday (Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>) and we are determined to do our best

and meet all the goals as outlined in the grant so we can continue receiving funding from UWTC. A big thank you to UWTC!

In addition, we are very pleased to share that we received \$1,000 from Central California Women's Conference for deSIGN art classes/workshops for D/HH women and children. We will use some of this grant money to bring a well-known Deaf artist, Nancy Rourke, to Fresno on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>. She will do a two-hour workshop on painting, and as you may know, she uses primary colors in her art. She also paints about controversial issues, and it will be great to have her here in October, sharing about her art and her life.

We are one of the top five contenders for Students4Giving for \$6,000 funding in Board/Management leadership and fundraising training. If selected, we will be invited to do a presentation to a class at FSU on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. I am hopeful we get this grant because we need this training, especially in the area of fundraising.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the See's Candy Fundraiser. We raised over \$422, and one of our Salinas staff, Krystal Rios, won the staff competition. She received a box of See's chocolates as a prize.

We will try a new fundraiser through Double Good, a popcorn company that specializes in different flavors of popcorn. We want to continue trying different fundraisers that require minimal effort, involve delicious food, and bring in extra funds for our agency.

We would like to congratulate our Board of Directors for raising more than \$1,900 at our Rummage Sale! The board did a marvelous job in getting donations, sorting through the items, setting up the different areas of the rummage sale, and the pricing. Congratulations, everyone!

### **Staffing Updates:**

Erin Ruiz's last day with us was on March 24<sup>th</sup> and we wish her all the best with her new interpreting position at FSU. We are very proud of her and are glad we will still see her around, especially at FSU's Deaf-related events.

We are pleased to share that we have hired Jacque Fitzpatrick as our subcontractor for the Communication Assistance Program funded by Monterey Peninsula Foundation. She joined us last week and will only work part-time (10-15 hours a week) with us until Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, when the grant cycle ends.

### **Agency Updates:**

We found a new office for our Visalia Outreach office and the move-in date is this Thursday. It is a very nice office, much nicer than our current space, and much cheaper. It is also in a better location, situated in downtown Visalia. Our Visalia staff will host an

all-day Open House on May 9<sup>th</sup>, and I hope you can go! We are also trying to set up a fundraiser in the area, such as at Deli Delicious or a nearby lunch place, for the same day.

We are still looking for an office for our Merced Outreach office, but it's harder to find a nice, cheaper, yet safe, space in that area. Some of the offices we've been looking at are almost just as expensive as our current office, but smaller, which do not meet our budget needs. One office we looked at was cute but had no elevators, which is not ADA-compliant. We will continue looking until we find one that meets our needs.

### **Agency Events:**

We had a very successful Family Day event last Saturday. More than 17 parents of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children attended, and we were thrilled with the turnout. Last year we only had three families, and more came this year. The FSU students who worked with us were wonderful, and they coordinated the children's activities. The event was sponsored by Fansler Foundation, and we provided refreshments, booths, materials, and games for the families. For example, we had a hand classifier game and a scavenger hunt that required signing and interaction among the families. We also had ASL and Spanish interpreters present, and the families shared that they had a great time.

#### **X. Fundraising Chair report – Jill Nolen**

##### **a. Fundraising –**

- i. Habit restaurant– May 16<sup>th</sup> will occur between 4-9pm. Habit will give 20% for people who have the DHHSC flyer. It's the new one on Fryant and Fresno Street – near Woodward Park.
- ii. The Blitz restaurant will hopefully occur in June.

#### **XI. General Board comments –**

- a. None

#### **XII. Unfinished Business**

#### **XIII. New Business**

- a. **Board Shirts (Justin Gaines).** I suggest that we have a polo shirt and a sports shirt. I noticed no uniformity into what the board wears. I believe that if we have a lighter shirt we can work community recognition. (JN) I believe that we still have polo shirts that we had in previous years when Rosemary was the Executive Director. (JB) I think it's a great idea and we should look to see if we have any remaining shirts, and if not, we should investigate the cost of some embroidered shirts with the DHHSC logo and then report back in subsequent board meetings.
- b. **Rummage Sale for 2018 – (JG)** I think for next year's rummage sale we need to determine a way to provide a service for a small fee to have items delivered to people. (Beth Lipston). I believe the issue Justin may be referring to is that we had some people interested in purchasing some larger items, but we had no way to deliver them. If we could charge a small fee for delivery on top of the sale, we might

be able to sell more items. (JB) I think it's a great idea and it's an idea that we can discuss when we plan for the rummage sale next year.

XIV. **Public comments:** 3 minutes *specific to the agenda* –

- a. **Beth** – This is related to board minutes. I have noticed that there has not been update on the DHHSC board minutes since November of 2016, such as the March minutes. Can you please update the website and post the minutes. (PC) We would not post the minutes for March until after we have approved them at the April minutes, but they should be posted soon. In regards to the prior months, such as February and before, they would be there. Michelle, can you help me understand who posts the minutes on the DHHSC website. (MB) Jesse typically posts them, but he hasn't received minutes that have been approved recently. (PC) Thank you for helping me understand the process. I wasn't here last month dealing with a family emergency, but I will make sure that we have minutes approved by the board and sent to Jesse ASAP.

XV. **Announcements** –

a. **Susan Coulter** – **This coming week we have several events with the Fresno State Students.**

- i. Saturday (4/15), here at DHHSC – Fresno State students will make flowers with Duct tape.
  - ii. Monday (4/17) (10-12pm) – Shannon Mulhall will be here to provide a presentation with two police officers and they will discuss a program on how with the Police and the Deaf community can work better together.
  - iii. Tuesday (4/18) – Omar and Jane will be doing an EDD workshop it will be in one of the conference rooms. In the main room here at DHHSC, we will have another presentation focused on Women's Self-Defense.
  - iv. Friday (4/21) 2:30 to 4:30 – Student Art project. Will have white tile and will decorate them with alcohol ink. It's very pretty.
  - v. Saturday 4/29 – The day after the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Deaf Education community event, we will have a Signing Full Throttle and a Baking completion on the same day.
  - vi. May 13<sup>th</sup> – We will have an art project based on Cinco de mayo theme.
- b. **Beth** – we have senior citizens meeting on Thursdays. On St. Patrick's Day, we have an Irish theme for meeting. I also asked the group if they wanted to do something for Passover and Easter and everyone wanted to participate. We made a list and we will have a theme based on that on Thursday at around 12:30. Please spread the word about our Senior's Thursday events. We play games. The first Thursday of the month, we play Chaser. 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – Dingo. 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – Chaser, and then 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday – Bingo. Everyone can come. It's not only for seniors.
- c. **Joshua** – It reminded me of the Deaf-Blind luncheon tomorrow from 11-3 here at DHHSC.

XVI. **Closed session** -

XVII. **Adjournment** – 7:17pm

**Next Meeting: 6pm, Tuesday, May 9th, 2017**