



DHHSC BOARD MEETING AGENDA

6pm, Tuesday, June 13th, 2017

- I. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 6:16pm
Individuals Present:
Board Members Present: Janice Smith-Warshaw, President, Joshua Blanco (Excused – Absent), Vice-President (Absent - Excused), Peter Crume, Secretary (PC), Jill Nolen (Absent – Excused)- (JN), Justin Gaines (JG), Lynn Toschi (LT), Tim Spires (TS), Serena Johnson (SJ)
DHHSC Staff Members Present: Michelle Bronson, Executive Director (MB), Susan Coulter
Interpreters: Pam Warkentin, Nicole Chance, Stephanie Santos
Other community members present: Robin Keiker, Lori Botelho, Darcy Lassard, Joelene Spires, Suje Dupress
- II. **Community Comments**—limited to 3 minutes
 - a. Darcy Lassard – CADCV wanted to let you know that we will have a joint meeting with DHHSC during the Community Comments on August, 19th and September 23rd
- III. **Approval of Agenda Items**
- IV. **Approval of April Board Minutes**
- V. **President's Report** – Janice Smith-Warshaw
 - a. I wanted to applaud the Board Members work with the DHHSC staff during the spring and I look forward
 - b. I will be headed to ASLTA conference in Salt Lake City and I will discuss present on benefits of service learning and the Deaf space that we've used at Fresno State
- VI. **Vice President's Report** - Joshua Blanco (read by Janice Smith-Warshaw)
 - a. I wanted to share a few updates that we had at a VDF meeting between the DHHSC staff and board members on June 2nd.
 - b. We discussed some great ideas different games we could play.
 - c. A main topic of discussion was the food that the Board would have during VDF.
 - i. I suggested having a small popcorn machine/cart that was donated to Hand On Hand (HOH) from Fresno Deaf Events a couple of years back
 - ii. Omar Ruiz from EDD offered another idea about having taco trucks, which I thought could be profitable? I'm not sure how it'd work & maybe

it could be something Jill can find out to see if we could set a fundraiser or the likes.

- d. We also discussed having designated parking/drop off spaces for DB and their SSPs.
- e. One staff member bought up about the need to have some VLOGS with a male & a female person dressed as superheroes; many of them have agreed that I should be in it...uh-oh!
- f. We discussed issues about copyright, but I believe Susan is taking care of that.
- g. DHHSC staff have expressed that they are really delighted to having more Board members able to help out in any way possible.

VII. Secretary’s Report – Peter Crume – Nothing to report

VIII. Treasurer’s report – Tim Spires

	Through 5/31/17
Checking/savings balance (Through 5/31/17)	227,148.84
Accounts receivable total (Outstanding invoices not yet collected)	256,752.47
AR grants (Outstanding invoices not yet collected)	154,146.87
AR interpreting (Outstanding invoices not yet collected)	102,605.60
Accounts payable (Outstanding bills not yet paid)	-1,396.77
Mortgage payable (Building Loan)	0.00
Board private fund balance (Year to date balance)	1,798.87
Profit/loss Statement Overall (for 3 months)	(133,149.09)
DSS Grant for 16-17	650,564.00
Grant Spent up to 5/31/17	548,850.91
Unspent (1 month remaining)	101,713.09

IX. Executive Director’s report– Michelle Bronson

Agency Budget

Unfortunately, we were not approved for our Helping Hands grant application to Wells Fargo; our grant application focused on providing case management and Support Services Providers (SSPs) to the Deaf Blind and Deaf and Hard of Hearing senior citizens. It is a nationwide Request for Proposal (RFP) so naturally we faced high competition.

However, as with other grants, we will continue trying. It was our first time applying with them so at least we got our agency's name out there.

We just submitted our First Five Merced grant application and will keep you posted.

Strangely, the EDD RFP still has not been released, and we recently contacted the D/HH Program Manager who said to keep an eye out for the RFP but explained that our contract will be extended into the next fiscal year, contingent on California's budget being signed. That's good to know because we want to ensure continuity of our EDD program.

We were turned down by Students4Giving for our request for funding to cover Board/Management Team training on leadership and fundraising strategies, but the Fresno State students involved with the philanthropy grant said they were impressed with our enthusiasm and DHHSC's services. We were among the top five so I am pleased we made it that far.

We were contacted by Whitney Foundation to see if we would be interested in applying for their grants, and I naturally said yes! I would like to thank Arthur Lopez, a Tai Chi Master Instructor and retired DOR administrator, for connecting me to Whitney Foundation's Executive Director. Apparently, to apply for their grants is by invite only, and Arthur knows DHHSC, so I am grateful for the connection. I will be meeting with Ellen Bush, the Executive Director, on June 23rd to discuss two grant opportunities.

Agency's Updates:

As you may know, we have been working with Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) and Disability Rights California to address our community's frustrations with the local Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf (RCD), and as of recently, DRC notified me of the new procedure for D/HH consumers:

Team Manager, Brian Chambers:
Brian.Chambers@dor.ca.gov; 559-445- 6038

Rehab Counselor, Stephanie Perez:
Stephanie.Perez@dor.ca.gov; 559-444- 2565

Graduate Student Assistant, Devin Puente:
Devin.Puente@dor.ca.gov; 559-445- 6011

This means our D/HH Community no longer has to work with the RCD in question; we do not know what has happened with her. In the meantime, we are thrilled that this new group of individuals will work with our community and we are encouraging all D/HH job seekers to utilize both DOR and EDD services; DOR can assist with paying for

educational and employment-related expenses and EDD can assist with job placement. EDD tends to have many job fairs on site and EDD processes clients much more quickly than DOR. In addition, with our EDD Staff Interpreter, D/HH clients will have an interpreter for their job interviews and follow-up meetings.

DOR is trying to reestablish a relationship with us but we are proceeding cautiously due to years of frustrations with the recent administration. We are still working on getting paid for outstanding invoices.

Per requests made at last month's Board meeting, Harvey and I met with Shannon Mulhall, City of Fresno ADA Coordinator, to request resources on assessing our Fresno office for ADA compliance. She provided us with a listing of Certified Access Specialists (CASPs), and we will contact one to do an assessment. This assessment can cost upwards of \$1,500, but having an assessment and a strategic plan to make DHHSC more accessible, can help protect DHHSC. In addition, we had our men's and women's bathroom doors checked, but because they are so old, we are gathering information on how to save the doors while getting the needed mechanisms to make opening the doors easier. A big thank you to Shannon for providing us with important resources!

Agency's Events:

DHHSC recently hosted Deaf Men's Conference: Man Up! on June 3rd, with 15 men in attendance. While it was a small number, I received many positive reports that it was a great conference with two presenters. Steve Longo presented on empowerment and David Kerr on leadership. They also had great hands-on activities, including role-play and Play Doh sculpting of leadership characteristics, such as maturity, kindness patience, and honesty. The number may have been small but the men were sure mighty! Please encourage the men in our D/HH Community to attend the next DMC in 2019!

X. Fundraising Chair report – Jill Nolen (no report)

XI. General Board comments

XII. Unfinished Business

a. Transferring loaned board funds from 200th Anniversary Celebration account back to board account

JSW - I need to talk to Paul Barnett about transferring the funds

b. Deafhood workshop

i. JSW – We need to table this issue until our next meeting

c. Selling down leftover inventory of 200th Anniversary Celebration t-shirts.

i. JSW – I suggest that we sell the t-shirts during the difference events that we have such as the community comments, Deaf Awareness Week, CCRID events, and VDF

d. Repairing DHHSC office's sidewalk (due to tree root damage)

i. JSW

- ii. We have had two bids so far.
 - 1. WNW Concrete for a bid of \$2,170 – They would remove the root and fix the damaged concrete.
 - 2. K-Crete – bid of \$6,480 – They would also remove the root and fix the damage concrete.
- iii. We are still waiting for one more bid so we will continue this discussion at our next meeting
- e. Replacing DHHSC office's restrooms doors (difficult for seniors to open)
 - i. JSW - We have had no bids as of yet

XIII. New Business – Tabled to next meeting

XIV. Public comments: 3 minutes *specific to the agenda* – None

XV. Announcements

- a. Susan – I wanted to discuss some of issues related to VDF
 - i. We're still discussing the pros and cons of a Taco Truck and cooking our own food such as hamburgers. If we cook our food then we could earn a profit from it. We wouldn't earn anything if we hired a Taco Truck to provide the service
 - ii. In terms of the copy right issue we raised earlier. If we hired a specific outside group to come present at VDF, then we would have to be focused on copyright issues. However, if we have our own theme, then it's okay. If we purchase a superhero outfit, then it already had a copy right. If we make our own super hero outfit, then we must tweak it slightly in order to not violate copyright law.
 - 1. One suggestion that I have is to have a hero in the form of a Deaf Bee that's based on the newsletter that we have. It would fit well within the Superhero theme
 - iii. Just as reminder, we will have our Community Comments on August 19, 2017 after the CADCV meeting

XVI. Closed session

XVII. Adjournment