

**DDSC Meeting**  
**Evans Park Community Center**  
**Monday, January 22, 2024**  
Attendance: 16

The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Mark Alford, at 10:15am.

**Reading/Correction/Approval of Minutes**

Keith Robertson (Mike Childs) moved to accept the minutes for the meeting on December 6, 2023 as read. Passed.

**Officers' Reports**

**President - Allen Talbert's Agenda** (not present)

Vice President Mark Alford went through the agenda shared with us from President Allen Talbert prior the meeting:

**-Reminder: DDSC meeting days changed to Mondays.** The dates are as follow:  
March 11th, April 8th and May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**-No meeting on February 12th unless one of you want to host game day**

**-Ten years celebration of DDSC (2025)**

**-DDSC Open Letter to ACLU- Delaware** (Mary Ann)

**Vice President - Mark Alford**

**-ByLaw committee report related to guidelines for giving**

The committee will work on this task in March.

**Treasurer - Paul Haring** (not present)

Vice President Mark Alford shared the treasurer's report for December 2023 audited by Mike Childs and Jeff Leach with us.

## **Secretary- Mary Ann Richmond**

### **-DDSC Open Letter to the ACLU-Delaware**

Mary Ann Richmond shared the background/ purpose for the DDSC to write an open letter to the ACLU of Delaware. A brief summary: The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Delaware has brought a lawsuit against the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) based on lack of Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) services in Delaware along with misinformation that LSL is the "gold standard" for deaf/hard of hearing babies (D/HH) and there is "over-referrals" to send D/HH students to the Delaware School for the Deaf (DSD). The Delaware Association of the Deaf (DAD) had written an open letter to point out the misinformation. DDSC followed the suit and wrote an open letter to the ACLU of Delaware. She mentioned she had sent a copy of the DAD and DDSC open letters to the members earlier this month.

### **-Thank you letter from Mindi Failing, Director of the Delaware Statewide Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students (DSWPDHH) for the gift cards.**

DDSC received a thank you letter from Mindi Failing, the Director of DSWPDHH, for the holiday \$25 gift cards she received from us for the Deaf/HH students. Mary Ann Richmond shared the thank you letter with the members via email on January 3, 2024.

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

**Deaf Fest 2023 Chairperson Barbara Simpson** (To be shared in March)

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

Keith Robertson (Suz Dennis) moved for the DDSC to transfer 10% of future fundraiser proceeds to the interpreter fund. Passed with amendment. Martha Sheridan (Margaret Buyas) amended the motion to have DDSC conduct a study to determine the percentage of the future proceeds to be reserved for the interpreter fund. Passed.

### **Announcements**

**DAD St. Patrick's Day** event- March 16th at Evans Park Community Center

12:30 - 1:15 President's report

1:30 - 3 Dinner \$25 per person

3 - 5:30 DINGO \$5 per person

Rosemary Balzer- Instead of having the monthly meeting in February, we will have a social event playing this game **ChickenFoot**. It will be on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 10am. She wants the members who plan to attend this event to bring their ChickenFoot game if they have it to the gathering.

Keith Robertson- The ASL Club bowling event was canceled for last week due to inclement weather. He will let us know when this event will be rescheduled in March.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02am.

**50/50 Raffle winner:** Jerry and Margaret Buyas \$15 / DDSC \$16