



DHHSC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

6 PM, Tuesday, October 10, 2023

- I. Call to Order -
 - A. TIME: 6:02pm
 - B. Board members Present:
 - a. Steve Longo
 - b. Nicole Hurt
 - c. Anna Virnig
 - d. Jaime Johnson-Clay
 - e. Christian Gentile
 - f. Patty Killough
 - g. Jessica Lozano-Delgado
- II. Approval of Agenda Items
 - A. Motion to approve the agenda: Carried.
- III. Approval of May Board minutes
 - A. Motion to approve the minutes: Carried.
- IV. President's Report – Steve Longo
 - A. Board Training: Mark Apodaca, a professional licensed parliamentarian, provided board training on September 15 and 16. We learned a great deal about running meetings, bylaws, and more, and we plan on meeting with Mark again to ask some follow-up questions.

- B. Revised bylaws update: The revised bylaws were drafted and have been edited a few times by both the Board and DHHSC's attorney's office. The attorney's office is currently reviewing our edits. All Board members recently agreed to extend their current terms for another year so that we can finish what we started; however, this extension requires a small modification to the bylaws. We will be addressing this when we come to the Old Business portion of our Board meeting.
 - C. Community Comments: Our Community Comments meeting was recorded via both video and audio transcription software that allows us to create the most effective record.
 - D. Evaluation for ED: The board is currently working with DHHSC staff in ensuring we have the most up to date form to make this happen.
 - E. Website: The next step is to create a board page that allows the listing of board members' profiles with a photo for transparency purposes.
- V. Vice President's Report – Nicole Hurt
- A. Fundraising: Fundraising has been on a roll! The Panda Express fundraiser was a success in July; for one day we raised \$300! The community can continue to support DHHSC by eating on these special days. We also received a donation letter from Michelle, and it was handed out to businesses to get more donations. We will be following up with those businesses soon.
 - B. Deaf Women's Conference: In June, the Deaf Women's conference was attended by both Nicole & Jaime. Future conferences will be co-ed.
 - C. Community Comments: In August 2023 at Fresno Headquarters, we held our Community Comments meeting with free snacks and drinks. To attract more community members in the future, we are considering including more fun activities, such as a silent auction, deserts, and more.
 - D. Board training: Board members met with Mark Apodaca, and we learned a lot despite some technical difficulties. We are hoping to meet with Mark on

Zoom in the near future to continue training and acquire answers to follow-up questions.

E. Giving Tuesday: Giving Tuesday will be on November 28. You can donate to a specific team. Staff will be grouped in teams. Can we beat the staff? Keep an eye out for Giving Tuesday opportunities.

F. Valley Deaf Festival (VDF):

a. The Board is working on establishing planning meetings to work on providing a more efficient system to improve food service for this year.

b. Sammy's Tacos will be serving food again this year.

c. If you would like to volunteer, check out the DHHSC website and / or contact Susan at SusanC@dhhsc.org.

VI. Secretary's Report – Patty Killough

A. Community Comments: Thank you for those that attended our annual Community Comments meeting. You can still let us know any time you have concerns, suggestions and praises.

VII. Treasurer's report – Anna Virnig

A. Report through the end of September 2023: The report was shared on the screen.

B. Outstanding invoices for interpreting: Michelle Bronson advised that staff members are making calls to advise companies/people that have not yet paid.

C. Board member dues: Michelle verified that two board members are behind in paying dues, and that emails will go out to notify them of how much is owed. Grant providers do look at that and require that 100% of board members do pay.

VIII. Executive Director's report– Michelle Bronson

A. EDD, EDDSS, & Chancellors Foundation reports were submitted; all monies were spent; goals were met; we did well. We appreciate all funders

- and can't provide services without them. For example, it's the Chancellors Foundation 8th year sponsoring us with their money, and it goes to schools and homes to support families with DHH children.
- B. EDD: EDD is late, and they tend to be late. They changed the contract.
 - C. Budget: We will likely not have budget increases; the cost of living is up; it is painful for our employees.
 - D. Monterey Peninsula Foundation: We are waiting to see if a grant proposal made to them will be approved.
 - E. Giving Tuesday November 28: This has been a fun time in previous years; we will discuss prizes; watch for that.
 - F. Ubi Duo: We provide access to this device in our office; it is for people that don't sign, such as those that are late-deafened, Hard of Hearing, and cochlear implant users. It's good to demonstrate access that doesn't always include interpreters; not everyone uses interpreters.
 - G. Outreach Offices: There is a need for more social events. And we are continuing to raise money for ceiling repairs and lights. We received 3 bids, and they're expensive.
 - H. Staff updates: Krystal Rios Harris's last day will be on December 21. Now 2 positions will be open. She's been employed with DHHSC since 2015. If a replacement is not found, Fresno employees can work via videophone and go out to Salinas office a few times a month to meet people in person. Keeping the office space will depend upon how long the position remains vacant.
 - I. Earthquake Preparedness: The Fresno office provided training on earthquake preparedness on October 19.
 - J. VDF: Spread word . . . the ticket discount ends tonight at 11:59pm.
 - K. Holiday luncheon in December: We will start promoting soon.
- IX. Fundraising report – Jessica Lozano-Delgado & Christian Gentile

- A. Scholarships: We have the potential to get \$6,500 for students in Visalia under age 18. The suggestion is to try to provide six scholarships for students under 18 in Visalia. We need to vote to move forward and apply. Jesse has been on vacation; but, it's now being discussed. Last year 12 people received the grant.
- B. Panda Express fundraiser: Next time can place orders ahead of time.
- C. RawHide: The mascot for RawHide expressed that he has a relative that is Deaf, and RawHide wants to partner with DHHSC.
- D. Fan Fest: On October 27 DHHSC can set up a booth or sell waters.
- E. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: DHHSC can set up a booth, promote, and / or sell waters.
- F. Otis Spunkmeyer & Defy/Sky Jump: Expressed interest.
- X. Spotlights – None
- XI. General Board comments - None
- XII. Old Business
 - A. Suspension of Bylaws section to extend Board's term
 - a. Nicole read: Previous ByLaw - Section 13.01 These bylaws may be amended or repealed in their entirety with new bylaws adopted by majority vote of board of directors.
 - b. New proposed by law for section 13.01 Can adopt or suspend these bylaws, amend or repeal, by resolution adopted by board of directors requiring $\frac{2}{3}$ vote.
 - c. ALL Board members present voted in support of the new language.
- XIII. New business -
 - A. VDF & Technology: There is a need to purchase square technology capable of meeting our needs to improve food service.
 - B. Sammy's Tacos: The vendor has been confirmed.
 - C. Bids: We will need to meet soon to discuss approving a bid.
- XIV. Announcements - None

XV. Closed session (if needed)

XVI. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn 7:59pm