

**CODHHE MEETING MINUTES**  
Wednesday, March 21, 2012  
6:30 PM – Delaware School for the Deaf  
Newark, Delaware

**PRESENT:** Loretta Sarro, Chair/ DODHH; Josh Weinstein, Vice Chair/D.A.D.; Peg Stewart, Treasurer, DSD; Terry Whitham, DSHS - 911 Administrator; Jo Singles, Support Staff.

**INTERPRETERS**

Theresa Muschiatti & Pamela D'Occhio

**GUEST**

Trish Warriner – DTCC

**CALL TO ORDER**

Loretta called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. Everyone introduced themselves.

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

none

**APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 18, 2012 MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made, second and approved to accept the January 18, 2012 minutes as submitted, with no one opposing.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Peg submitted two Treasurer Reports: one for January 31, 2012 with an ending balance of \$9,749.57 and one for February 29, 2012 with an ending balance of \$9,750.11. Josh asked about investing some of the money into a Certificate of Deposit. Peg commented that interest rates are so low at this point, it would not be prudent to tie up the funds. Josh suggested taking a small portion (for example 2%) and added that some banks do offer higher interest rates. He will check into this further and spoke about checking into bankrate.com and Allied Bank. This will be added to the agenda for May. A motion was made to approve these reports. This was seconded and approved, with no one opposing.

There was some discussion if a quorum was needed to approve motions or if the majority present could make a quorum. Peg clarified that if there are four members present and all four agree on a motion, then the motion passes; if three do not agree, it does not pass.

## **BUSINESS**

### **DTCC Corporate and Community Programs 2012 Kids Summer Camp**

Loretta explained that Trish had made contact with her after seeing an email about the scholarship being offered by CODHHE. Trish distributed a booklet on DTCC Summer Camps 2012. She provided an overview of the day camp offered at Del Tech for ages 5-15, locations at Stanton and Wilmington Campuses. Trish added that they have funds available for campers that meet eligibility requirements. Traditional Camp is offered for ages 5-15. Specialty Camps offered as follows: Ages 9-12 year olds: Academic (Science, Math, Computer), Specialty (Cake Decorating, Baking & Cooking, Jewelry Design, Photography), and Sports; Ages 13-15 (Stanton): Career Camps. Trish added that they had a deaf counselor working with them this summer. The cost is \$180/week and extended day is an additional \$30/week.

Peg explained that the scholarship being offered by CODHHE was specifically for camps that focused only on deaf and hard of hearing children. There was some discussion about availability of staff who could sign at DTCC. Question was raised if there could be one or two weeks set aside for deaf and hard of hearing children. Trish stated that they would be open to this for the future. Another question was raised was about transportation. Trish explained that the only option is parent drop-off. Peg asked if there were multiples D/HH students, would there be access to interpreters. Trish commented that is something that could be explored since there are deaf students at DTCC. Josh explained his personal experience as a child and the impact that camp had on him and explained that it would be more meaningful if the whole group attending was deaf and hard of hearing. Peg encouraged Trish to contact the Statewide Programs directly for potential campers. Josh will contact Trish for discussion about future possibilities. Trish distributed her business card and thanked the group for having her.

After Trish left, there was some discussion about the DTCC camp and that this would not be a good fit for what CODHHE wanted to offer a child with a total camp experience.

### **2012 Kids Summer Camp Update**

Only one application was received for the scholarship (handout). Information was reviewed online on the YLC (Youth Leadership Camp). This is a four-week camp in Oregon and supported by NAD. A total of 64 are selected (32 boys/32 girls) nationally and internationally. The camp also receives donations. The camp scholarship being offered is \$800.

The group reviewed the video submission on YouTube on the laptop. The video explained the camp's mission and concept and that it is affiliated with the Jr. NAD/NAD. The cost is \$1,500 (not including transportation expenses). Comments were made that the video submitted was very impressive. Comment was made regarding the lack of applications from DSD. Loretta commented that several emails had been sent out about the availability of the scholarship. There was discussion about how to handle the lack of applications received from DSD students. Suggestion was made to send a letter to DSD regarding this Council's expectations. This will be discussed further when Kyle can be in attendance to get his insight since he is also involved in the new Council on Statewide Programs (under GACEC). Loretta commented that there has not

been a meeting of the new Council in 2012 and the next meeting is scheduled for May or June. Contact will be made with Wendy regarding this.

There was discussion about having a presentation of the scholarship at Hand & Voices. Agreement was made to award the scholarship to the applicant. Comment was also made that this would be a good public relations opportunity. Terry suggested that he and/or Kyle contact Kim Chandler, PIO (Public Information Officer) at DSHS to coordinate an event; this will be good public relations and help the recipient of the scholarship raise additional funds for the transportation or the balance of the tuition. Kyle will confirm that recipient has been accepted to the YLC. Kyle will then draft a letter to the recipient (and email CODHHE members present today for any input) before it is given to the recipient. Motion was made that the camp scholarship be awarded to the applicant; this motion was seconded and approved, with no one opposing.

### **CapTel Update – Meeting with Senator Karen Peterson**

Loretta stated there were two meetings, one on January 26 and another on March 15. An individual downstate had complained to a representative about lack of access to CapTel due to lack of high speed internet access. Issues discussed were the need for data and the cost, separate from Relay service, and how it related to FCC approval. This was discussed at the Relay meeting, including Verizon and Sprint's roles. It was mentioned that the Relay in other states is paid by a PSC or PUC; Delaware has a PSC and this has not been initiated. Verizon covers the cost of Relay in Delaware. Also, there is no distribution program because Verizon does not support such. If a PSC is developed and the Legislature considers it, it would result in Verizon pulling its support and we would need some financial aid for the program.

Loretta mentioned that Julie Sullivan mentions in an email in talking with some friends and they were talking about a different type of equipment (handout). Loretta explained that the concept is the same as CapTel, but the equipment is a little different and requires high speed internet. Senator Peterson wanted to know if this analog system was available and if it requires broadband. There will be a third meeting next week. Jim is trying to collect data and if there is none available, then this issue cannot proceed. Loretta stated when she gets the notice that this meeting will proceed, she will inform everyone. Josh asked for clarification about the equipment. Loretta explained that people in Sussex County do not have access to high speed internet so they would need the analog type of equipment for CapTel. Jim will be researching this equipment to find out if access can be found through a landline. Senator Peterson will be looking at the possibility of a surcharge. Since Loretta forgot her notes today, she is asking Kyle to make any edits to this summary.

### **DODHH Update**

Loretta added that Kyle had brought this up at the last meeting about DODHH being on the State website/State Agency listing. Loretta explained that she is still working on this and should have an update at the next meeting.

### **Meeting with Andrea Guest, DVR Director**

Loretta spoke briefly and said that she met with Andrea who knows that she is Chair of the Council and had some questions about the Council. Loretta had given her a CODHHE brochure to review. Loretta stated that Andrea had called Kyle about the Council's role and he also explained his role and discussed the structure of the Council and how to expand membership.

This was tabled for further discussion until the next meeting when Kyle is here.

### **Letter to DE DSCYF's DPHBS Director Update**

This handout was in the meeting packet. This was tabled until the next meeting.

### **Nomination for Elections of Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer**

Loretta, Josh and Peg agreed to continue as Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer respectively. Josh motioned that the same people continue in their positions for another two-year term. The motion was seconded and approved, with no one opposing.

### **Deaf Child Sign**

This was not an agenda item, but included in the meeting packet. This was tabled until the next meeting.

### **State Contract for Interpreter Services**

This was not an agenda item, but included in the meeting packet. Loretta provided some information on this. All State agencies must use the vendors on this contract. She stated that OMB did not contact her Office (ODHH) or the State Council for Persons with Disabilities for any input prior to the contract being implemented effective February 1, 2012 for one year duration. Loretta commented that one of the vendors is not using interpreters and does not know why a contract was made with that provider. Peg made comment about how an agency in San Diego can adequately serve the population in Delaware with no knowledge of the community, but said it is becoming a nationwide trend and they are crippling the local agencies. Josh commented that he does use Quantum with no major complaints, but that the State should support local businesses. Terry commented about the impact on police agencies that need a timely response in an emergency situation (within 30 minutes); the new contract states a response will be made within two hours or as soon as possible. Comment was made about the billing Kyle may have more information on this at the next meeting. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

none

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 16 at 6:30 pm at the new Delaware School for the Deaf (Room 332). This meeting will include dinner.

Respectively submitted,

Jo Singles  
Administrative Specialist

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