

**CODHHE MEETING MINUTES**  
Wednesday, January 16, 2008  
6:30 PM – Delaware School for the Deaf  
Newark, Delaware

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Richard Pelletier, Chair, DSD; Loretta Sarro, DODHH; Peg Stewart, Interpreter/Advocate; Julia Sullivan, HLADE and Kyle Hodges, Staff

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Diana Armstead, Advocate; Joe Drexler, WCD; Christy Hennessey, IRI; and Terry Whitham, DSP

Kyle will contact Diana and Joe to discuss their CODHHE membership.  
Rich will contact some members from DAD to ask for a representative to be on CODHHE.

Julia will contact some members from HLADE to ask for a representative to be on CODHHE.

A suggestion was made to have a collaborate meeting with DAD; Rich will let us know DAD's April general meeting date.

**INTERPRETERS**

Lois Steele  
Eileen Casey

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Loretta will be discussing smoke detectors.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Since there is not a quorum, the September and November 2007 minutes cannot be approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Peg provided September, October, November and December, 2007 reports.

The balance of accounts as of September 30, 2007: Certificate of Deposit: \$3,090.74; Money Market Account: \$6,385.58.

The balance of accounts as of October 31, 2007: Certificate of Deposit: \$3,090.74 plus \$209.49 interest = \$3,300.23 (transferred to Money Market Account) plus \$4.12 interest = \$3,304.35; Money Market Account: \$6,358.58; Total Balance = \$9,689.93.

The balance of account as of November 30, 2007: Money Market Account = \$9,689.93 plus \$3.19 interest = Total Account Balance = \$9,693.12.

The balance of account as of December 31, 2007: Money Market Account = \$9,693.12 plus \$3.29 interest = Total Account Balance = \$9,696.41.

Kyle will send out an e-mail to see if all CODHHE members are in agreement that \$8,000 will be put into a CD (Artisans'—4.4%); and the remaining \$1,696.41 will remain in the money market.

## **BUSINESS**

### Vice-Chair Position

Since there was not a quorum at the November meeting, Kyle sent out an e-mail to the absent CODHHE members for an official vote. A majority vote concluded that Loretta is officially the Vice President.

### By-laws

At the last meeting, the by laws were reviewed. Kyle made the changes in the by laws.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the by laws as revised. Kyle will send an e-mail to all not present for their vote.

### Visor Card

In December, Ed Marecki and Kyle presented the visor card to the Police Chiefs' Council. There was no opposition so we can now move forward. Kyle is going to check into the possibility getting a "restricted" symbol put on a driver's license. Kyle will meet with Terry to go over the final details before having copies made. Kyle has spoken to Andrea Guest (DVR Division Director) and it has been approved for the card to be distributed by the Delaware Deaf and Hard of Hearing Office. It still needs to be determined who will pay for the visor card. A press conference will be held in the spring and those invited will be: the Department of Labor's Secretary Sharp; State Police Colonel MacLeish; Chief Capriglione; Andrea Guest, Loretta, Rich, and others. The Department of Safety

and Homeland Security will handle the press conference details. This will bring exposure to the Council and the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Kyle will try and schedule this at a convenient time—possibly 3 or 4 pm—at Loretta’s office or at a police station. Kyle will keep everyone informed of the details.

### Brochure Update

Kyle noted that some of the pictures on the brochure need to be changed. It was agreed to eliminate the signs inside the brochure and include the five words-- Equality, Empowerment, Communication, Education and Advocacy with a nice lay-out. Kyle will e-mail the corrected brochure version to all.

### CapTel

Julia gave a report on the CapTel meeting. Jim Cole offered to set up a meeting between Verizon, Sprint and the Public Service Commission (PSC) to find out about adding CapTel to the contract so there would not have to be legislation. The contract dollars are from Verizon; but Sprint supplies the service on the contract until 2008. This is a federal mandate. Verizon is interested in bidding on the contract. This meeting did not take place. Apparently, the meeting should be between Verizon and Sprint. In January or February, this meeting is to take place with Jim Cole and Linda Heller also. Jim asked Linda to put the legislation on hold. Kyle will check his e-mail from Jim and follow-up on the meeting status.

### OTHER BUSINESS

Loretta added some information about smoke detectors. The strobe smoke detectors are hard wired; but have battery back-up if the electric goes off.

Peg added that the “Wake Up DE” program gives out smoke detectors. However, do they also give out batteries that fit the strobe smoke detectors for deaf consumers? If so, we could let the deaf community know about these batteries.

Rich reported that a task force voted 25 to 3 to approve ASL as a foreign language. The Department of Education still has to approve this. Loretta will e-mail Kyle and the Council the website for the task force.

Julia announced that HLADE has their coffee get-together meetings on the second Saturday of the month from 10 am to 12 noon on Kirkwood Highway. Everyone is invited.

The next meeting will be held on March 19 at 6:30 pm at the Delaware School of the Deaf, Newark.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Kyle Hodges  
CODHHE Administrator

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