

DDSC Meeting Agenda
Thursday, October 24, 2024
Millville Town Hall
36404 Club House Road
Attendance: 33

Call to order by President Allen Talbert

The meeting was called to order at 1:19pm by President Allen Talbert.

Reading/correction/approval of minutes of previous monthly meeting on September 12, 2024. Secretary - Lisa Jacobs (Sub) for Mary Ann Richmond Jeff Leach (John Padden) moved to approve the minutes as read. Passed.

Officers' Reports

President - Allen Talbert's Agenda

- A. Reminder of Membership due
- B. Ad Hoc fundraising funds planning committee
- C. Video of DSD student to thank for DDSC gift/donation
- D. Chamber of Commerce - Membership renewal?
- E. Another Pickleball Tournament for next year?

Sherry Duhon shared the information about the DDSC PickleBall tournament last month. It was a very successful event. She thanked Beth Benedict, Billy Bowman, Fred Hartman and Lisa Jacobs. She also explained DDSC gave two gift cards to Rachel Benedict and Jay Kowalyck to show them our appreciation for their help to manage the scoring and turns during the tournament.

Billy Bowman reserved the pickleball courts at the Ocean Pines Racquet Club for next year, it will be on September 19th - 21st, 2025. Sherry mentioned she

prefers to make the DDSC pickleball tournament every two years.
DDSC will receive a bill for the rent of the pickleball courts, probably around \$900.

F. DAD Meeting on Saturday, October 19, 2024. Board selected Martha Sheridan to become DSSC representative in Sussex County. Meeting report by Martha Sheridan. (Shared below)

G. Meeting with Beebe staff and Dr. David Tam on October 30, 2024

Need feedback/stories

Mary Ann Richmond: DDSC has formed an ad hoc committee focusing on providing and educating the President and CEO of Beebe Healthcare CEO, Dr. David Tam, and his team on how to provide effective communication and services for the Deaf and hard of hearing and DeafBlind patients. The ad hoc committee would like to collect experiences/stories both positive and challenging stories you have experienced receiving care/ services from the Beebe Healthcare system. If you want to share your story, you can do it via email by responding to this email or share your story with one of us: Barbara White, President Allen Talbert, Billy Bowman, Suz Dennis and Mary Ann Richmond. We will have a meeting with the President and CEO of Beebe Healthcare, Dr. David Tam, and his team on Oct. 30th. I'll be sending you an email to make this request tomorrow.

H. Field Trip?

We had a discussion and decided to bring this up with our workshop/field trip coordinator, Billy Bowman.

I. Select DDSC nomination chairperson

President Allen Talbert will select members to serve on the DDSC ELECTION

nomination committee.

K. Holiday Dinner/Party - Help with money deposits only

Vice President - Mark Alford

No report since he was not able to attend the meeting.

Treasurer - Paul Haring

Treasurer Paul Haring shared the financial report for September. He kept the budget for the pickleball tournament separate to explain the itemized revenues and expenses for the tournament. The financial report was audited by Mike Childs and Jeff Leach.

Barbara Stanislow (Martha Sheridan) moved to approve the treasurer's report. Passed.

Secretary - Mary Ann Richmond

No report.

Standing/Special Committee's Report -

DAD Affiliated Representative for DDSC, Martha Sheridan

Martha Sheridan is the DDSC affiliated representative to attend the Delaware Association of the Deaf (DAD) meetings. She attended the DAD statewide meeting on Saturday, October 19th in Dover at the Green Turtle restaurant.

She explained about the recent workshop on voting rights and the PickleBall tournament. She mentioned these events were successful ones.

She brought up the challenges of Deaf Seniors in need of phone/internet services and home repair services. President Feta Fernsler provided us with a list of resources, some are ASL friendly, some are not. She had shared the list of resources with Allen. I suggest we put it on our website.

Judy McGuigan, DAD Kent County representative, mentioned she has similar concerns about the need for resources for Deaf Delawareans. Karen Miller, DAD New Castle County representative, shared her concerns, particularly related to housing for Deaf senior citizens.

Alanna Smith, Deaf social worker at Independent Resources Inc., has an office in Milford. Martha Sheridan suggested we invite her to one of the future DDSC meetings to talk about their services.

The Area Office on aging has grants and services (not Deaf specific). There is an interest in setting up a committee to explore resources, determine needs, and coordinate services. The DeIODHH would be involved. The DeIODHH wants to expand to help meet this need according to the public information officer, Christina Feil.

Kelly Adasko of Delaware School for the Deaf attended the meeting. She wants our members to meet with/ present to DSD students about our careers. She offered to bring students to us or provide transportation for us to go to DSD.

Minutes from the DAD statewide meeting will be available to us.

Unfinished Business -

Ad Hoc fundraising funds planning committee, President Allen Talbert

President Allen Talbert showed four different choices/ options that the ad hoc

committee had come up with.

President Allen Talbert asked Secretary Mary Ann Richmond to take over running the meeting as the president pro tempore, so he could report about the ad hoc committee's work regarding how to spend profits. Lisa Jacobs helped to take over the secretarial role as the secretary pro tempore.

Gordon Bergan (Mike Childs) moved to choose Plan D- 100% monies go to the general fund. Passed.

NOTE: The Executive Committee needs to have a budget plan for the next 1-3 years (how funds will be spent). Gordon Bergan recommended that the chair and committee for the future events determine where the profits will go.

New Business -

Jay Innes (Sherry Duhon) moved to have DDSC continue being a member of Chamber of Commerce Passed.

Gordon Bergan (Dave Staehle) moved for DDSC to donate \$100 for the Holiday party. Jay Innes (Barbara Simpson) amended the motion to have the Holiday Dinner flier and for any other future promotion related to this event to include this event is sponsored by DDSC. Passed.

Fred Hartman (Dave Staehle) moved that DDSC gets liability insurance. Passed.

Fred is willing to conduct a research to compare liability insurance coverages and make recommendations on which insurance policy to buy. Rosemary is willing to share her insurance information for x number of days of the event.

Sherry Duhon (Rosemary Adamca Balzer) moved that the Annual Holiday Party is now under DDSC. Passed.

Jay Innes (Lou Volpintesta) moved to have a pickleball tournament every year. Passed.

Beth Benedict (Sherry Duhon) moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Announcements -

- A. Holiday Dinner/Party on Thursday, December 5, 2024, Barbara Stanislow & Becky Hartman
- B. DSA is offering webinars and important topics for deaf seniors
- C. DSA 2025 KC Conference will include Pickleball extravaganza and early bird combo registration \$400 good for up to December 31st
- D. DSA is in process of interviewing and hiring Executive Director by the end of 2024.
- E. DSA Membership \$30 Visit website: www.deafseniors.us
- F. DSA is offering a webinar (Medicare & You) on October 30, 2024.