

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING
Quarterly Council Meeting
Thursday, May 12, 2016 - Friday, May 13, 2016**

MINUTES

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CART Captioner: Lisa B. Johnston, RMR, CRR, CCP, CBC

Call to Order and Roll Call: 9:00 A.M. EST

Council members present: Gayl Hardeman, Donna Drake, Debbe Hagner, Cecil Bradley, Chris Littlewood, John Jackson, Glenna Ashton, Sherilyn Adler, Cindy Simon, Rosie Finigan, Mary Hodges

Via phone: Darlene Laibl-Crowe

Staff present: Shay Chapman, Megan Callahan, Kim Ingram

Presentations:

Shannon Hughes- Florida Department of Health; Director, Division of Community Health Promotion

- Gave an overview of the funds allocated by the Department for the Council. The amount of funds allocated for the council is \$101,000 for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Sarah Hofmeister- Florida Department of Health; Executive Appointments

- Gave an overview of councils and boards, and governor appointments; 55 boards and councils, making up over 650 members. 28 of those boards are regulatory boards such as Board of Medicine, Pharmacy; all other remaining boards and council are non-regulatory and serve in an advisory capacity, such as the FCCDHH. Described her role in executive appointments as making sure that boards and council coordinators have the resources to provide the boards and councils with support.

Wes Payne & James Feeney- Florida Department of Health; Office of Communications

- Presented a PSA idea for the Council. The council expressed their wishes to use the original PSA script.

Staff Updates:

Shay Chapman – Presented a follow up of action items assigned to DOH staff

Council Updates:

An election was held for Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2016-17 fiscal year on Friday, May 13, 2016. The results are as follows: *Glenna Ashton* – Chair, *Debbe Hagner* – Vice-Chair

Outreach Discussion

The discussion of outreach was brought up with the concern that the council no longer has someone for outreach. This along with the reminder that the council used to have funds for a support person as well as someone for outreach; these have been two separate roles in the past. It was stated that due to the council not having an outreach person at their fingertips, it should be considered that council members volunteer to perform outreach. The ultimate goal in mind for outreach would be general outreach and education about effective communication, including going out to train law enforcement personnel, hospitals, doctors, etc. Since money is not allocated for this right now, it was mentioned that a revisit to past budgets could be made in order to strategize getting the money needed from the legislature by proposing the funds needed and hopefully becoming a line item budget once again. It was emphasized that due to this year being a Governor's report year, outreach is strongly encouraged to be performed among the council members.

Committee Reports:

Web Committee –reported that five (5) rules were added to the Council's Facebook page; and discussed additional items/updates that they would like added to the FCCDHH website at DOH.

Technology Committee – provided an update on continued work on the PSA being produced by DOH staff. The council decided to use the original PSA script.

Education/Medical/Outreach (EMO) Committee – reported that the resource guide is being worked on; and that the resource guide will be collaborated on further using Google Docs.

Legislative Committee – reported that two letters have been distributed regarding talking points when approaching the legislature.

Department of Children and families (DCF) – no update provided.

Budget Committee- reported that the council was under budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year; discussed the budget from the last fiscal year; reported on the funds allocated for the next fiscal year which is a \$101,000 budget.

Public Comment:

David Roberts (president of the Florida Deaf-Blind Association): Brought to the Council's attention that there is a need for SSPs for people who are deaf and blind. States that the SSPs provide services to those who are deaf and blind who wish to go out on their own and not have to rely on family members or spouses. The SSPs provide services such as being guides, getting to workshops and meetings, serving as

interpreters, etc. He also wishes to provide training or workshops to the organizations that use SSPs so that they may become familiar with the culture they will be assisting.

David Roberts (addressing a different topic): Would like to see a Deaf Service Center and a Center for Independent Living back in Tallahassee that will be open 24/7. This way it makes it easier for the person who is deaf to request an interpreter or any other service at any time they need it, especially at the hospital. States that once this happens, he would like to see contracts between the hospitals and the service centers to make interpreting more accessible during an emergency situation. He stated an incident where he tried using VRI in the emergency room and it did not work very well considering the signal was weak due to how thick the walls in a hospital are. Eventually, the hospital had to call an interpreter because the VRI was not working properly and he needed a way to communicate.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held in Jacksonville at the Four Points by Sheraton on August 11 – 12, 2016.

Action Items:

1. Rearrange tables to make head of table shorter/in a V-shape – DOH Staff
2. Find and compare old website analytics with new website analytics – DOH Staff
3. Figure out if SEO was being used for analytics – DOH Staff
4. Make additions to the acronyms list – Megan Callahan
5. Provide a list of hearing aid resources – Chris Littlewood
6. Write a small letter on opinion about hearing aids and insurance – Cindy Simon
7. Invite Early Steps to the next meeting – DOH Staff
8. Speak with legislative liaison about continuing support for the council – Shay Chapman/Shannon Hughes
9. Write a letter of appreciation to the Department for their donation - Council
10. Send an e-mail with the link to apply for appointments and reappointments – DOH Staff
11. Assemble Sunshine Laws training for new members – DOH Staff
12. Get into contact with Helen Keller communications team regarding PSA – DOH Staff/DOH Communications
13. Make the website's home button more prominent – Megan Callahan/David Blodgett
14. Upload the Floridian Resource Guide onto the website with a disclaimer – Megan Callahan
15. Upload the link to the Facebook page on the website – Megan Callahan

16. Letterhead/stationery for the letters to the legislature – DOH Staff
17. Invite surrounding county commissioners and legislature to next Council meeting –
Donna Drake
18. Schedule a tour of the Capital for the next Tallahassee meeting – DOH Staff
19. Make an FCCDHH tablecloth for events – DOH Staff
20. Secure hotel for Jacksonville meeting – DOH Staff
21. Schedule Dr. Phillips to attend an upcoming meeting – DOH Staff
22. Write a small “member spotlight” on ALDA experience – Chris Littlewood
23. Perform a follow-up with the Governor’s office about council vacancies – DOH
Staff/Sarah Hofmeister
24. Schedule a tour of FSDB for Jacksonville meeting – DOH Staff
25. Letter to legislators about 911 texting – Chris Littlewood/Glenna Ashton