



## **DHHSC BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**6pm, Tuesday, September 11th, 2018**

- I. Call to Order – 6:05pm  
Board members Present:  
Tim Spires  
Janice Smith-Warshaw  
Lynn Toschi  
Patty Parker  
Serena Johnson  
Interpreters Present:  
Nikki Wolfe  
Pam Warkentin  
Community members Present:
  - II. Approval of Agenda Items
  - III. President's Report – Janice Smith-Warshaw
    - a. It has been difficult to schedule the preferred presenter for Deafhood 101, so we will proceed with whomever is available. President Smith-Warshaw encouraged 2 prospective candidates to serve on the board and suggested that they attend the required 3 consecutive board meetings.
  - IV. Vice President's Report – Lynn Toschi
    - a. Lynn: Vice President Toschi announced that although some individuals have volunteered, she needs more volunteers during the Rummage Sale. She shared with the board that she has also attempted to recruit a prospective board member.
  - V. Secretary's Report – Serena Johnson
    - a. Thank you letters for Dessert Auction will go out this week
  - VI. Treasurer's report – Tim Spires
    - a. Dessert auction generated \$322.50
  - VII. Executive Director's report– Michelle Bronson
    - a. Will send thank you notes to those who have donated for the blinds and painting
- Budget Updates:

We are pleased to share that we are once again approved for the Fansler Foundation grant, in the amount of \$21,500. This is our third time receiving this

grant, and we are grateful to Fansler Foundation for their ongoing support of our family services and our annual Family Day event.

We applied for but were not approved for the Ray Charles Foundation grant. This was our second time applying but this time we received a very nice letter. We will try again next time.

Today we submitted our grant application with Disability Communications Fund for possible funding of our 29th Annual Valley Deaf Festival (VDF). The focus of the grant was for an event's accessibility, technology, and resources for people with disabilities, and we thought VDF would be a good fit for this grant with VDF being accessible for the D/HH. They need at least six weeks prior to the event for consideration, so we sent it in ahead of time. Fingers crossed.

We are now applying for grants through Citizens Action Committee with City of Visalia, First 5 of Monterey, Wish You Well Foundation, Smart & Final Community Foundation, and PG&E Community Foundation. All these grants will focus on family and youth services to support our ROCK and YES! programs.

A big thank you to Sorenson Communications for sponsoring \$2,500 for VDF. We appreciate their ongoing support of DHHSC and our community events.

We are thrilled that Rotary Club will donate \$3,000 towards our Raise the Roof campaign, bringing our total to \$42,688! We are also thrilled that we are nearing the goal of paying off the roof, with the goal set at \$50K. The funny thing is that a member of that particular Rotary Club is also Harvey's financial planner so it helps to have connections.

We are still waiting for our CDSS cash advance check as it was accidentally sent to GLAD and deposited. CDSS had to reprocess our check and we hope to receive it by the end of this week.

Our CDSS End of Year report is due Sept. 30th, so Jesse and I will begin working on it next week.

Staffing Update:

We are pleased to share that we have hired Viridiana Alvarez for the Fresno Client Services Specialist position. She will also work with our Valley Deaf Seniors. Her first day will be next Monday, September 17th.

We are still accepting applications for four other Client Services Specialist positions (for Fresno, Salinas, Merced, and Visalia) and the part-time Outreach Specialist position.

### Agency Updates:

As you may have noticed, the exterior of our building has been recently painted, thanks to Marty Pigott. The building looks beautiful. We are grateful to Marty for covering the painting expense, which was in the amount of approximately \$6,000. The painting was needed to seal the stucco, and we are relieved that it has been done before the rains come.

We are also grateful to Martha Coletti for her donation of \$1K and to Valley Deaf Seniors for their donation of \$1K to pay for new blinds for our Fresno building. We plan to get white blinds that are easy to clean and maintain. As you can see, we are working hard to improve our building's appearance, and these changes are made possible by our very supportive and generous donors.

### Agency Events:

We are now going to different United Way Community Partners and Combined Federal Campaign events as part of our fundraising efforts. Different staff are going out to do booths and mini-presentations about our services and programs.

We are gearing up for Deaf Awareness Week by having different events scheduled for next week, including Ice Cream Social & Family Feud on Monday night, De'VIA workshop next Tuesday morning, ASL Summer Program Movie Night on Wednesday evening, The Liva Show on Friday night, and a De'VIA art workshop on Saturday with Gungaa, a Deaf artist from Fremont.

We are also currently working on VDF preparations, and we will soon start working with the schools in planning for Silent Sleigh. Silent Sleigh is confirmed for Dec. 12th this year.

- VIII. Fundraising Chair report –Habit \$59. We are still waiting on the funds from Pieology and Menchie's Frozen Yogurt.
- IX. General Board comments
- X. Old Business
- a. Rummage sale
- XI. New business
  - a. VDF Food
    - i. Suggestions: Subway sandwiches and flatizza. We would need an oven for flatizza. VDF last year had issues with reaching the contact person. The flatizza needs a very high oven temperature in order to cook well. Michelle suggests ordering pizza from an outside place. Patsy suggests candy and chips and individuals . Michelle says make the name related to the theme. Serena indicates we need to be mindful of our competition. Last year snow cones sold for \$7, we were selling full meals for \$5 and

sold less. Tim suggests Costco pizza. Patty asked how far and it was determined there was one relatively close.

- ii. Susan says to remember how much food we'll need because the vendors will indicate whether or not they want to eat our food.
  - b. Gift for Marty Pigott
    - i. Marty has continually donated over the years. Michelle feels it would be a good idea for the board to provide an appreciation gift. Janice suggests the use of Deaf Root for a personalized gift. Michelle requests the use of Deaf funds. Tim moves we use board funds to secure a gift from [www.deafroot.com](http://www.deafroot.com). Lynn 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - c. Filling Jill Nolen's vacant position
  - d. Deaf Awareness Week
    - i. Shared in Michelle's report
  - e. Deafhood Workshop
    - i. Janice waiting for a response for Deafhood
- XII. Public comments: 3 minutes
- XIII. Announcements
- a. Nyle DiMarco coming to Fresno State September 27<sup>th</sup>. The ASI at Fresno State has decided to invite him. ASI is a student organization. The presentation will be on campus. The activities fund fees is student money, and that is used to pay Nyle's fee to come present. 150 tickets are reserved first come first served. Community members must pay \$5 cash. Line opens at 5pm. If the event is full of Fresno State students and faculty, the number of community members allowed in will be limited. University of Kentucky is having the same presentation but it is open to the public because it is sponsored by the department of Modern languages rather than Student activities
  - b. Susan: For the first time we will be hosting a "Bra Decorating" fundraiser with a goal of decorating 25 bras. This will be a good test.
  - c. Disaster response interpreter training on September 29
- XIV. Closed session (if needed)
- XV. Adjournment