

DDSC Meeting Agenda  
Monday, March 11, 2024  
Evans Park Community Center  
Attendance: 27

The meeting was called to order by President Allen Talbert at 10:27am

**Reading/Correction/Approval of Minutes**

Suz Dennis (Mike Childs) moved to accept the minutes for the meeting on January 22, 2024 as read. Passed.

**Officers' Report**

**President - Allen Talbert's Agenda and Report**

Thanks to Mark Alford for presiding over the meeting in January.

Thanks to Rosemary Adamca-Balzer for coordinating the social gathering last month. They played the ChickenFoot game.

We will have Joe Stanislaw talk with us regarding the DDSC website <http://delawaredeafsc.org/> and fee renewal for DDSC domain & hosting with BlueHost.

Dr. Jaime Wilson's presentation about Dementia in Frederick, MD on May 18, 2024 hosted by the MD Deaf Community Center (MDCC). Lori Bonheyo reached out and asked President Allen Talbert if the DDSC wants to split the expenses (\$2,500 each) to have him come to Delaware to talk with us. Or pay them \$1,250 and have us go over to watch his presentation. This is for us to discuss and decide during the new business.

Having a mini-workshop about deaf people's rights to vote during Deaf Expo and work with Feta Fernsler and/or board members of DAD?

Do we want to support the Sussex County libraries' Children's Book Festival - Sponsorship tiers of \$250, \$500, or \$1000. Need to discuss this during the new business.

Some of us went to Ocean City last Saturday to watch a short film at the Ocean City Film Festival. We watched the KODACHrome (W)rapper "Def but not Deaf" movie directed by Willy Conley. I discussed with Willy Conley about having his film shown here in Delaware as a fundraiser event. We could use the Clayton Theater as the fundraiser site.

We are still seeking a volunteer to be our chairperson for the DDSC 10-year anniversary celebration.

We will need to have an ad hoc committee to conduct a study to determine the percentage of the future proceeds to be reserved for the interpreter fund. Let me know if you are interested in serving on this committee.

### **Vice President - Mark Alford**

Mark Alford shared with the members the new additions to the DDSC Bylaws dealing with giving money to and from the DDSC. Mary Ann Richmond, the secretary, will share the new additions to the ByLaws with the members through email. We will vote on them during our next meeting in April.

### **Treasurer - Paul Haring**

Paul Haring went through his treasurer's reports for January and February 2024. The reports were audited by Jerry Buyas and Mike Childs.

### **Secretary - Mary Ann Richmond**

Mary Ann Richmond wanted the members to know that she had shared the update/ response from the ACLU of Delaware regarding our protests of their

lawsuit against the Delaware Department of Education through email last week.

Mindi Failing, the director of the statewide programs for the deaf and hard of hearing students, is in search of Deaf people residing in Sussex County who may be interested to work as Deaf Mentors working with the hearing families with deaf/hard of hearing children in Sussex County. Mary Ann Richmond shared Mindi's email regarding this search last week with the DDSC members.

### **Standing/Special Committee's Report**

#### **-Donate money (\$300) to Mariner Church, Suz Dennis**

The committee agreed to give money to show our appreciation even though they did donate us the use of their hall.

#### **-Social/Workshops planning, Billy Bowman**

Hope to start having workshops in May and on.

Potential workshop focusing on the voting rights collaborating with DAD president, Feta Fernsler.

The Delaware Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) has chosen a new director, her name is Christina Fiel. We could invite Christina Fiel to come and talk with us.

Potential field trips:

Longwood Gardens

Naval Academy in Annapolis

NYC

Harriett Tubman Underground Tunnel (13-14 stops) Try to get the Deaf person who was the tour guide for the Deaf group last year.

**-Quick review of DDSC webpage, Facebook and WhatsApp- Joe Stanislow, Webmaster**

Joe Stanislow was unable to attend the meeting today, so he will do it during our next meeting on April 8, 2024.

**-Deaf Fest Report, Barbara Simpson, Chairperson**

Barbara Simpson will cover this during the meeting next month.

**-Updates for the Pickleball Tournament - September 14-15, 2024, Sherry Duhon, Chairperson**

Sherry Duhon will have a committee meeting after this meeting. More info will be shared next meeting. Need volunteers to assist with this tournament.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

Martha Sheridan (Jay Innes) moved that we, DDSC, conduct a voting rights workshop working collaboratively with DAD after the 2024 legislative session ends. Passed.

Rosemary Balzer (Suz Dennis) moved that DDSC give \$250 to the Sussex Co. Libraries' Children Festival and ask them to use the money to purchase books related to the deaf children. Passed. Amended by Suz Dennis (Billy Bowman) to have DDSC purchase \$250 worth of books related to the Deaf children and give them to the Sussex County libraries. Passed.

Jerry Buyas (Donald DeGeorge) moved to close the new business. Passed.

**Announcements**

Suz Dennis- DAD - St. Patrick's Day Dinner/Party, March 16, 2024 at Millville Community Center at Evans Park 32517 Dukes Drive, Millville, DE 19967

Sussex County libraries are hosting a Children's Book Festival on Saturday May 18th at the Georgetown Public Library from 10am-2pm 121 Union Street, Milton, DE 19968

Deaf Expo in Wilmington, May 4, 2024 at Delaware School for the Deaf, E. Chestnut Hill R, Newark, DE 19713

Meeting adjourned at 12:15pm

50/50 Raffle winner: Jim Caddell \$45 / DDSC \$45

Respectfully submitted by Mary Ann Richmond, Secretary