DDSC Meeting
July 16, 2026
Millville Town Hall
Attendance: 25 and 2 guests

Call to Order

President Dave Staehle called the meeting to order at 10:16am.

Reading/Correction/Approval of Minutes

May 21, 2026 meeting minutes need to be read, corrected if needed and approved. Beth Benedict (Jay Innes) moved to approve the minutes for the May 21, 2026 meeting as read. Passed.

Officers' Reports

President- Dave Staehle

Agenda

1. Workshop on August 27th - Coastal Village Volunteers Martha Sheridan will explain about the Coastal Village Volunteers during her report for the workshop committee.

2. Accessibility Grievance- Billy Bowman (Next Meeting) 3. DSA President Phil Aiello's Presentation after the Meeting 4. Schedule Confirmed for the DDSC Meetings (July-December 2026) Third Thursdays of each month

Vice President- Fred Hartman

1. New Ad Hoc Committee - Focusing on Directors and Officers (D&O) insurance for the DDSC officers
    - Ad hoc committee members: Jay Innes, Jeff Leach, Allen

Talbert and Fred Hartman

- We agreed we need to purchase D&O insurance for the DDSC officers. We have general liability (GL) insurance.

2. Change of the WhatsApp Group Name for Deaf Night Out We have changed the abbreviation for the WhatsApp group name for the Deaf Night Out from D-DNO to DNO.

Secretary- Mary Ann Richmond

None

Treasurer- Paul Haring (absent)

Mike Childs took Treasurer Paul Haring's place to review the treasurer's reports for May and June 2026.

1. Financial reports for May and June 2026 audited by Jeff Leach and Louis Lapides

Takeaway from the group discussion:

- Keep any financial reports for DDSC events separate from the general fund financial reports.
- DNO proceeds of $1,000 from the DNO at the Ocean View Brewery (OVB) last month should be deposited in the DDSC general fund, not the Pickleball fund.
- Barbara White mentioned that people were discussing what the Ocean View Brewing fundraiser is for and where the funds will go. She understood that the proceeds will help with scholarships, insurance and interpreter service costs. She said it is important to mention to donors and businesses how we give back to the community and scholarships are currently the most obvious community service endeavor.

Standing/Special Committee's Report

DAD Board Affiliate Representative- Martha Sheridan 1. DAD Board

Members are in the process of organizing to follow up on priorities established at the Town Hall meetings

2. The next Board meeting is August 16th at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Link is forthcoming. All are welcome to attend.
3. DAD's 2026 Statewide Meeting: Tentative date is October 24thin Dover. More information forthcoming.

Deaf Night Out (DNO)- Beth Benedict and Becky Hartman 1. Becky Hartman informed us that we have raised $1,000 from the fundraiser during our DNO event at the Ocean View Brewery last month. We will let the DDSC board decide how the proceeds will be distributed. They thanked us for making this a successful fundraising event.

2. Beth Benedict thanked Ann Meehan and Louis Lapides for their work to host the recent DNO event at the Hockers' Restaurant and Bar. Ann and Louis contacted Hockers to see if they could organize a fundraiser during the DNO event at their restaurant. They said it can be done after the summer months.
3. For the Rock the Boat DNO on August 20, 2026 on the Cape May-Lewes Ferry, the deaf people will be given the opportunity to embark as the first group.
4. For the DNO in September, it will be at the Plantation Lakes's restaurant and bar, The Landing, on September 18th. This will be a fundraiser event. We need to let the servers know we want to give 10% to DDSC by showing them flyers. Becky and Beth will share flyers with us.
5. DNO for October 2026 will be at the Crooked Hammocks (Dave Staehle)

Holiday Dinner- Jean Koch and Mary Ann Richmond

1. Save this Date- Wed., Dec. 2nd for the DDSC Annual Holiday

Dinner 4-8pm Appetizers/Social Time 4:15- 5:15pm Dinner at 5:30pm It will be $57 per person.

Labor Day Picnic Committee- Jerald Cohen

1. Eric Beer provided the Labor Day Picnic Committee report in absence of committee chairperson, Jerald Cohen.
2. The picnic will be on Sunday September 6. RSVP by September 1st.
3. Menu for the picnic: hot dogs and hamburgers (everyone will have up to two), appetizers and salad. Cupcakes will be provided as dessert. 4. The game will be a water gun range. Details are being worked out. 5. Corn hole game. $5 will be collected at the door.

Pickleball at the Beach Tournament Committee- Jay Innes

1. List of Committee Chairs (need this info)
2. Encourage more of us to register to participate in the pickleball tournament and need volunteers as well
3. Need our help to ask for donations such as water bottles, bananas and protein bars from grocery stores

Social Coordinator - **Allen Talbert**

1. Longwood Gardens -October 13 or 14, 2026

His committee - three members (who?) They need to know how many of us want to go there, do we want to eat lunch together? 2. Dogfish Brewery (nothing to do with DNO) The Dogfish brewery offers tours during the weekdays,Monday through Friday. Possibly next Monday or Thursday, he will let us know.

Student Support Committee- Linda Lytle

1. The DDSC scholarship committee gave $500 to each of 4 students who applied for scholarship. Three of them attended a volleyball camp at Liberty University and one attended a career camp at Gallaudet University (GU). (She showed us the video of gratitude from a Delaware School for the Deaf student who attended the camp at GU.)

Workshop Committee- Martha Sheridan

1. August 27, 2026 10 am – 12 pm at the Millville Town Hall Council Chamber *Village Volunteers: Helping Older Adults Age in Place.* Representatives from South Coastal Village Volunteers and Village Volunteers of Lewes will come to meet us, tell us about their program, and discuss how we can be involved. It is a community-based, neighbor-helping-neighbor type service.
2. October 15, 2027: Jewish Family Services (JFS), Millville Town Hall Council Chambers. Time tbd. JFS is a non-sectarian agency with professional staff that offers services to older adults, including home health care, case management, mental health services, and volunteer services. Details to follow.
3. Scott McIndoe is working on an AI workshop for us with speakers from Gallaudet's AI research and training program. The date has not yet been determined, most likely in November. Details are forthcoming.
4. Billy has made contact with a speaker for a Deaf culture workshop that is forthcoming in the winter or spring. Details to follow.

Ad Hoc Deaf Awareness Committee - Barbara White

1. Ad Hoc Deaf Awareness Committee - There are 3 events for adults, one event for children at the South Coastal Library and two introductory ASL classes at the Lewes Library. Mark your

calendars as September will be busy! A final press release will be shared next month.

2. 1. Tracey Salaway "Deaf Artists in America" Tuesday, September 8, 3:30 - 5:30 pm
3. 2. Irene Leigh, author of new book *"Hiding the Holocaust: Memoir of a Deaf Daughter"* Tuesday, September 14, 4:00-5:30 pm
4. 3. Maggie Williamson "Becoming an Executive Chef" - Thursday, September 17, 5:00-6:30 pm
5. 4. Children's Art Class: Terri Worek and Mary Ann Richmond, Saturday, September 26, 10:00 - 11:30 am
6. 4. Terri Worek and Mary Ann Richmond teach Introduction to ASL at the Lewes Library, September 16 and 23, 5:00-6:30 pm

Unfinished Business
None

New Business

None

Announcements

DDSC Meeting Schedule and Location:
Every third Thursday of month until December 2026 at
Town of Millville, Chamber Room
36404 Clubhouse Road, Millville

August 20th 10 am- 1pm
September 17th 1- 4pm
October 15th 1- 4pm
November 19th 1- 4pm
December 17th 1- 4pm
Announce 50/50 raffle winner Eric Beer $25 He donated his winnings to the DDSC general fund. $50 goes to the DDSC general fund.

Adjournment of the Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25am.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Ann Richmond, Secretary