

MINUTES
DDSC Meeting
NOVEMBER 29, 2018

Refreshments donated by Nancy Childs and Ruth Innes; 33 people were in attendance (the library need the numbers for their records)

Officers Reports:

President Mike Childs reminded people of the prescription drug discount website at www.goodrx.com. He also noted that many Medicare recipients can expect to see an increase in premiums in 2019. For more information see <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/medicare-premiums-rise-slightly-2019-191841684.html>

Vice President Robert Balzer - absent.

Secretary Barbara White asked for approval of October minutes. Sherry Duhon approved, Marge Buyas seconded after Billy Bowman's last name was added.

Treasurer Denis Munn (absent). Allen Talbert gave overview of the Financial Reports which were audited and prepared by Denis Munn. Allen Talbert is appointed Assistant Treasurer and assists Denis Munn in financial reporting duties. Norma Buemi approved, seconded by Jerry Buyas.

Activities Coordinator Rosemary Balzer thanked Allen Talbert for arranging bowling league on Fridays; let her know of ideas for events, and she will promote them; Allen Talbert has scheduled Tuesdays for bowling in the Fall 3:30 pm.

Refreshments Coordinator Nancy Childs passed out a sign-up sheet for refreshment donations for 2019 meetings. January (Carla Haneyzewski, Sherry Duhon), February (David Bendekovitz, Mark Alford), March (Billy & Patsy Bowman), April (Linda & Melvin McCubbin), May (Dave Insley & Nancy Caddell), June (Norma Buemi & Angela.Munn).

Old Business

911 - Public Service Announcement video. A draft version of the video prepared by a professional production company sponsored by the Delaware 911 agency was shown with Director John Gilliam's approval. Jay Innes, Bruce White led the discussion and gave background information on how the video came about.

Many people provided feedback with the following points:

- a) Some of the language is not deaf friendly or deaf centric--for example, the word "rendered" could be replaced with "caused"
- b) The statement and caption at the end of the video "Text 911 If You Can't" is confusing; suggest adding "If You Can't Call by Voice, Call Through VRS" and add the sign for VRS in addition to spelling out "Video Relay Service"

- c) Signer is clear, but not enough facial grammar/expression or body language; add more expression, wear black shirt instead of a blue shirt and tie for visual clarity
- d) Some deaf people may not have VRS, consider adding "If you can't call on voice, use TTY" (this was discussed but may be obsolete)
- e) The phrase at the end of the video "In Delaware Call 911 if you can" is too small; make it as large as the caption for "Text 911 if you can't"
- f) If the point of the PSA is to inform public about the ability to text to 911, adding language about VRS is confusing, stay with one message; maybe need two PSAs in the future
- g) The PSA should be available on TV as well as on the Internet
- h) It would help to show what questions will appear when you text 911: 1) "what is the nature of your emergency?" and 2) "what is your location?" 3) "Do you need police, fire, or ambulance"?

Other points discussed: The system right now does not know where you are located, so the dispatcher will first ask you your location. Text takes longer than voice. Originally VRS was not even considered by Mr. Gilliams until he met with DDSC members, so our input has been valuable. They did not include all the information we gave them in the first meetings; the video must be under two minutes. They left out information on Smart 911 as it would be too complicated and time consuming.

Update on Beebe Healthcare: Norma Buemi sent thanks to the October speaker from Beebe Healthcare, Jody Barbarulo, on Advanced Directives. Beebe Healthcare would like us to give them ideas of health-related topics for future presentations. Norma stated that she and Barbara White are still working with NAD attorney Anna Bittencourt, who has composed a letter to begin a "structured negotiation." When the people involved in the six cases confirm the accuracy of their stories, a letter will be sent to Beebe administration. We hope Beebe can become a model for deaf access statewide. We would like to have volunteers for the DAD Committee on Healthcare committee, both men and women from the three different counties.

Labor Day reservation update: Barbara White received confirmation of the reservation for Sunday, September 1, 2019 for use of the John West Park. There is no fee in addition to the \$50 deposit as we are considered a nonprofit organization. Jay Innes and Andy Duhon are co-Chairs for 2019 picnic. Let them know if you would like to be on the Labor Day Picnic Committee. There was discussion about the date conflicting with DSA, but it was decided to keep the traditional Labor Day Sunday date, even if there are smaller numbers.

Interpreters list: The updated list of ASL Certified Interpreters was sent via email by Mike Childs. DDSC voted in September to list only RID-certified interpreters in Delaware; however, anyone can add other non-certified interpreters to give to their health care provider, but they will not be sanctioned by DDSC. It was suggested to put the list on the DDSC website and convert the list to PDF to post on Facebook. It was discussed that Beebe Healthcare now has three interpreters on call for the hospital and for Beebe-affiliated doctors' offices.

DDSC website: There was discussion about the need to continue the website but at a lower, basic cost. If we become a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization, the IRS will review the website before granting approval. Important documents should go there such as the Bylaws; for events and announcements, we

will continue to rely on social media and the DDSC email distribution list. Suggest the officers ask Robert Balzer, who has volunteered his time on the website, to subscribe to a cheaper plan, as soon as possible, to avoid the \$32 monthly rate currently charged.

Use of funds: Allen Talbert raised the issue of what we will do with DDSC funds. Since we are striving to become a non-profit, we need to discuss what projects we want to adopt for 2019 to serve our community. Ideas could be donation to the library, The Clayton Theatre, or hiring an ASL teacher to provide a free ASL class to the community. Barbara White suggested we discuss this in January and revisit our mission statement: *To provide essential programs and services for Deaf senior citizens designed to enhance their physical, emotional, linguistic, economic and social well-being, and to advocate and promote their common interests.*

New Business

Membership dues proposal. Barbara White moved that DDSC have a \$10 annual membership fee, starting in January 2019. Motion failed.

Dick Moore moved to report holiday, picnic, and other event funds separately in treasurer's report; Seconded by Joey DeLusant. Motion passed.

Dick Moore moved that we maintain a minimum of \$500 in the picnic fund at the conclusion of the annual picnic, available for the following year. Motion failed.

Mike Childs gave an update on efforts to gain 501(c)3 nonprofit status. Five people met at his home to start the application process: Allen Talbert, Joey DeLusant, Mike Childs, Jay Innes, Barbara White.

Announcements

Holiday luncheon update: Sherry Duhon, Chairperson, said 58 people registered. Location is The Den at Bear Trap, 12:00 noon Thursday December 6th. All plans have been finalized, including volunteers who will bring desserts, and for trivia game.

Seth Bravin's presentation on Sprint will be re-scheduled to the January meeting.

Salted Vines Winery has a retiree's happy hour every Thursday from 3:00-6:00 pm. Address is: 32512 Blackwater Rd, Frankford, DE 19945

Christmas Eve service will be interpreted by Tona Swagart at Mariners Bethel United Methodist Church, Central Avenue and Rt 26, Ocean View. 7:00 pm December 24th. Email Lisa Kawata, office manager, so she will reserve enough seats: officeasst@marinersbethel.org

A shelter for homeless women at Bethany Christian Church can use volunteers to make desserts. (After the meeting, it was learned the homeless shelter will be cancelled due to not having enough overnight volunteers). However, the Thursday lunch program can always use desserts from volunteers; just bring any desserts you can make on Thursdays to the Mariners United Methodist Church kitchen by 9:00 am at 81 Central Ave, Ocean View, DE 19970

Medical lecture at Aquacare Physical Therapy, 38069 Town Center Dr Ste 15, Millville, DE 19967, adjacent to Giant, on December 17th at 5:30 on "What is Rheumatology, Dr. David Wanalista. An

interpreter is confirmed through Everyday Interpreting. If possible, please register on their website if you plan to attend at <http://www.atlanticgeneral.org/calendar>

The Clayton Theater will show the Disney (PG) movie “Ralph Breaks the Internet” on Wednesday December 5th at 2:30 and 7:00 pm. <http://www.theclaytontheatre.com/>

50/50 Chance - Joey DeLusant asked the McCubbins, who are celebrating an anniversary, to draw the winner; Nancy Childs won.

Adjourned at 1:30 pm.