DDSC Meeting
March 20, 2025
Evans Park Community Center
Attendance: 25

We started with a presentation by ZVRS and Purple Communications, David Chidlow, about the ZP CloudVP.

Call Meeting to Order

President Allen Talbert called the meeting to order at 2:21pm.

Reading/Correction/Approval of Minutes from January 16, 2025

Jeff Leach (Dave Staehle) moved to approve the minutes as read. Passed.

Officers' Reports

President- Allen Talbert

a. DDSC Budget for 2025
   Our treasurer Paul Haring will cover this one.
b. DDSC Upcoming Election
   Reminded us of the upcoming election in May to vote for new officers.
c. Training on Deaf healthcare and accessibility to Beebe staff
   Barbara White shared with President Allen Talbert exciting news regarding the collaborative efforts between Beebe healthcare system and Gallaudet University. He will let her share this news in depth during our next meeting in April.
d. South Coastal Village Volunteers (SCVV)
   Some of the DDSC members attended a festival and learned about SCVV. This volunteer organization provides assistance for senior citizens with things such as transportation to medical appointments, errands such as grocery shopping, friendly visits and phone calls,

help with technology, household organization, home maintenance and repairs. We can have one of them come and talk with us about their organization.

Vice President- Mark Alford

a. Raise membership dues?

Do we want to raise membership dues or have fundraisers to earn more revenues since our draft budget for 2025 shows a deficit. Our treasurer Paul Haring will share the draft 2025 budget, then we can decide whether to raise the membership fees.

b. Keep all records on the DDSC website. Keep all records on the 2T External Hard Drive?

President Allen Talbert wanted the members to decide how long we should maintain information on the DDSC website and to store the old information on the 2T external hard drive.

Billy Bowman: As per the Guidestar, their guidelines gives us, the non-profit organizations, guidance on what to maintain in our website such as our mission, officers, address and the 990 tax information. We, the DDSC board and the webmaster, Joe Stanislow, will peruse the guidelines to help us with making decisions.

Secretary- Mary Ann Richmond

a. Thank You Letter for Donation (In Memoriam of Nancy Caddell)

Secretary Mary Ann Richmond helped President Allen Talbert write the thank you letters to those people who made donations in memoriam of Nancy Caddell. Please let her know if they have not received the letter after making the donation.

b. DSD Academic Bowl Secretary Mary Ann Richmond shared the exciting news regarding the DSD academic bowl team coming in fourth place during the eastern academic bowl competition at Maryland School for the Deaf. They will go to the nationals to compete at Gallaudet University. President Allen Talbert shared the Thank You video created by them.

c. Hands and Voices - Barbara White sent information regarding the DDSC scholarship available for D/deaf and hard of hearing students to this

organization, Hands and Voices, run by the parents of deaf and hard of hearing children in Delaware. This organization shared the announcement on their website. Barbara White also sent the information to the Coastal News, it was printed in one of their publications.

Treasurer- Paul Haring
December, January, & February financial reports and 2025 DDSC Budget

December treasurer report audited by Mike Childs and Jeff Leach.
Lisa Jacobs (Billy Bowman) moved to approve the treasurer report for December 2024. Passed.

January treasurer report audited by Shahryr Shilati and Louis Lapides.
Dave Staehle (Jeff Leach) moved to approve the treasurer's report for January 2025. Passed

February report audited by Shahryr Shilati and Louis Lapides.
Billy Bowman (Louis Lapides) moved to approve the treasurer's report for February. Passed

2025 Draft Budget

Dave Staehle noticed the draft budget for 2025 in the expenses section contains the projected expenses for the pickleball tournament of $3,400 was repeated twice. So, the total projected expenses is not 414, 535.00. It is $11,135.00. The total revenues is $12,688.00. So there is no deficit in our draft budget.

Billy Bowman mentioned the draft budget should include the projected revenues and expenses for our upcoming 10th anniversary.

Treasurer Paul Haring will correct the draft budget to reflect the correction of the expenses section and add the 10th year anniversary revenues and expenses.

Standing/Special Committee's Report

Pickleball at the Beach Tournament & Liability Insurance
David Staehle, our pickleball tournament chair, informed us of the location of our next Pickleball Tournament in September 2025 will be held at the pickleball courts next to the Clayton Elementary school. We need a certificate of insurance (COI) to cover any injury incurred during the two day tournament based on the injury inflicted by the environment, not for any injury inflicted during playing the pickleball games. The players will sign a waiver for injuries. Fred Hartman and Jay Innes shared with him the info regarding COI. It will be about $250 to purchase (COI) for the two day event.

Billy Bowman (Mike Childs) moved for the DDSC pickleball committee to be given $250.00 to purchase COI. Passed.

Billy Bowman requested for the pickleball committee to decide where the proceeds from the tournament go to which fund(s).

Dave Staehle will share more information during our next meeting. He said we will start making announcements regarding our pickleball tournament on April 18, 2025.

DDSC 10th Anniversary- Co-Chairpersons: Mike Childs & Denis Munn

Mike shared what the committee has been working on deciding whether to have appetizers or not. He will keep us posted of more details during the next DDSC meeting.

Potential Presentations/ Workshops- Workshop Chairperson Billy Bowman
Billy Bowman had met with his committee to make plans for the future DDSC workshops/presentations.

Potential workshop/presentations:

-Deaf Any by Ben Bahan focusing on different Deaf related information such as history, culture, ASL and more.

-Kristyn Eck, MSW: Columbus Colony Elderly Care, She used to work for the Columbus Colony Elderly Care for 25 years. Topics: Celebration of Life, funeral and memorial service planning (Zoom platform)

-Kim Majeri, MBA, MA: Gallaudet University Congressional Liasion (previously worked at NAD as their Legislative Coordinator and liaison for Deaf senior citizens). Topics: Preparing personal documents, choosing residential facilities (assisted living, memory care, nursing homes) focusing on accessibility and caregivers, their qualifications and duties- what to look for when choosing a caregiver.

She is willing to work with us to create a legislative bill focusing on Deaf elderly care issues.

Steve Hlibok, MA: - Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorney, and more.

Billy Bowman shared his experience attending the recent Legislator Breakfast Talk with several DDSC members. This breakfast talk was hosted by Senator Houck. Senator Houck had donated $500 to DDSC for two straight years. They shared their issues with Senator Houck. Billy Bowman had sent him a summary of the issues the Deaf community faces especially the elderly care for the Deaf. He emphasized the importance for us to develop relationships with our state and federal legislators.

Billy Bowman was asked to share the next breakfast talk with Senator Houck. He had done it via the Eastern Shore Deaf WhatsApp group. He will inform us when it is held next time. He mentioned there is a town hall coming up during the summer in Millsboro.

Linda Lytle shared what she had done, she has been sending emails to the legislators and calling them. She encouraged us to do the same.

Jerald Cohen wanted for us to contact our legislators regarding this house bill: HB 53. This house bill deals with the communications during emergency situations. He's willing to share his letter with us to be used as a template.

Billy Bowman wants for DDSC to work collaboratively with Delaware Association of the Deaf (DAD) on any legislative related bills or writing bills. We need a person to serve as our legislative liaison working with DAD. He also suggested for both organizations to create a legislative committee.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Billy Bowman (Mike Childs) moved that DDSC have monthly meetings throughout the year. Passed.

Billy Bowman (Louis Lapides) moved to adjourn the meeting. Passed

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm.

Announcements

Deaf Night Out (DNO) at 4 pm at Paradise Pub
34814 Long Neck Road
Millsboro, DE 19966

Next DDSC meeting: April 17th at 1pm

Announce 50/50 winner: Richard Simpson He donated his winning $22.50 to DDSC.