

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
Virtual Quarterly Meeting**

Thursday, August 18, 2022  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Remote CART Captioning provided by  
Lisa B. Johnston, RMR, CRR, CRC  
*www.providingcart.com*

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>> SEAN ISAAC: Good morning, everyone.

>> CINDY SIMON: Good morning.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Chris, I'd forgotten what you looked like.

>> [Open mic]. Hello. Nice to meet you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's 9:00 o'clock. We have.  
I see Cindy is on the conference call. We need one more

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm on my phone as well.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We have five here. Maybe more will show up later.  
Good morning, everybody.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna? I'm sorry, this is Sean. I need to start the recording.  
Can you give me one second? I need to record.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Good morning, this is Chris Littlewood. If it's possible for  
CART to pass the token for Zoom so we can view the captions directly through the Zoom  
window?

>> REBECCA: Is Lisa CART on Zoom? I don't see her as a participant anymore.

[Note from CART Captioner]: The Zoom has not been set up in order for me to  
caption.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: I'm assuming it's Lisa providing CART for us this morning.

>> REBECCA: Yeah, I don't see her as a participant anymore. She was on and I'm not sure.

>> SEAN ISAAC: If I may. This is Sean Isaac and this is the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Well, somebody is captioning, she's probably here. It's just hard to see in both separate windows.

[Note from CART Captioner]: We did a test on all of this, but they apparently did not set it up in Zoom in order for me to caption. So captions are only provided via StreamText.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Can you all hear me?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. No.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. This is Sean. You all can't hear me?

>> CINDY SIMON: This is Cindy, I can hear you.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Lisa is saying in the CART that testing was done to provide via StreamText and not directly through the Zoom window. There is a way where you can just pass the API token directly through Zoom so that you can see captions directly through Zoom.

The host has to assign a CART Provider for that. We can work on that for training for future meetings, I guess, if everybody is not familiar, I'm happy to help with that at another time.

We'll just move forward with this.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. This is Sean. And hopefully you all can --

>> [Open mic].

[Note from CART Captioner]: Everybody needs to please mute your telephone unless you are speaking. Thank you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: There is a lot of background, so as a reminder, to please mute your phones. To do that on the conference call, you have to hit star two. To unmute, you have to hit star two.

Currently we have agreed to communicate through the phone as the official record, not through Zoom. You can use your screen to view Zoom, but we ask you to please mute in Zoom

>> VOICE: Mary Hodges has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: The conference all line and number are indicated on the agenda, so please take a minute to call in on the conference call if you want to be heard.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Hopefully we'll get a few minutes for that and then turn it over to Glenna to get us started, okay?

[Pause].

>> [Open mic].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: [Indiscernible].

[Note from CART Captioner]: Captioner is unable to hear Glenna speaking.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna, I can't hear you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Can you hear me? [Indiscernible].

>> LISA (CART CAPTIONER): The Captioner is unable to hear Glenna clearly.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: [Indiscernible].

>> CINDY SIMON: This is Cindy. I cannot hear her either. I hear some faint background.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna, are you able to call in to the conference call? Everyone needs to call in so they can be on the record and be heard so that the Captioner can take down the message through the conference call as the official record.

You can be seen using Zoom. We're asking everyone to be heard through the call.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: I can repeat that phone number for everybody on the call. That phone number is on the agenda and that number is 888-585-9008. And I will also type that into the Zoom chat.

Once you call that number, then you'll have to enter a conference room code: 828-532-954.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: It's still a little bit challenging as we move into these webinar platforms, to make sure that we continue to provide access to everyone.

At this time, we believe that most people still have a phone as opposed to perhaps having internet or conference capabilities, like Zoom or GoToWebinar, and so the phone still has to be the official record.

However, we do have the ability to see everyone using the Zoom platform.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: We want to make sure that is still available and as we move along, maybe we'll get a little better and more tech savvy. But for now --

>> VOICE: Chris Littlewood ALDA Suncoast has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Hi, Chris, I just heard that you joined the conference.

>> CINDY SIMON: Excuse me, Sean? This is Cindy. Do you want us on the Zoom? I thought only those needing interpreters were supposed to be on the Zoom.

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I think you're correct. We prefer that the interpreters and those presenting use Zoom, unless you need the capability for another reason. And if you need to, that's fine.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Can you hear me?

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: With the caveat that you have to have your Zoom microphone muted. If you want to be heard, you have to use the phone. I hope that's clear.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Lisa, can you hear me now?

[Note from CART Captioner]: Yes, I can hear you. Thank you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: We can hear you, Glenna. Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Can we do a roll call just to make sure we can hear all the members again?

[Pause].

[Talking over one another].

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'm sorry, can you repeat that one more time?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I want to use voice on both Zoom and conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: We're using our voice on the phone. The conference, the Zoom platform is just to be seen. And we are preferring folks to use Zoom if they need to, but hopefully we can reserve that for the interpreter or those presenting.

I just wanted to make sure people could understand what I was saying.

[Pause].

>> Glenna, you need to mute your Zoom; this is Debbe.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So you'll see me signing on Zoom and hear my voice on conference call. Oh, okay. So the interpreters won't hear my voice, will they.

Oh, the interpreters have both Zoom and conference? Oh, okay, fine. Okay.

All right. We have all the tech stuff cleared up.

Okay. It's 9:12, I think we can FINALLY start. Welcome to the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. This is now being recorded, both on Zoom and conference call.

Today is August 18, this is a postponed meeting from August 3.

And we have -- we now have -- I want to first recognize the services. We have three interpreters new to the Council. Janelle Barnes, Kelly Gagain, and Natasha, whatever her last name is.

CART is Lisa Johnston.

And the Zoom apparently is being provided by Vanguard AV.

If you want to use CART, you must use the direct link provided, not in Zoom. If you want to use your voice, you must do it through conference call.

If you want to sign, you stay on Zoom.

Is that clear to everybody?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We will start with the roll call. I'm Glenna Ashton, Chair of the Council. Cory? Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: I'm Cory Parker, Vice Chair, DOE/VR.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: My name is Debbe Hagner --

[Note from CART Captioner]: We have overtalking of Debbe and the interpreter.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I am representing HLAA Florida.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Chris?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Good morning, this is Chris Littlewood from the Association of Late-Deafened Adults for St. Petersburg College and I live in Seminole, Florida.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: Good morning, everyone. I wish we were seeing each other. This is Cindy Simon representing audiologists and I'm in South Florida.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We have five here, and I forgot to mention I represent the Florida Association of the Deaf sitting here in HOT Boca Raton.

Okay.

[Talking over one another].

>> MARY HODGES: Glenna?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We are between Zoom and the conference call, make sure you raise your hand in some way or type in some way to be recognized first and say your name before speaking.

Okay. First we need the approval of the minutes from May. We just got it this morning, so I'm going to give you a few minutes to read through the minutes before we --

>> CINDY SIMON: Excuse me, Glenna, this is Cindy. Mary Hodges is here.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: She is?

>> MARY HODGES: Good morning, this is Mary.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Good morning! Happy you're here! Okay. Introduce yourself, please.

>> MARY HODGES: Good morning, this is Mary Hodges, Department of Elder Affairs.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We now have six out of nine. That's great!

Okay. Like I said before, if you would look at the e-mail that Sean sent this morning, like a few minutes before the meeting, to look at the minutes from May, take a few minutes to look at it and then go back to whether we approve it or not, okay?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. This is Glenna. Is everyone finished reading the minutes?

Okay. I will accept a motion to accept the minutes as written. Okay, Debbe.

>> CINDY SIMON: I move.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe moves, Cory seconds.

Actually -- oh, we don't need a vote on that, it just needs to be approved.

So, there's no corrections or anything? Okay. So the minutes are accepted as is. The agenda is next.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Are there any changes or corrections with the agenda?

>> [Open mic].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I will take a moment to mention that... when we have the break at 10:30, 10:45, that's when I have to leave for a doctor's appointment. It was a long-standing appointment. If I changed it, I would have to wait another month and I didn't

want to do that. Luckily it's just before lunch. So I'm going to leave when it's break time and...

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, I need to leave at 11:00 and I'll discuss whatever committee we're on and then after I leave, Cory will take over in my absence and go over the committee updates and everybody will take terms.

I'll mention mine before I leave.

And then the letters, Cindy can take the lead on that; hopefully maybe Gina will join by then. But if she's working at school interpreting, she probably won't.

And then I'll be back just before 1:00 o'clock. Because that's the only thing of note.

Any other comments on the agenda?

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna, this is Sean. Can you hear me?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, yes, yes.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I just wanted to make a quick comment that my apologies, I know I was responsible for setting up the agenda, but if you look at this afternoon, 1:00 o'clock to 3:00 o'clock is that two-hour span that we're still used to for the Council, but I've heard feedback from the interpreters that they probably need a break after about an hour and a half. So is it possible to amend the agenda in the future to have that break about 2:30?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, yeah, we can take a quick break after Cecil finishes his presentation.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That would be great. Thank you so much.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, no problem. Okay, so the agenda is accepted as it is? Except for a short break after Cecil's presentation?

Okay, Debbe?

[Debbe and interpreter talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. And today I'm sure Sean has a lot to share with us! And so go with it, Sean.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. Good morning, everyone. Thank you so much for your patience with us as we enter this new era when it comes to the Zoom platform. I know we have used Zoom in the last few meetings. It's still a work in progress for us, so we appreciate your patience as we, I guess, improve and making sure that these different ways to communicate to the public are available and are providing as much accessibility to everyone, through the phone, through the StreamText, through Zoom, and then the phone call, the conference call.

We're doing the best we can to make sure that everyone has access to these meetings. So we appreciate your patience as we kind of work through the kinks of trying to make sure that everybody is hear and see and we're not talking over one another.

I wanted to say you can use your video when you're presenting, so at least we can see each other. I know Cindy made that comment that she would like to be able to see everyone. So you can use your camera, but we still want you to use your phone to talk. I know some folks don't have that capability, but I'm getting that out there for the rest of those who do.

All right, first, and probably the foremost update from me is that we do and have hired a new liaison for the Council and the Department of Health. And I wanted to introduce her now.

So, Angie, can you please make your camera available so that we can see you while I'm introducing you?

Angie comes to us from the private sector, so she's new to state government. So forewarn her [chuckles]. Not only that, she is still learning about the deaf and hard-of-hearing community as well. She is very excited about this opportunity.

She has a history in providing patient care, where she did a lot of home healthcare prior to joining us in this role with the department.

She looks forward to working with you all. And I have already told her many, many things about how we can improve our services to you all.

So I look forward to her impressing you all. She takes over bit-by-bit parts of what I've been doing the past year and she takes those to higher levels and improves on those services, including getting the minutes out to you all sooner so you have more time to review those, okay.

In addition, she's already started some things when it comes to the travel for our next meeting, and so I think you're going to like some of the new things that she's doing

>> [Open mic].

>> SEAN ISAAC: To make sure that you guys are set and ready to go, prepared, have the ability to promote the meeting, as well as get your reimbursements back.

So, good things to hear from her on that.

Angie, did you want to take a minute to introduce yourself?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Hi, my name is Angie Green. I am the new liaison for the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I'm very excited to be in this position. I look forward to helping all of you to the best of my abilities and learning from everybody on what you can teach me.

>> SEAN ISAAC: All right. Thank you, Angie. I'm so excited that you're here!

I kid everybody that I have a larger smile on my face than usual, but really, it's because I know of the services that the Council needs. And it is always difficult for me not to be able to do all of those as quickly as I could. And I see Angie being here full-time to help you all and providing those services to you and I'm excited about that opportunity and I'm looking forward to you all seeing that and feel it and, you know, certainly know that the Department is providing as much services as quickly as possible to you as possible, okay.

And so that's why I'm happy. Not that I will be leaving you all. I'm really kind of sad about that. And I still don't know exactly what my role will be in the future. We are going to be talking about that this week and the weeks to come.

But as far as making sure that you all have someone full-time at your disposal, I'm happy about that. And I'm happy about Angie as a person. I've gotten to know her over the past few weeks and she is a delight to work with and she is excellent at following up. She's been following up with me more than I can follow-up with her [chuckles]. So I know

she's going to be great with you all and making sure that you are responded to timing and that your needs are met, okay.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Absolutely.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Welcome, Angie. Welcome.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, welcome, Angie. We're happy to FINALLY have a new person.

>> Welcome.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And I'm sure that Sean has told you that we're desperate for assistance from Tallahassee. So hopefully we'll look forward to future great things. So welcome again.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Thank you, thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I would like to mention that when I was looking on the website at the different councils under DOH, there was a long list. But I didn't go through all of them. But the few that I did, they didn't have much on their website.

We have a LOT on our website and we have a lot of information and resources, I would suggest you start reading the resources and information and it will help you learn a lot about the deaf and hard of hearing.

I mean, you can go through the DOH address, but our link is FCCDHH.org and the information is right there. On the left column, there are different categories and information. So you can learn a lot by reading things.

And Debbe is in charge of the website and hopefully you will work with her in continuing to improve the website.

I was surprised how much wealth of information we have as compared to other councils. I feel like they only had a front page and that was it, and I was, like, wow! They're not sharing with the public.

Okay. Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: No, no, I appreciate you making that comment. I think what you're seeing is that this Bureau and this Division does a great job trying to go above and beyond to make sure that services are available for the public that call in that are having deaf and hard-of-hearing issues personally.

It's really out of need that we make those services publicly available on our website, because so many people do call and ask us for help with this or that.

And Angie has certainly had some experience with that in the several weeks that she's been here, already responding to those individuals, responding via phone call and e-mail.

And so you might be surprised as to how much she knows already about some of the services, some of the services that are available.

Even before she was hired, Angie can attest to this, I asked her to make herself available and familiar with the website [chuckles] because it's such a help on some of the things we do here and making the resources available to the public.

I will also mention that we have had a colleague, my colleague for the Public Health

Benefit program, Louisa updating the website, providing the agenda, the CART, making sure that information is available. Because there was a vacant position and Angie will be starting that process as we move forward, but she will be in training to learn some of those ways to update the website.

One of the things I look forward to her doing is communicating with you, Debbe, and the Council as to what changes you wanted to see.

I know, Debbe, you mentioned moving the link to the meeting, so it's one of the first links that people can see when they log on to the website. And that's something that I did not have a chance to work on a lot, but I have communicated that just this morning to our IT person, who's been working on that.

And I've also communicated that via e-mail to Angie. So those types of changes we can certainly make and we want you to please keep those comments and suggestions coming forward, okay.

Okay. Anybody else want to make any other comments to Angie before we move on? She's incredibly excited to speak with all of you and work with all of you.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Thank you. Welcome again, Angie.

>> CINDY SIMON: This is Cindy. I just want to say welcome, Angie, and I look forward to meeting you.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Oh, thank you, thank you very much.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. Thank you for that, Cindy.

Next up is -- oh, and by the way, once I finish talking here, Angie will have a few updates for you as you see on the agenda there as well, okay?

But I wanted to also mention, I did --

>> I have a question.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'm sorry? Go ahead.

>> Okay. This is Cory. I just wanted to say welcome. I didn't get a chance to welcome Angie, so... um... hold on, please... video...

>> ANGIE GREEN: Thank you, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: Can everybody hear me?

>> SEAN ISAAC: I can hear you.

>> ANGIE GREEN: I can hear you.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay. You know what? Don't worry about it, we have the spotlight going with the interpreters, I'm not going to worry about it.

I just wanted to welcome Angie. Angie, I have -- we have been e-mailing for a little

while, actually everyday now, and she thinks she's bothering me, but she is not! Angie, it is not a bother. Please come to me with any questions.

There is no -- I would get weird questions from hearing people asking me all the time and it doesn't even bother me. You think it's an odd question, but it's not. We are here to support you and to support each other. That is the purpose of this whole Council, you know, so that's why we're here. We're here for public questions, any kind of questions.

If you have a question, the public has a question, you know, how -- how does it work with the Deaf and how does it work with the hard of hearing, you know, you will get more experience, you know, or become -- you'll understand more of the culture for the Deaf and hard of hearing, the blind, you'll get used to it, you'll know more and more about it. We're here to help you, you know, to help guide you through this.

So, I'm sure after a year, maybe two, you'll become an expert, I'm sure! [Chuckles].

So, I just want to say please continue to ask any question that you can and, you know, if we can, we will answer it.

So, ask away, Angie. And welcome!

>> ANGIE GREEN: Thank you very much.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Thank you, Cory. I will repeat, we are here to help. And also, Angie, you can ask any member of the Council, depending on the specialty, if you have an audiology question, you can ask Cindy; if you have a HLAA hard-of-hearing rights question, you ask Debbe; Deaf culture, you can ask either Cory or me; education tends to be me.

So really, you can ask any member of the Council. You can send out, when you get questions from the public and you're not sure where to go, just send it out to the Council and one of us will answer. So really, you can ask all of us. And you're welcome to bother me! [Laughs]

>> ANGIE GREEN: Thank you, I really appreciate that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, Sean, go ahead.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you. And Chris made a comment that whoever the host is, can you pin the interpreter, I believe is the comment in Zoom. So thank you for that, Chris.

>> CINDY SIMON: This is Cindy, excuse me. I have typed hand up --

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

[Talking over one another].

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'm sorry, Cindy, I didn't hear you. Can you speak up?

>> CINDY SIMON: Sean, I have a question for you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Please.

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm finding it confusing. Initially you said not to go to Zoom unless

we need interpreters. Everyone is in three different places and I don't know that everyone can see the same thing at the same time. If you type a comment in the CART, half the people probably don't see it.

Is there a way we can all be in the same platform? Should we all be joining Zoom so we're not in so many places?

I'm just not sure. I'm feeling a disconnect with that.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory, I agree. I think Zoom might be the easiest.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The window becomes smaller and smaller and it becomes harder to see and somebody has to really work to spotlight before anybody can talk or sign.

[Note from CART Captioner]: Everyone should be here in the StreamText chat, even those on Zoom.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Everybody should be spotlight.

Who has control of the -- Sean, are you the host for the Zoom meeting? Or is Vanguard?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Vanguard is the host for our meeting and so they have the responsibility to spotlight.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, Vanguard? Is Vanguard on the whole time so they're ready to spotlight?

>> SEAN ISAAC: They are. They should be.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right, well, Cindy and Mary are the only two on the conference call, so can you go ahead and join Zoom? You can still stay on conference call for voice, you can do both at the same time.

So, go ahead, join Zoom and then we'll ask Vanguard, anybody that's signing or speaking, if you see anybody signing or the lips are moving, spotlight them. Because you will not hear them on Zoom.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: I will try to do that later. If I try to do anything with my CART, then I lose my CART and I don't know where it is. So I'm going to stick this way for now.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hi, Mary! I see you. Okay.

Okay. Okay. All right. So we'll see you later, Cindy. All right, Sean, go ahead.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay, great, thank you, thank you for that comment, Cindy, and thank you, everybody.

Okay. Next up appointments, I know the issue on this is some folks have been a little bit confused on where they stand with the Council, if they've been a historical member or a member for a few years because they have not gotten that official update with their status and then where we are with new applications to join the Council.

First, I think I mentioned this at the last meeting, but I wanted to reiterate it, that the

DOH attorney has confirmed that if you have been a member of the Council, you are still a member of the Council until or unless you resign or are officially removed.

And we have had a couple of folks resign. I don't believe we've had anybody removed. Therefore, that should provide everyone a little bit of clarity moving forward as far as the status.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I know that some folks have been asking for a letter to confirm their term and we're still working on that, trying to get that clarified.

I would like to provide that update when the application -- the applications that have been received have also been adjudicated, for lack of a better word.

I have heard from the Office of -- the Governor's Office on appointments that they are still making progress on that, but that the process is -- it's -- it's -- how do I put it...? -- it's going through a change where they're being a little bit more thorough as to how they vet applicants.

So, this is no longer in a stage where we are receiving applications and for some reason they were not getting looked at or they were getting lost because of the application process and the electronic process, there was some kind of flaw in it. We're not there.

We're at a different process where they have been very thorough in vetting the applicants for each council, okay, so I want to that clear.

We still have --

>> VOICE: Debbe Hagner has left the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: We still have approximately three applications that are in review. I have not had an update on it. I was hoping to hear one last Friday, but they did not give me that. So we're still waiting.

I will say, though, that I'm sure the Governor's Office is extremely busy and so we want to give them that due, even though that may be a little bit frustrating for members of this Council as we are nine members strong and trying to get to 17, okay.

So that's the update. And I'll take any questions. Seems like I saw a hand up from Cory, is that right? Yes, sir, go ahead.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory, yes?

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, I think it's more of a question -- this is Cory speaking -- and it's not necessarily a question, but more of a comment. Because I know that in the most recent comments, I was one of the ones that was an applicant in terms of the funding but I do want to share that my application was sent. I know that my funding was also sent and I haven't heard anything as a result of that. But I do want to make sure that everyone here knows that I have done my part.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Thank you, Cory.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The problem with the appointments has become worse and worse and worse and worse. When I was on the -- joined the Council in 2013, it took one year before they finally put the appointment. Now it's lost, out in space.

Of the three people that I had were interested before, lost their interest because they never heard anything at all!

And I know between the time I was appointed the first time and reappointed the second time, the one change they made, they required the first time it was just fill out the application, send it in, that was it. Second time, you had to fill out the application again and they had to do a phone interview, to make sure the information on the application matched what you're telling them on the phone.

What more changes there were after that, I don't know.

And one of the other things is you say that people who are on the Council stays on. My problem with that is that we do have one person who has not shown up in any meetings for a long time. And according to bylaws, if they don't show up at the meetings, that's a reason to be off. So I'm a little concerned about that too.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And -- Sean, go ahead.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Oh, I was going to say -- this is Sean -- I was going to say that thank you for those comments. Please keep them coming.

I did want to ask a follow-up question of Cory.

Cory, I did -- well, first of all, I did receive your application. I appreciate that. As I mentioned, a state agency appointed council members. Your process is a little bit different, because you don't have to undergo that confirmation from the Governor's Office. The agency appoints you.

So, your status is not in question, from my standpoint. You are a member of this Council.

But the funding part, I had a question regarding what funding you sent? I'm not understanding that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, Cindy has a question about the funding. What funding?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Not necessarily funding, but it was a financial disclosure.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. This is Sean again. Okay, I understand what you're asking now. The financial disclosure that all members submit to the Commission on Ethics does not come through my office, it should be submitted directly to the Commission on Ethics and typically they should be in contact with you regarding their receipts of it or any other comments that they have about that.

I sent my information in as well and I haven't heard anything either. I think I have the same questions as everybody else on the call here: Is everything all right? [Laughs].

But that does not come through our office. You might need to follow-up with them directly if you have questions about that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean, you mentioned you had three -- this is Glenna -- you mentioned you had three applications. One is Cory's. The other two applications, which positions are they for?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Let me look it up right now.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Chris? Chris?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Hi, this is Chris. I've had my hand up for sometime. I posted them both in Zoom and on the captions.

I know Angie is monitoring it because she keeps saying in the text so and so has their hand up. So we need to have somebody that's following up on that.

Anyway....

First and foremost, I certainly want to reiterate the other comments. And welcome Angie to the Council. And reiterate Cory's comment that certainly any questions she has, feel free to contact any of us. Me certainly. I'm happy to help in any way that I can.

With regard to the current subject of appointments or reappointments, I just want to advise that my term has been up for sometime. I have submitted my application for reappointment, even back before Governor DeSantis was elected. So it's been sometime.

And the biggest concern that my organization has is that we don't want our seats to be left vacant.

So, that said, I know I've put the application in twice and just waiting to hear something back.

I've gotten confirmation both times from somebody, I can't recall who at the moment, but my biggest question that I want to ask is how often is somebody from our Council contacting the Governor's Appointments Office?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. So, thank you, Chris, for those comments, I appreciate that.

Let me answer from my side here. I've... I have met and spoken with, a couple times, the individual who represents the Department of Health liaison to the Office of the Governor and he actually works here at DOH and is in communication with the Governor's Office.

So since our last meeting in May, I have spoken with him twice and exchanged some e-mails. And that's the update that I was giving you all earlier.

I'm not sure of anyone on the Council that has personally reached out to the Office of the -- the Governor's Appointments Office. That could be something that you all do, as long as you understand that you're working with the Governor's Office.

And so what I want to make sure is that we communicate and keep that in mind as we serve, we all, you and me all, serve at the pleasure of the Governor. And so we want to make sure that it's positive, whatever we communicate, so that we're letting them know that we're needing some information.

Sorry about the Zoom. Angie, can you stay in the conference call line when someone is making -- needing to make a comment?

And Glenna, I think that was something that we kind of skipped over as far as roles go [chuckles]. Who is supposed to be monitoring the hands raised? You can do that at the beginning.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, yeah, I'm trying to watch it. I'll try to do it.

Cindy did say that they don't let us know if they received the financial disclosure paper.

Cindy and everyone, you can go to the ethics website and click on somewhere and click on, click on, and then you will find your name listed and it will show that they have received it.

I'll have to look at it to remember what the process was in finding your name. But there is a way to go to your website, look for your name, and they will list that they have received it. So I'll try to find it and see if I can find it and see what the steps are and then send it out to the Council.

>> INTERPRETER: Debbe has a comment.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, Debbe typed a link in the chat, in the Zoom chat. It's [www.ethics.state.fl.us](http://www.ethics.state.fl.us), and you go in there and click on it and I know you have to click on it two or three times to find your name.

>> INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, to interrupt. This is Natasha, the sign language interpreter. We rotated and Janelle needs to be spotlighting, please? I'm voicing and she's signing.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Vanguard was supposed to be doing it and they're not doing anything.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Well, Glenna, if I may, I think we have to give a little bit of patience to Vanguard, as this is probably their first time providing this type of service as well, and so... we're all showing our little rough edges when it comes to our IT capabilities today. But please give them some patience, they're trying to work on it.

Thank you all for letting us know that Janelle needed to be highlighted. Thank you for that --

>> INTERPRETER: This is the interpreter --

[Talking over one another].

>> INTERPRETER: If Vanguard would like to give us permission as host as well as a co-host, then the three of us can spotlight ourselves as we each switch, if you would like us to spotlight a person too.

>> VOICE: Recording stopped.

>> INTERPRETER: -- and if you can make us a co-host, that's just another idea. If that helps.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That possible --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, thank you.

>> REBECCA: Yes, we have Janelle as the host.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: I thought they just did that; this is Chris.

>> INTERPRETER: Great. And if you want to let all three interpreters become the host, then we can take our turn and spotlight each other, if that would be okay, Vanguard? Thank you.

>> I think we can only have one host at a time, so you would have to pass that off when the time comes.

>> INTERPRETER: Thank you.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, Sean, go ahead.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna, you asked the question about who has submitted applications and for what positions did they represent. Which ones was it? I'm sorry, what organizations they represented or what their names are? Both?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Organizations. I know you can't share names now. Just the organizations they're applying for, the position.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. So the positions that were applied for was a hearing aid specialist and a parent of a child with hearing loss.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. If those two -- this is Glenna -- if those two applications are from the people I contacted and they sent their applications a long time ago, they may not be interested anymore. But you can try and convince them to continue. If those are the two people.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. I have received some inquiries from some folks asking for an update, as early -- or as late as last month -- I guess two months ago, in June, and I provided that feedback to them as to their status.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: If you've heard anything, please let me know. But I can certainly reach back to them and keep them up-to-date.

I guess a monthly status update is probably a good idea, at least a monthly status update.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, that would be a good idea.

[Talking over one another].

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'm sorry.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. It would be a good idea to try to keep them interested.

>> SEAN ISAAC: And this is Sean. You're correct. I was underestimating the time it would take as well, so a monthly update would be a fabulous idea. Thank you.

Any other questions about the appointments process?

Again, I apologize. I know some of you have been waiting for sometime, many years, and like I said before, unofficially, even officially, you're still part of the Council and represent your organizations; we just haven't seen that notice and we haven't been able to update the member, I guess, list or whatever that you all are so used to that shows your term, start and end date.

So we're working to try to get that updated.

I was hoping to wait till we have, based on the three new applications, but if that's not going to be able to be done, what I am suggesting is we update that and send that to you in this quarter, okay?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: I'm sorry, Sean. Chris has a question, if we can contact on a more regular basis to check the status of vacancies?

And I just wanted to add a comment. I think when they said we're still on, it means that even though our term expired, we still continue as a member of the Council until it's filled. So until they officially appoint us, we're members, but it could change at any time, depending on the applications and who they take.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Is that a comment or a question, Cindy? This is Sean.

>> CINDY SIMON: That was actually a comment. That's what it's typically been. You can continue at the end of your term as long as you want to until such time there's an official appointment.

[Please standby; CART was disconnected on telephone line].

[Note from CART Captioner]: CART is back.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. You're back on?

[Note from CART Captioner]: Yes, I'm back on. Apologize.  
CART is back on.

>> REBECCA: Hold on, the recording has also paused. We need to get that going again. The recording, the recording stopped.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: From the Zoom, on the Zoom call.

>> REBECCA: On the Zoom call.

>> INTERPRETER: This is the interpreting. I'm recording.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. It's two separate recordings. One for conference call and one for Zoom. Zoom stopped and it needs to be recorded. Click on recording.

[Talking over one another].

>> -- options record on the computer or record to the Cloud.

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean, which one did you click on for recording?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. This is Sean. So the State has to have a recording and we use the conference call to record.

Vanguard has also been recording the calls and meetings and so evidently they started the Zoom recording, so I guess they got disconnected or...?

>> REBECCA: Right. So when we were -- the host, the host holds the recording, Janelle, and the host holds the recording power.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, I see, I see, okay. This is Sean. Are we back on? Who's the host now and who -- and are we recording?

>> REBECCA: So, Janelle is now the host for [audio cutting in and out].

>> INTERPRETER: This is Natasha, the other interpreter. You can switch the host back to Vanguard or whoever you had the host as originally and you can make us co-hosts, so we don't have the power for recording and all of that, that's up to you guys, but we can set up spotlights. There's a host that has the control and co-hosts who can do a little bit.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I see in Zoom chat, there was a message from Vanguard that said host needs to record, so that means Janelle needs to click on recording.

>> REBECCA: So, Janelle is now the host, I cannot take back host, but Janelle can give it back to me and then I can re-spotlight.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: How do I --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Recording in the same place, you know, you should see a whole list and find recording.

>> You should be able to hover over me as a speaker and then you can hand off those privileges.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Vanguard is back as host.

>> VOICE: Recording in progress.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I heard something good. I heard "recording in progress" so I think we can move forward. Thank you all.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Now you see there's a good reason to really get all of us to meet in person! Get rid of these technology problems. So, please think about in person again so we can have a quorum!

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Absolutely.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wait, wait, Chris. Chris wants to know why we have an outside organization hosting the Zoom meeting?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Vanguard has the contract with DOH or is Vanguard under Lisa Schaefermeyer or can you explain that?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I sure will. I appreciate the question.

First of all, the Council requested additional accessibility in the form of a media platform like this so that folks can be seen.

At the time, and still, the Department does not own any type of Zoom platform, it owns -- it has a contract with Teams and GoToMeeting.

I believe we talked about making those available to the Council and the Council was not in favor of using those platforms. They believed that Zoom was much more or had much more -- it was much more user friendly.

And so ins the Department could not use that, because it had no contract with that particular platform, it basically asked its contractor if they could provide the service to the Council. And they agreed.

So that's why the contractor agency is the host.

I hope that answers the question.

If there are more questions, please let me know about that.

When it comes to our face-to-face meetings. We wanted to be face-to-face, as you all remember, we had plans to meet face-to-face in Hollywood in August, but a couple things made that challenging.

Number one, we went from a -- we went from My Florida Marketplace edition one to My Florida Marketplace edition two and that change happened over the summer and what that did is change all of the contracts that we use as a Council, we use four every year, they had to be migrated into this new system. I believe all state agencies are undergoing or went through that process over the summer.

That process included contracts individually, having to be in -- to be inputted into this new system, My Florida Marketplace 2.0, and most contracts made it to that new system.

However, our interpreter contract, it did not. So that had to be updated.

There are a couple bugs in the new system, for lack of a better word, and so as an agency, we have been trying to deal with those bugs.

And part of that led to us having somewhat of a delayed response as far as our committee meetings that were scheduled for the summer and our face-to-face, because if we don't have a contract in place, we can't ask that provider to provide those services.

So long story short, we had some contract challenges.

Those have been worked out. And now we're able to move forward with our meetings and our committee meetings with some challenges that we'll get to when we start talking about that a little bit later.

But the main thing is we can have meetings again. And we can have face-to-face meetings again. We just have to work out our budget.

Hopefully that answers the question.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. I'm not sure if you mentioned it or not, I'm looking up and down, the Vanguard contract, is that the same one that applies the AV for our in-person meetings or is it two different companies?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Vanguard is the same Vanguard that provides our AV services in our quarterly meetings, correct.

You all may not have noticed, but Vanguard, at our May meeting, provided Zoom services for that meeting as well. So they have been doing this for several months now.

But they don't do it everyday, and so they're learning, just like we're learning to work with them. And they're learning our needs as well. And so we've been trying to work with them. And I've been trying to set up a couple of practices with the interpreters and the CART services to sort of iron out some of these challenges. Because it is challenging having four different media. And so we're trying to work those out as we move along.

But they're doing a great job of adjusting and trying to meet all of our needs. Are there any other questions there?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Debbe has her hand up.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe? Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. My recommendation is to, because of the technical things, we should start the meeting 15 minutes before 9:00 o'clock, just so that we have everything set up with the interpreters and with Angie and, you know, all the people involved, with Vanguard. 15 minutes, or at least 10 minutes before, so we're not losing time at 9:00 o'clock. That's my suggestion.

Angie, I would appreciate it if we could see your face at all times, just like we see Sean. That's just my personal opinion. I like to see that. It's just... just so we see you

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: And also -- that's all I have to say. And welcome, Angie! We're thrilled to have you here. Thank you.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Thank you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. This is Sean. Thank you for your request, Debbe, appreciate that.  
Any other questions?

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Debbe, when it comes to starting the call sooner, that's fine. In fact, I think we usually do that.

What we need is the council members to be on the call a little bit sooner as well, because that will help us to work out those issues on that end also.

I realize that everybody's schedule is not permissible for that and I know everybody's time is valuable. But if you all can be there a little bit early, that would be great, that would be great.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. I guess that means me and Cory will have to show up early to help with the setting up. And anybody else that wants.

>> VOICE: Natasha has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- as well as the tech person.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. What happens is every individual has a role to play now, because each of us may or may not have an issue with using the technology. And if one person has their microphone muted or unmuted, that can create a problem for the entire group.

And so as we've gone through this process over the last couple years of wide-spread use of these type of platforms, I think the entire nation, and maybe more, have gone through a training on how to use these platforms.

So we're all engaged in this training together, having to be patient with one another. And I appreciate you all's patience during this.

And so we'll get there. We'll get there.

This is a lot better than we were in May! And May was a lot better than February. So we're making progress, and that's what we have to keep in mind.

Okay. I don't want to slow this up. I think I'm kind of going over here.

Any other questions on that? We were talking about appointments, by the way.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, go ahead.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. So, I wanted to mention that the handbook that Cory and I have been working on, we still are working on it. We will certainly try to finish those up pretty quickly. And we don't have any -- I don't have any further updates with that right now.

When it comes to the request for assistance, I'm hoping, Glenna, that we can talk about that tomorrow.

And then the biennial report, obviously we have some work to do there. And the travel updates.

I've communicated with most of you, I think, but I haven't told everybody, everybody that traveled to the May meeting [buzzing sound] you should have received a form from me asking you to sign it.

Three of the four members have submitted that and we've taken the step to go ahead and submit that packet. And once the foreperson submits that form back to me, we'll submit it as well.

So one of the changes we're going to make is not hold it up for everybody to submit it at the same time, we're going to submit it individually to get those and returned to people as soon as possible, okay?

Now, that's all of my updates. Now, Angie, can you give some of your updates and we'll try to get back on schedule soon.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yes, okay. The first one I have is the November.

>> [Open mic].

>> ANGIE GREEN: That will be the November 3 and 4 and that will be in Kissimmee and it will be at the Hilton Garden Inn, so I have information that I will be sending out about

the hotel rates and the contact person and everything. I'll be submitting an e-mail out to everybody about that.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. And Angie, can I just add that because of the work that Angie has been able to do, the contract has already been -- has already been completed by the Legal Department at the Department of Health and I think the only thing we're waiting on is our leadership to sign that actual contract and submit back to the provider.

So we've almost completed that process already and hopefully that's been done soon and hopefully we can get the answer and so we can make those reservations, okay?

>> ANGIE GREEN: And then for the future meetings, February 3-4, we'll have a meeting here in Tallahassee. So we need to know who will be going to that. If you can let Sean and I know; that way we can make hotel reservations, the meeting hall, and everything else. If you can give us that as soon as possible, we can get started on that.

>> SEAN ISAAC: We -- and this is Sean -- we usually send out an e-mail and ask for, I guess an rsvp sort of thing, if you can attend the meeting. So we'll do that for both November and February, okay.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Okay. And that's it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. November is Kissimmee?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Is it too late to change it to maybe Ocala? Which is near Kissimmee. There's a lot more Deaf people that live in Ocala than Kissimmee.

And Ocala is very close to Kissimmee, but not close enough for them to be willing to drive to there.

I'm wondering if it's possible we can change it to Ocala? Does the Council agree that maybe Ocala might be a better location?

Because last I heard, there's about 400 deaf that live there now and has been increasing every year.

And Ocala is also not that far from The Villages, where over 200 deaf people live there.

So, Kissimmee, I think the numbers have been going down.

Debbe, do you agree with me about the numbers of the deaf? Compared between Kissimmee, Ocala, and The Villages?

Would it be too late to change it to Ocala? I think you said you started working on the November meeting, and I'm wondering if the Council would agree to that?

>> SEAN ISAAC: So, this is Sean. I heard two questions there. Is it too late to change the November meeting to Ocala? And then would the Council be in support of meeting in Ocala?

Can I just make a comment about the first question? We have started this process of selecting the cities and working with them as quickly as possible to set up the meeting for you, because we heard your comments that we wanted time to promote the meeting, get information back to the community so that they could come and be better -- the meetings would be better attended.

So we actually started that process with Kissimmee in mind.

One thing we can do is, again, we can send you the list of locations and have the Council consider it.

I think at the last meeting or I think the meeting in February, we talked about the role that the Department staff was to determine the location. Clearly we don't want to do that without you all's input.

So, can we do this: Can we send out a list of locations to the Council and then you all make recommendations to change that and list places that you want to go?

We can actually send a list out, you know, for a couple years, if that would be acceptable.

But from my sense, it would be a little late to change our plans for this particular meeting. But certainly we can plan on future meetings to come. That's just my comment.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: That is Chris speaking. Can I interject here, please?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Please.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, Chris, go ahead.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Okay. I just wanted to say, it's not too long ago that we were in Ocala. And we did advertise significantly for participation in the meeting. When I say "we," I know I e-blasted several people, including in The Villages, and we didn't have a big turnout.

That doesn't mean we wouldn't in the future. And I do support going back.

However, to Sean's point, the wheels have already been set in motion. I think Kissimmee is probably fine, especially since also it's close to Orlando, which is a pretty big area for people that are deaf or hard of hearing, if they don't live directly in that area, they might be willing to travel there.

So, I think at this point, considering how long it's been in the past since we've been to Ocala and giving other cities an opportunity to have a public meeting in their location, I think Kissimmee is probably best for this time. That's my opinion.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. Thank you, Chris.

Also, Chris, since you're on Zoom, another way to get attention, click on the bottom, the icon, you can click on raised hand and it's easier for me to see than the chat.

Okay. So --

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Glenna, this is Chris. When I'm not responding, I am putting hand up both in the StreamText and in Zoom. I did not this time, but previously when I have done that in both places, I'm still not getting acknowledged.

I understand it's a busy meeting and that's why I just interjected it at the time to make a comment to this.

But I'll do whatever way anybody wants me to do it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you, Chris. We'll keep trying! Trying with the tech, like Sean said!

Okay. All right. So, Kissimmee November. And Tallahassee February.

And it's still the same, November is the first week, and in February, it's in Tallahassee the second week, Thursday/Friday.

Hopefully more of the Council can make a serious commitment to showing up in November and February.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And Sean --

>> SEAN ISAAC: The February 3 and 4 dates was not what you all wanted? You wanted the second week in February for next year?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Did we say it was going to be February 3 and 4 before? Whatever we said before.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Let me ask, just for clarification -- this is Sean -- let me ask for clarification. Does the Council prefer to meet the first week of the month or the second week? I know that November is special because there's a holiday in the second week. But is it preferable for the first week or the second week for all the other meetings?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. It's not a preference. It's in the bylaws that it be the second week of the month Thursday/Friday. And we only change it if there's a serious conflict. In November, there was a conflict, because of the holiday. In February...

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I don't remember discussing that that meeting needed to be changed. It's normally the second week.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Hey, this is Debbe. Chris?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Chris?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: You have your hand up?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Chris?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Go ahead, Chris.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: To Glenna's point, the bylaws state we are supposed to meet the Thursday and Friday the second week of the month. The only time that is ever changed, like Glenna said, when we have a holiday or something that creates a major conflict.

So if it can be the second Thursday and Friday of the month, that's the preference.

I also see the point in encouraging council members to participate in person. However, I believe it was last November where we began to have a significant problem of travel reimbursement, where it was taking several months to get travel reimbursement and that's a big problem. Especially for a November meeting, when folks have other financial commitments and such at the end of the year. That's saying more than I need to say.

In my many years with the Council, there's never been an issue with getting reimbursement back within 4-6 weeks. And this is something new and really problematic.

And the last meeting we met in person I believe was May, if I'm not mistaken? I was not able to attend personally. However, I understand there's still a significant delay in getting travel reimbursement.

So, when we're asking council members to participate in person, we also need to be assured that we're going to be reimbursed in a reasonable amount of time.

Finally, because, again, I will say somebody is not monitoring the chat, because I have a question or a comment that I made that was not answered from earlier regarding the Council contacting somebody from the Governor's Appointment Office and can we do that more regularly than twice a quarter or whatever is happening now, because it seems that it's not enough and we need to bump up the membership officially.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. So --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean, you have a lot to answer.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wait a minute. Debbe? Debbe? Can you help me monitor the chat, please?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Nods head].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you. Okay, Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay, thank you. This is Sean. I appreciate the comments. Number one, Chris is exactly right, it's taken a while to get you all reimbursement back. And his experience, as it started in November.

I think most of that has been because of the last year, the Council not having the support that it used to have.

I've done my best, but I can certainly do better and the Department can do better. And the way we're doing it now is having a full-time person and identified and responsible for that responsibility of making sure you all's travel is reimbursabled to you quickly.

I did mention to Cory, as we were talking about this, that we have a new electronic system. However, we're not able to use that. You all, as council members, we have to use our paper system still for you all because you're not DOH employees. And so that process still remains like it used to.

The main change, Chris, and to all of you, has been the lack of a full-time, dedicated staff to make sure that happens quickly.

But if we're asking you to travel, you should be reimbursabled quickly. And I'm dedicated to making sure and to help that process move forward quickly.

And so I don't expect that to be a challenge in the future, okay.

I will say that sometimes the ball is moving on us. And while you all have not had to do this in the past, they're asking you all now to submit electronic certification for your signatures, because you are signing things electronically and that has not been a requirement of you in the past. And many of you are hearing that for the first time.

I heard it for the first time yesterday, that that was something new that they're requiring now, and what they've told us is they did not require it in your May packet, but that that was effective even before May.

I can tell you, from personal account, that as an employee with the Department of Health, we have had to make that change and add those certifications as well. So it does

not sound out of the ordinary to me. But I'm just sharing that with you, because those new requirements do come up and that does slow things down.

And so I apologize about that.

And I also apologize, like I said, about the time. But I don't foresee that being the same issue now that you have a full-time staff, okay.

I did want to mention, though, to Glenna that, you know, it's 10:30 and I've been talking for a while and it seems like I'm taking us off our agenda.

Can we take a break, perhaps, and come back --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, it is scheduled, it is now time for a break at 10:30. So we'll take a break at 10:30, and we're back at 10:45.

Hopefully with Angie, she can do some mastery with the travel reimbursement.

All right. We'll see you at 10:45.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, I won't be here.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Understood. Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: Are you leaving now?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: My appointment is at 11:00 o'clock, I have to leave at 11:00 o'clock, so I can be back at 10:45 to start the meeting. And apparently Sean is not finished with his report and I'm not worried about the timeline because I don't think anybody is going to show up for the public comments.

>> VOICE: Natasha has left the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So we can keep going with our work, and I'll be back at 1:00 o'clock. Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you.

[Break].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I'm looking to see if everybody is back for a quorum.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Sure. Do you want to do a roll call?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Can you still hear me on the conference call?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna, I can hear you. Can you hear me?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Two things I wanted to mention before we start with Sean again is that we're behind in time with the schedule, but I'm not worried, because we have public comment and because we didn't have time to really promote it, I doubt anybody is going to show up.

So we can just continue on. And if anybody happens to show up for public comments, we'll stop and do that. So I'm not worried about the schedule.

And also, I will be leaving at 11:00 o'clock for a doctor's appointment; at that point Cory will take over and Debbe will continue to monitor the chat.

Okay. And I see that Cecil is here. Hello, Cecil!

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Hi there.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, Sean, go ahead with your report. Hi, Mary. Hi, Cecil. Okay. Sean, go ahead.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you. Good morning, everyone. Can you hear me?

>> Yes.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay, perfect, perfect. I had a comment, first of all, from Vanguard stating that Lisa with CART will need to log on and stay logged on. That she -- Vanguard lost the ability to assign CART to Lisa?

So, Lisa, do you understand that?

[Note from CART Captioner]: I can't do that now, but maybe at the next break.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'm not signed into StreamText. Lisa on CART says I can't do that now but maybe at the next break she can do that.

Okay. So maybe we'll have to get that corrected at lunch time then. Okay.

Thank you, everybody, again, for your patience as we work this out.

It is a challenge and so part of this job, for me, and part of my role is so much learning about how to move forward and how to do what you all need to be done.

Just a quick comment about November and the travel. It was actually the first time I've ever handled that type of travel for the Council. I don't think the Council had traveled for sometime either and things changed after the temporary break we all had for the pandemic and our processes changed.

And I think I mentioned to you all that we also lost our administrative assistant who served that role for the Council for a number of years. So we had new people and new places doing new things. And so we continue to learn.

We still have new people in new places and doing new things, but I think having a new full-time person will iron some of those bumpy patches we have had in the past. And I appreciate you all your patience. And I appreciate you all letting us know we have problems and issues and things that bother you. I don't want you all to keep that inside. So please be a voice and share that with Angie so that she knows and that she can make it better.

And I appreciate every one of you who has given me some insight, whether it's a scolding or a good talking to, or you just shared something with me privately, or publicly, I appreciate all that feedback and that entire experience of working with you guys, it's been great.

I'm not saying goodbye, but I'm just saying we just don't really know what's going to happen here at DOH, and so if I don't have another opportunity, I appreciate everything that you all are doing and have done and how welcome you have made me feel in this process.

So I appreciate all of you, all right.

So, having said that, I think I was almost finished with my updates, Glenna. I wanted to mention a couple more things.

If you -- we do the best we can with the meeting minutes, so if you do have additions that you want added, please don't hesitate to do so, because we're not offended.

I just try to go -- I'll just try to go through it and pick out the things that I think you all want to be reminded of. But if you have points of order that you want to be included that we've somehow missed or if you have updates about conferences or anything, please let us know and we can go back and add those, okay.

And I know you all know that, but I just want to remind you to please feel free to do that, because we appreciate that, and we want those minutes to work for you, okay?

Lisa always does a great job after our meeting of submitting the CART right away and what I try to do is post those as quickly as possible and send those to you so you have them.

The minutes, I've postponed the minutes and tried to do the travel, so they don't get as much consideration as they should. But I think, going forward, one of those things I'll be working with Angie on is try to get those minutes up quickly as well, okay. So that will be another change that you all will see that will be positive for you moving forward.

Angie, did I miss anything?

>> ANGIE GREEN: No, not that I can think of. I think you've done pretty good.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. So during your organizational updates, please make sure that you provide to us any goals or activities, upcoming meetings, or conferences that you want us to make known.

We need to have that information. It makes us better as an organization, at the Department of Health, but it's also helpful for your Council moving forward.

We are looking for eight other members. I know we have three applications in. That excludes Cory, let me clarify that. Cory is on the Board.

We have three more. Lori Manson, another individual was applying to be part of the Council, and I didn't mention that earlier. But we have three applications right now, Glenna, so I want to make that correction to the record, okay?

But we still have five empty spots and we need to make sure you fill those. And so we will certainly work to do that, to promote that.

We did attend the Family Café back in May. It was very positive. We did get a lot of feedback and a lot of folks who were wanting information, so that was a positive.

I saw it as a great opportunity.

And then we will be trying to attend the event in October that Cory's organization is putting on for the SERID, so we're looking forward to that as well.

We are hopeful that we can get our travel approved to attend that, okay. So we're actively looking to fill those roles, even though the appointments process has been somewhat delayed in the past, I'm hoping that that will change.

That's all I have as far as updates. If you guys have any questions, I can take those now. And I already see Debbé's hand up. So, Debbé?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbé? Debbé? Debbé?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbé. Chris has his hand up. Chris, go ahead.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris speaking. Regarding the vacancies on the Council, when you say there are three that have applied, I'm assuming you're talking about

actual vacancies, not for the people that are continuing, even though our term has expired, correct?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Correct, correct. I am assuming that as an organizational representative, you all would know if your organization submitted an application for someone else to represent your organization. So, I have not seen anything like that at this time.

The other new applications are for roles that are current -- are not current, if I'm not mistaken -- that are not currently filled.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Okay. That's what I thought --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna --

[Talking over one another].

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Talking about --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- trying to post...

>> SEAN ISAAC: Sorry, Glenna, I think Chris was still saying something. Go ahead, Chris.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: I was just going to say, although I am the designated representative from my organization, we still do not know the status of it from the Governor's Office or for reappointment.

I have, at the request of the Governor's Office or the Council, made that application twice, and we still don't know the status of this.

I don't think it looks well for the Council when you go to our website and as abundant as the information is that we have on the website, it shows just about every council member that's on there that their term has expired.

And we haven't made a significant change on that front. That's why I've been asking and asking, if we more regularly contact the Governor's Appointment Office, that should be an action item, I would think.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. One of the things we said earlier, Chris, and maybe -- I guess maybe I communicated it poorly, was I was definitely going to follow-up with the applicants on a monthly basis and then also with the Governor's Office on a monthly basis. That is a change.

And is that acceptable, as far as a change for you all?

[Pause].

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: There is Chris. I'm just one person, but I would like to see us contacting the Governor's Office very regularly. Not necessarily the people that have applied. I'm well aware that I have applied. I'm well aware that I have applied more than once. I know others and other organizational representatives have done the same.

I understand the Governor's Appointment Office is very busy. I know we're one of many, many councils that the state has. However, I also know that appointments do happen for other councils. And there's a missing link here and, you know, it's a hearing

phrase, so to speak, but the squeaky wheel gets the oil.

So the more contact we can make with the Governor's Office to remind them that we have a significant number of vacancies, the better, I would think.

That's -- the remainder is left for the rest of the Council and our support office to decide.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. And I hear you and I appreciate those comments and I understand. And I see Cory's hand up. Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory speaking. I also wanted to say thank you to Chris, in regards to your comment, there are quite a few things that we can't really emphasize enough. We, as a Council, need to be taken seriously. With our website and our internal processes need to be caught up.

And being up-to-date means that we're here for a purpose. And we should have things up-to-date, especially with the contact of the Government's (sic) Office, we need to maintain and be persistent in ensuring that that happens. And not finger-point.

In regards to Angie's new role and now that Angie is here full-time, Angie is the one who will be able to make those changes and those are the changes that we'll be seeing which will also tie us to the day-to-day operations of our Council.

Unless we're talking about things such as travel reimbursement, etc., and hopefully those things will change as well.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I need to leave now and Cory is going to take over as the moderator of the meeting.

See you just before 1:00 o'clock.

>> CORY PARKER: Thank you, Glenna. And Sean, you may proceed.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. And thank you for those comments, Cory, as well. I will follow-up to ensure and to find out for sure what I believe to be true and the fact --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hello? Can you hear me?

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That the Governor's Office is responsible for and has the authority to set terms for individuals who work on behalf of the Council.

And I'm not sure if the authority rests with the Department to do that, so I want to make sure and ask that question, if it's a stroke of a pen, Cory, and I guarantee to all of you, if it's a stroke of a pen and that's something that we can do, we will do it tomorrow.

But I just want to make sure that that's not a step -- I don't want to get us in trouble, okay?

So I will let you know via e-mail tomorrow if that's something that the Department has the ability to change.

And I think that was my last item. Any other questions that I missed or didn't address or forgot?

>> CINDY SIMON: Sean, this is Cindy, our terms are set in the bylaws and they're set for three years. We're not changing our terms, it's just a function of us waiting to make an official appointment, which then begins a new term.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Correct.

>> CINDY SIMON: Our terms are expired if someone else is reappointed to the position or someone else is in the position. We are waiting for an official announcement, according to the bylaws.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That's correct. The bylaws, I thought they were four years. I'll definitely check that, unless someone has those up.

But the terms should be identified from your original appointment, but some of your terms ended back in 2018 or 2020. And what I think Chris is saying is there's been no updates, and since there have been no updates, you don't really know what the next term is.

And what I'm saying is I don't believe the Department has the ability or the authority to set that term without direction from the Governor's Office.

But, we will double-check, I will double-check, to make sure.

I do believe that this is something that the Department can do, we will do. But I don't believe that's one of them.

And so excuse me for my lack of understanding and clarity on that particular point.

And like I said, I'll follow-up tomorrow to make sure that that happens and that you're informed on what that process looks like, and if the Department has the ability to do that, okay.

>> CINDY SIMON: So our terms are staggered and they're not all the same and it starts when you get appointed. And that's it.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Correct.

>> CINDY SIMON: So we're not changing terms, we would like them to officially say yes, you're on for another term so you can update the dates starting from today going to the end of the next term.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Correct. And I appreciate you clarifying that, if I made that unclear.

We are trying to get clarification on when they end and when they are started and getting updates on those and get those in line.

>> CINDY SIMON: Right.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you.

Okay. Again, I'm turning it back over to you, Cory, for your committee updates, we want to know any activities or conferences or anything that you're having and especially, especially meetings that you're having soon, general meetings that you're going to have, that's very important to us.

Thank you so much, sir. Back to you.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Before we go on, Chris still has his hand up.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Oh, thank you. Chris, please.

>> CORY PARKER: Go ahead, Chris.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Chris, we can't hear you.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Chris did write in the Zoom chat that he has a hand up.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris. I think we've beat a dead horse enough, for lack of a better phrase. I think everybody understands that it's just important that we have members on the Council in valid terms so that people understand that we are a viable Council.

And that's why it's important that we don't have people continuing to serve on expired terms.

I'm here to support the Council and I'm here to support the people of Florida that are deaf or hard of hearing as best I can, regardless.

But I think it benefits us to make sure that these terms are filled as soon as possible.

Like I said, I understand the Governor and the Governor's Appointment Office are very busy. I just want to do whatever we can to make sure that we're following up and making sure that our appointments are happening in a timely basis.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I hear you. Thank you. I don't have anymore comments in that one.

I did want to say that -- I see John Jackson. How are you doing, John?

[Pause].

[Note from CART Captioner]: Mary has a comment in chat.

>> SEAN ISAAC: We can't hear you, John, but I do see that you're on the Zoom, so I just wanted to say hi.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: And John, by the way, if you can hear us, we are all participating on the conference call line, even though we are visually available in Zoom, we're all having to call in.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. I think he may be calling in, he just muted or somebody muted. But Cory, I think you're -- I think the floor is yours.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay. This is Cory, I see in the chat box that there is a question from Mary regarding the donation -- I'm going to give him (sic) time to speak. Mary?

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Hi, Mary, go ahead.

[Pause].

>> MARY HODGES: [On mute].

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: I can't hear anything.

>> MARY HODGES: Oh. Can you hear me now?

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, I can hear you now.

>> MARY HODGES: Oh, I'm sorry! I had my telephone on mute.

I was wondering if it's possible that we may, on the website for the Council, remove the term pending -- I'm sorry, the term "expired," remove that? There was some concern about the appearance that the information is not up-to-date and I'm wondering if there would be another way to indicate that we have members on that are pending confirmation or what have you but not indicating that their term has expired.

There may be another way to document that.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Thank you for that comment and suggestion, Mary. It sounds like a good idea to me. Let me find out and see what we can do to address that terminology. Thank you.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Cory? Cory, go ahead.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay. This is Cory. I'm trying to follow what the agenda says here and it's talking about asking who is monitoring the website and making those changes for DOH? And, yeah, I wanted to agree that someone was going to go in and maybe look at the website and I believe Angie is going to be helping us with doing that.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Okay. Are there any further comments before we move on?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Yes, the Department of Health is responsible for listening to the Council and making suggested updates.

One thing we do in the background routinely is we check links to see if they're working. And if they don't work, we try to replace them or update them with that information.

But we need you all's feedback. And Debbe, we, like I said, Angie will be working closely with you and making any suggestions or updates that you all give us and provide to us.

And Debbe will work, along with IT, to make sure that that site is up-to-date.

I did forget to make a couple of comments, and this goes right along with these updates.

We do need some time to make those updates, those aren't instantaneous changes that we make. So give us some time to make changes that we need to announce things and

things of that nature.

In that same vein, when we're scheduling meetings in the future, we're going to need some time, because we've learned that it takes eight days before we can notice a meeting and we need time before then to prepare that notice and then submit it to the folks, of course.

But we also need time to notice a meeting and then have an opportunity to cancel a meeting, if need be. And so that really doubles the time from eight days to 16 days. Because we had a couple of instances earlier this month where we needed to schedule a meeting. We scheduled it, but we didn't have enough time to cancel it and we found out that we didn't have enough members to be a part of that.

I do apologize for the short notice of that meeting, but that was requested on behalf of the Chair in its response to not us having the ability to have an earlier meeting because of the change with the My Florida Marketplace 2.0.

So it was not the fault of the Chair, it was DOH's issue. But we did realize through that that we need not just eight days to notice a meeting, but 16 days in case we need to notice it and we find out that, hmm, we're not going to be able to meet after all.

So that's an update for the Council that, moving forward, we need to all understand and remember, okay.

But hopefully that answers your question. And I'll turn it back over to Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: All right, this is Cory. Thank you so much, Sean. Debbe, go ahead, I see your hand is up.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. Mary has a comment.

>> INTERPRETER: Mary has a comment.

>> CORY PARKER: Mary, go ahead. No?

This is Cory again. Okay. Before we move forward, I wanted to ask, do you all remember last May, we had the meeting, the council meeting, the committee members, some of them, some of the committees were exposed during some of the things and some of...

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: One moment for the interpreter.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: One moment for the interpreter; we're going to back up.

>> CORY PARKER: I wanted to make a comment regarding how soon after our meeting would we receive the meeting minutes?

The reason for this is because I remember Mary, we had a meeting and somebody showed up asking, you know, if people were making the commitment to do certain things and we have that proof there, but they're saying oh, I got so busy, so busy, and we're waiting, we're saying hey, hold on, I remember there was something I'm supposed to do and there's nothing to go back and reference to see what that was.

So, it would be really helpful for us if we were able to have, you know, like, a list of, like, the notes or the agenda, the minutes after the meeting so that we have something we

could look back and look at and we can keep it.

That's something, you know, that I wanted to mention as well. Hopefully, you know, for the future, we can have that ready and available for all of us.

>> CORY PARKER: And Debbe, I see you have your -- hold on, Sean, I'm going to let Debbe go.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. In the past we had Sean or the new person will have a list of tasks, we have a task list, and she is supposed to make a list and then we check off. But she's gone, and also as a reminder to the others of what we're supposed to be doing. So it's part of our -- that's part of your new job, Angie, sorry.

And also you're supposed to, in the past, we would get a number of calls, how many calls we get called in to the Department of Health regarding to audiologists, whatever it is, and you're supposed to report on that in the quarterly meeting, council meeting. So that's supposed to be a summary of all the different calls that comes in to the Department of Health.

Any complaints, there was a complaint box or something or e-mail that was supposed to be informed to us and anything regarding that too.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: [Signing; no interpreting].

>> INTERPRETER: Sorry, the interpreter was muted. Thank you so much, Debbe. Go ahead, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: Go ahead, Sean.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay, thank you. This is Sean. So how soon after -- the question was how soon after our meeting will we receive the meeting minutes? And I don't know that there's ever been a date given to me or told to me on that. And so that's one thing, if you will allow me to work with Angie on.

I can commit to sharing the CART, because as I mentioned before, Lisa does an excellent job in providing the CART within a couple of days, even after the meeting has ended.

I will share with you all, it is very challenging to create a task list for every individual's responsibilities and duties on the Council, with nine folks. It would be doubly hard to do it for 17 individuals who attend the meeting.

So what I'm asking is that council members will sort of try to keep a running tab of what they're responsible for as we go along, in addition to us, to help us with that?

I know that it seems like a simple thing to you all, but I have a lot of respect for this role. Having tried to fulfill it in sort of a part-time way for the last 12-15 months and there are a lot of opportunities for growth that Angie will see and feel.

But we also need to encourage her and try not to overtask her -- if I may use that word -- because there's so much to it. And it's only one part, participating in these meetings.

The other parts are just as important and they support you all in ways that you may not feel. And some of that, what I mean by that is some of the parts that we have to do when we're not meeting includes taking very responsible care of the budget, to make sure that you guys are supported in that way as well. And that has a whole set of other actionable

items that she has to do.

So, I just want to keep that -- I want to mention that to you all, because it sounds terrible, you know, we don't want to create a task. It may sound terrible, I'm not saying that, but what I am saying is that we will certainly get you the CART as quickly as possible, because it's returned to us, like, maybe two days after the meeting, and so we will put that out as quickly as possible, send that to you via e-mail as quickly as possible, and then if you will allow me to work on a timeframe for the minutes for Angie so that you all have that expectation going forward as well, and let us work on seeing how we can create a task list, in general, to you all and for you. But please keep in mind that she already has a lot on her plate too.

>> CORY PARKER: Thank you, Sean.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I just wanted to make those comments and share that. Sometimes we have to have difficult conversations here and we want to make sure we're doing the best we can to serve the Council and I want to leave it in a good place and I want to make sure that we keep Angie at the same time! So I want to make sure what we're asking her is something that she is able to do in that role.

And as a full-time position, I think she will be able to do more than what I was able to do. And so the task that may be something very easy for her to do, but I want to make sure that we understand that it is late.

One, though, it's a one point full-time position, but she is lifting and carrying this on her own.

She has support, and it's one position, it's not a whole unit of people, and so we need to keep that in mind.

And one more thing I want to mention... she's still learning about the roles when it comes to communication and the Government and the Sunshine, and so we need to make sure that we understand that and let her know what our responsibilities are for that as well. And I've been talking to her about it.

But we -- we cannot communicate to you all on behalf of another council member. We can always communicate with you all if you want to tell us something directly, but we can't take a message from one person and pass it on to another person, especially in terms of business that may come before the Council, okay.

You can tell us anything. But asking us to share that with the Council or the other council member or the entire Council and it's going to be business that is brought back up, that's what we can't do.

We can share information and notices and things that, you know, you all -- for instance, if there's a meeting that's coming in and it's going to come up between this meeting and the next quarterly meeting and you all just want to share that information so that council members have the opportunity to attend, we can share information. But we can't take an item that might come before the Council and share that with you all, because that's not in the Sunshine as the way it exists.

I hope that is clear.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe, this is Debbe. Chris has his hand up.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay, Chris.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris speaking. First of all, what you're saying, Sean, I don't believe is correct regarding sharing e-mail information. So long as it's

shared in the Sunshine, where if we send the Council Office an e-mail to share with other members of the Council, everybody, then that's permitted under the guidelines of the Sunshine Law. What we can't do is have communication amongst council members offline or I can't communicate with, say, Debbe or Glenna or Cory about something that may come up as council business in a future meeting.

But the appropriate way to comment between our quarterly meetings is to send an e-mail or correspond directly with the Council Office and then that information be shared with everybody else.

I know John Jackson was online for a little bit, but hopefully he's still here and can clarify in case I'm mistaken in some way.

But it's been my history that if any information is to be passed on to other council members, it has to be done through the Council Office, and that's what we have consistently done.

And especially since we have a new person coming on, I just want to make it clear that communication is happening appropriately.

So, again, if I'm mistaken, let's clarify that now so we can get it straightened out.

The other thing is regarding the action items, it's a little bit discouraging when I'm learning that it sounds like we are suggesting not continuing to have a list of action items. And I don't think that that is functional for the Council.

We're not saying that everything should fall on one person, it's just been a task master type of list in the fact that if something comes up and we want to talk about emergency preparedness, I might say I'm going to take that on as an action item and you or you, Sean, or whoever's in the Council Office, Angie, might say emergency preparedness discussion and the person that's following up on that is Chris, or there may be something else or an action item for, you know, biweekly calls to the Governor's Appointment Office regarding vacancies and that's going to be handled by the Council Office. And Angie might be the person responsible for that. Or Sean might be the person responsible for that.

And, I mean, for any functional council, you have to have a plan for how you're going to achieve action items for success. And I want to make sure that we continue to do that.

Unless there's another way that I think that's going to be handled, I don't want to discourage us from doing that.

That's all I have to say. Go ahead, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, thank you, Chris. Thank you for your comment. Sean, before you respond and really, just before anybody responds, I'm just trying to real quick look at the agenda. So hold on to that thought. I'm looking at the agenda and I'm a little bit concerned, because if you look at the time, it is 11:30 and we have not gotten past the earlier... um... the updates. We have been talking about everything else. And we've had great discussions. These are all valid points that everybody is making, no question there.

But I'm just looking at the agenda for today and I am looking at, you know, the agenda is saying we have lunch at noon. And it's supposed to last an hour and then we're supposed to get back at 1:00.

[Pause].

>> Hold on one moment.

>> The interpreter cannot see you.

[Echo].  
[Pause].

>> [Background chatter].

>> VOICE: John Jackson has joined the conference.

[Talking over one another].

>> CORY PARKER: Somebody is running the Zoom and they have put up -- they have shared their screen and we see a PowerPoint.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I think that Vanguard had put up these slides. Can you tell them to stop the slides?  
Stop the sharing.

>> CORY PARKER: Great. Yes, thank you.  
Okay. So... again, we were saying that we would be back after lunch at 1:00 o'clock.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: We'll have the presentation at 1:00, so... I do think we might need to pause the discussion that we're having right now and... I think we should decide that maybe... um... after the presentation with Cecil, then maybe we can come back to actions or organizations updates.  
Can we agree on that? Can we pause on our discussion right now?

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: I see a couple heads nodding.  
I am still new. I am trying to make sure -- Chris, did you actually have a comment? I see that Chris has a comment.  
Hold on...

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: I'm trying to listen to Chris. Oh, he mentioned John Jackson, so this is back to Chris's comment. I'm still very, very new to this Council, so I don't know who John Jackson is. So before you comment, maybe you could say something? Who you are? Introduce yourself maybe?

[Pause].

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris speaking. I apologize to you, Cory. As a newer council member, I did not mean to leave you in the dark there, so to speak.  
John Jackson is the DCF, Department of Children and Family Services representative. He is also an attorney and has provided counsel to the Council, if you will, related to the Sunshine Law.  
So if he was online, I was going to ask for his input related to the comment or how we can properly communicate with one another.

I just didn't want anything to be left unsaid related to how we can communicate with each other other than meeting four times a year that we meet as a Council.

>> CORY PARKER: No problem.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: And I also have to understand that you have to move back to make sure we cover the agenda, so please proceed as you see fit.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, yes. All right. Sean, did you have a comment about that? And then we may have maybe one or two different organizations...

>> SEAN ISAAC: I can just respond to the comment that Chris made regarding communication and keep it simple and quick.

To my understanding, from what the DOH attorney, Linda McMullen, shared, I cannot communicate or staff of DOH cannot communicate comments or business items between members between meetings. That's my understanding.

If there is some question about that, we should take it up and clarify that.

I don't think the issue was that it wasn't publicly made available to all council members, I thought the issue was it was not in front of the actual public.

So I can certainly go back and ask her.

I would like to refer everybody to the meeting minutes from May, because I'm pretty sure I should her comments in that meeting as part of the notes from the February call, where she provided an update on that situation and clarity on the Sunshine Law law, from my standpoint, from DOH staff standpoint.

And I'll keep it to that right now so we can move forward with the agenda.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Angie has -- Angie has something to say.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Cindy it her hand up.

>> CORY PARKER: Cindy? Go ahead, Cindy, go ahead.

>> CINDY SIMON: I just wanted you to not be concerned about the time, because before Glenna left, she said she wasn't worried, she didn't think there would be a lot of people at public comment, and so we could continue on through that time.

>> CORY PARKER: Oh, great.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Thank you. Okay, this is Cory. I was just keeping track of time and I was, like, oh, no! I wanted to make sure that we were trying to stay on track here. So, I'm very thankful, I appreciate your comments and the comment that, Sean, you just told me before and it's worth repeating, that sometime, you know, this discussion -- these discussions are necessary. They just -- it just has to happen and is necessary for us to, you know, to just make sure that we have order. We need to make sure, you know, things are doing -- that we're going in the right order for the Council.

And Chris, thank you for introducing John Jackson to me. Now I know who he is. Thank you! And it's good to know who's on the Zoom call and be familiar with everybody on here.

Thank you also for the interpreters for stopping me if I'm not clear. Sometimes in my mind I just am going too fast and, you know, I just have to slow down.

Okay. So then I guess we can just proceed with the organizations, you know, comments, the updates. Who would like to be first? Debbe, would you like to go first?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Sure, this is Debbe. I will be happy to. I wanted to let you know that HLAA Florida has received an award for the -- for hosting all these Zoom meetings during the pandemic. So it was a great honor for HLAA Florida State to receive that award.

I wanted to let you know I attended the NAD, National Association of the Deaf, convention. It was very interesting. They had about 1,000 Deaf people attend the NAD convention. They had 450 meeting attend the HLAA convention in Tampa. The NAD convention was in Orlando.

Next year, I'm planning to go to Deaf Seniors of America, which will be in June of next year. So it's important for all of us who are seniors to try and attend that convention, because we're now 1/3 or 1/4 of our life to consider what we're going to do in the future, about nursing homes, assisted livings, da, da, da, make sure that we have everything lined up, living will, all that kind of stuff.

One of the biggest things that HLAA has now been informing and it's been announced now that their over-the-counter hearing aids, so that's just recently announced that they can sell over-the-counter hearing aids in the stores. I'm starting to follow-up on that.

I've been requested to speak on the radio and I'm not qualified to cover that, so I'm passing that to HLAA to cover that.

That's all I have to say.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Great. Thank you, thank you for that, Debbe.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: All right. Who's next?  
Chris?

[Pause].

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris speaking. Sorry for the delay. Allow me to bring up whatever information I wanted to speak on related to the Association of Late-Deafened Adults. I'm assuming we're speaking about organizations and give a background and such, is that correct?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory, no, more of just a report, in taking a look at the agenda.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Just organizational updates.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Oh, I'm misunderstanding what I'm needing to be reporting on.

Oh, organizational updates. Yeah, that's what I was talking about. Okay. For the Association of Late-Deafened Adults?

[Pause].

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Okay. Again, the Association of Late-Deafened Adults, we're the organization for people with hearing loss, including people that are late-deafened. It's for people that have lost some or all of their hearing after they've acquired speech.

ALDA Suncoast, which is the only chapter in the state of Florida, works on providing effective communication and networking through Deaf and hard-of-hearing organizations and public agencies.

We've been continuing to have monthly meetings and social activities. Generally they're in Pasco County or Pinellas County. We've done a little bit of a flip-flop where we used to have more members in Pinellas County; now we seem to have more members in Pasco County, so we've been trying to move our location for events back and forth.

Also, if you will, we continue to have Zoom meetings and presentations that are of a training or informative nature.

I believe our next one is probably going to be in October -- or, I'm sorry, sometime this fall. I need to check the date on that and I'll share that with everybody later.

October is also our national convention. We, of course, support the National organization for the Association of Late-Deafened Adults. And the national convention this year is in San Diego and it's October 19-23. So many of us will be participating in that as well.

But we try to keep everybody connected through e-mail and social media. And then also have face-to-face events as much as possible, which are happening more often as we're seeing numbers go down related to the pandemic.

So, we will continue to do that.

Obviously as far as our concerns for the organization, we want to have somebody appropriately appointed to this committee -- or this Council. And also, you know, Debbe brought up NAD before. NAD also did a... um... list, if you will, for states -- or states -- who are the best and worst states were for processing and accessibility and although I will share that information with everybody via e-mail, it's pretty disappointing where Florida is exactly on that list.

So, hopefully we can improve on that. And the Association of Late-Deafened Adults obviously wants to make that a priority.

So that's our update for right now. Thank you.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Thank you, Chris. Are there any comments?

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: If we could, I would like to have Cindy on the phone? Is she still here?

Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm here.

>> CORY PARKER: Are you ready for your update?

>> CINDY SIMON: Well, there's usually not much to say. Both audiology organizations in the state have their meetings during the summer and both just had their meetings. Everyone's keeping an eye on legislation and the OTC stuff has generated a lot of conversation.

I would just personally say I know that people are very for it for the affordability, but -- and you're not required to have an exam for this. That's because if your hearing loss is severe, none of the OTC will work for you, because it's made for a mild sloping to moderate. If you have a flat loss, it's not going to work.

But the most important thing here is to consider if people buy it and don't have an exam, I recently had someone who normally wouldn't really trigger any major red flags, but I suggested she had an ENT eval anyway, and it turned out she had an acoustic neuroma, which is a benign tumor on the nerve of hearing.

This would have been missed without an exam and then a referral.

So, for me, the thought is scary.

Back when there was another type of hearing aid being mailed, I personally know of three cases that had seroma ear wax and by putting it in, they busted their eardrum and I want everyone to be cautious when looking at that.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: [Signing; no interpreting].

[Note from CART Captioner]: Interpreter is on mute.

>> CORY PARKER: Thank you for sharing that, Cindy. This is Cory. We appreciate you sharing that.

Again, this is Cory. And I did actually see what you were mentioning on the news and I started to worry, just because hearing loss is not a one-size-fits-all kind of thing.

And if hearing aids are being given over-the-counter... [Sighs]... it's just nice to have you comment about that. It's dangerous, it's dangerous that that's happening and so, again, thank you again, Cindy, thank you for your update.

>> CINDY SIMON: Let me throw one more thing out on that. Even though these are not for children, and the reason these hearing aids are only for mild to moderate loss is because if they had a power OTC hearing aid there and someone with a lesser hearing loss purchased it, they could give themselves further hearing loss that would be noise induced.

So, imagine a parent who thinks she's going to get her child a hearing aid 'cause they don't seem to hear and save money that way and all the child had was fluid but had never seen the doctor, a lot of damage could be done. Even though they're mild to moderate, a child's ear canal is so much smaller that the sound pressure is actually greater in a child's ear than the average adult.

So, we need to be vigilant.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. There's so much work still to be done.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah, Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: I just wanted to ask Cindy, what are the two groups that you mentioned from Florida?

>> CINDY SIMON: Oh, okay, one is the Florida Academy of Audiologists. And the other is the Florida Speech and Hearing Association.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Thank you.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Okay. Do we have anymore reports? Or do we want go ahead with seeing if there's another time for maybe one more report? Mary, I see Mary popping up on the Zoom.

>> MARY HODGES: Yeah, just a quick update, that the Department of Elder Affairs is continuing the celebration of the 30th anniversary of basically the Secretary of the Department is visiting in the Aging Network various service providers and just acknowledging the good work that individuals are doing.

September, the week of September 18-24 is National Falls Prevention and Awareness Week and the entire month is --

[Talking over one another].

>> INTERPRETER: This is the interpreter. You said it was national what?

>> MARY HODGES: National Falls Prevention Awareness Week.

>> INTERPRETER: Thank you.

>> MARY HODGES: Absolutely. And so there will be lots of activities going on in the month of September. And I wanted to let the group know that I have circulated an article that I put together for the biennial report to be reviewed by our Communications Office before it's sent over to the Council for review for the upcoming report.

That's all I have.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Thank you so much, Mary. We're on our 30-year anniversary. Wow!

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Debbe, you had something? Angie wanted to mention something? This is Cory. Angie, go ahead.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Thank you. Yes, this is Angie. I just want to know, you guys' organizations and agendas and meeting minutes and anything like that, if that's online, if you do have those, where can you go to see those updates and everything?

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Who can answer that question for Angie?

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: Angie, I think you're going to have to look at each organization individually. A lot of organizations, like mine, you have to be a member to get to it. So... um... you probably want to maybe send out an e-mail and let everyone respond to you individually.

>> ANGIE GREEN: This is Angie, great, okay, I will do that. Thank you.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory speaking. That's great, thank you. For VR, I don't have much to report. But for my specific unit, we are very busy and knee-deep in dealing with the southeastern region, the Southeastern Regional Institute on Deafness. It's that SERID group. SERID is going to be happening in October, from the 13-16 of this year, 2022 in Altamonte Springs, which is in Florida. It's at the Hilton. And we're strongly involved in making that conference happen.

The specific conference is going to be for professionals who are working with Deaf and hard of hearing and deaf-blind individuals in VR, as well as mental health, and for Centers for Independent Living and so forth.

We'll have a variety of presentations, specifically in regards to employment, independent living, again, mental health, as well as Deaf education. And there will be some interpreting workshops there as well. So that's something that's really taking a lot of our time within the unit, in terms of organizing and so forth. We're heavily involved two months in advance.

We've got the jitters!

So with that, we are thrilled that the Council will be coming and hosting those at SERID so they can network with the professionals. And those professionals will be from all over the country, included within the eight states of our southeastern region.

So, again, thank you so much.

I think we've got about two minutes left and I think we could possibly break for two minutes early for lunch! Do we all agree?

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Perfect. Again, this is Cory, let's go ahead and resume, take a recess and resume at 1:00.

And by the time we get back at 1:00, Glenna should have returned and then we'll have that next hour for Cecil's -- Cecil Bradley's presentation. And that presentation is set from 1:00-2:00.

Is that good with everyone? Then we'll see you all soon. Thank you.

[Break].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Is Cindy or Mary here?

>> CINDY SIMON: This is Cindy, and I am here.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Can you see my PowerPoint presentation?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, in Zoom, I see the PowerPoint presentation and I see his e-mail at this time. I'm thinking he wants me to forward this on to the Council, correct?

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Yeah, if you could, play it safe, it might be difficult to read in the Zoom presentation.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I am doing that right now. Thank you.

>> VOICE: Janelle Barnes has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Rebecca, are you on the line? Do you want to make any updates with regard to Vanguard and the use of Zoom?

>> REBECCA: I am on the line and I think we've gotten everything smoothed out. I think going forward with our session tomorrow for CART services as well as co-hosting.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hold on, time out.

This is Glenna. I'm waiting to see if there's anybody else. It looks like we have all of us here. We're waiting for the roll call.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We'll go ahead and do roll call, so we can start with the presentation. Go ahead.

This is Glenna Ashton the Florida Association of the Deaf Chair.  
Cory?

>> [Open mic].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory, are you here?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory?  
Okay, Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe Hagner, I represent --

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory, I'm here.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory? Okay, go ahead. Introduce yourself again, Cory.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We're doing the roll call, Cory, go ahead and introduce yourself.

>> CORY PARKER: Oh, okay, it's the roll call. Okay, hi, sorry, it's a little awkward over here, no problem, I'm sorry. So my name is Cory, I am from VR and DOE. I understand now; okay.

All right. And we have the interpreters here as well -- this is Glenna Ashton -- hopefully the other council members will show up.

>> CINDY SIMON: This is Cindy, I'm here as well.

>> There's people on the phone as well, Glenna. Cindy is here on the phone. Chris or Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: I think Chris said he couldn't come this afternoon.

>> INTERPRETER: This is the interpreter Kelly speaking. Glenna, did you move your screen up a little bit, it's hard for us to see and connect what you're saying. Unless you want to connect with the conference call line? That's up to you.

>> VOICE: This conference will now be recorded.

>> [Typing sound].

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Hi, this is Sean.  
I just wanted to let everyone know that this call is being recorded.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hold on one moment. Go ahead, Cory.  
So, go ahead, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: We have four people, I have myself, I have you, Glenna, I have Debbe and Cindy. Those are the four people I have.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's okay, because we're going to do the presentations right now, there's no voting required, so hopefully they show up by 2:00 o'clock or before 2:00 o'clock.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay, great.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. And we're going to go ahead and introduce Cecil Bradley, a former member. Really, we miss him here on our Council! But now he works with...

>> [Open mic].

>> INTERPRETER: Sorry, the interpreter missed --

>> VOICE: Mary Hodges has joined the conference.

>> INTERPRETER: Glenna, do you mind signing a little bit? I can't see your hands. Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So, regarding the law with the TSA (sic), go ahead, Cecil, we'll go ahead and let you take over now.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Thank you so much, Glenna, and everyone for getting this all worked out, to see some old faces and some new faces as well. You, Cory, nice to see you. And many comments I was hearing this morning, you know, hopefully the PowerPoint I sent out, you were able to get a little bit of time to read over it. I know it has a lot in there, there's a lot of information. And I'm going to go ahead and touch on each of the slides more in-depth.

So, you guys know that Fred (sic) was set up... sorry.

[Pause].

Thank you so much for joining in on my presentation today. There were some people who had contacted me again, so we're going to go ahead and get started here.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: So basically we set this up to make reports. There's a note going --

>> INTERPRETER: Please pin Cecil, I'm sorry, this is the interpreter, please pin Cecil, he keeps moving on the interpreter's screen and I'm struggling to interpret for him.

I'm not quite sure how that works? Are we good? Yeah, I can see where you are now.

It's not letting me -- oh, it moved again. Now you're spotlighted. There we go. Thank you.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: Okay, yep.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: All right. Let me know if there's anymore problems. I'm a little bit new with Zoom but I'm moving things around, I'm sorry to interrupt this morning, I was trying to test things out, I thought I was off and I was testing the screen and I apologize for that this morning.

So basically the ADA law here is within the state and talks about telecommunication services and providing the TTY, that's what we had for so long, and now we have established, you know, these new phone equipments that we're able to send out for those who are Deaf or hard of hearing or deaf-blind to be able to have access to the phone. We have set that up.

All right, perfect. So who would qualify? Those living here in Florida. We've noticed,

you know, those snowbirds coming down, you know, living part of the year here down here in Florida and then they would bring them home to where they live in the summertime. But unfortunately, that is not capable.

We have so much equipment and, you know, a few examples, you know, the TTY is 40-years-old now but that equipment is still being handed out.

We also have special phones that are set up to have, like, a picture screen for clarity and a lot of people love that, it looks like a phone and it's wonderful to move around. So that's another option that we have.

And all of the assisted phones have control where we can increase the volume. And they have the microphone where you can hold up to the voicebox in your neck and talk through that to pick up more sound clearly.

It's called Speech Doctor.

And all of them require landlines.

So, explaining that -- it's a really strange law, that it requires a landline. Like, the WiFi and the wireless, it doesn't really say anything about that, so we have to explain about that a little bit more.

We report DCS (sp) annually that we report to every year, we have rules and regulations that we have to follow, and we have T-Mobile, previously it was Sprint and now it's changed to T-Mobile, they have taken control of Relay and CPS, captioning phone service in Florida, they use landlines as well.

And the law, I want to talk about this, because it's 30-years-old now and it hasn't been revised, it hasn't been updated, there hasn't been new terminology added. It doesn't include WiFi or any of the new technology that we have, and nobody has been checking the law or making any revisions in quite sometime.

And, you know, in 2012, our wonderful senator was Weiss, he's awesome, and he promoted to change based on the feedback that he heard from the Deaf community for the FAD, as well as other organizations, grasping that feedback to make the changes, and Florida, HLAA, there was so much feedback provided.

However, that bill died, unfortunately, in the committee. So we suspect that there wasn't enough people reaching out, enough letters that were sent in, calls that came in, meetings that happened. So unfortunately that bill died.

And the senator, Senator Weiss who is retired at this time.

So we have a lot to do.

When we're talking about other states, we are focusing on Florida, but we do know that other states offer wireless-type programs.

Did my interpreter go away?

It looks like I'm on the wrong slide.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: All right. I'm adjusting my slides as the interpreters switch. I'm trying to figure out where I am with the slide.

Yes, we do have -- it seems like I might be out of order on my slides; if you could bear with me for just a minute.

Okay. If you'll notice this slide that we have here, we've got a lot of hard-of-hearing people in Florida and a lot of people with speech disorders that don't have access to phones. So we're giving out a lot of equipment. And we serve over 500,000 Deaf and hard-of-hearing people in the state of Florida. And we have a wide variety which covers a lot of consumers.

But we are noticing that that number is decreasing each year.

And the reason why is because of the lack of landlines. No one wants to keep using the landline. And there are older participants that don't want to give up their landlines.

So some of our equipment is only landline-based, but we also have bluetooth capability, which allows for that ability to go back and forth. And there are a lot of people that we serve in the state of Florida.

And this is back to the original slide that I had shown.

Again, across the country, people are using more wireless services and that's a common internet IP usage of those mobile services.

But Florida does not yet accommodate that.

Florida's tried. I think it was about two years ago, maybe three years ago, where we tried to do a PSC, which was denied, and apparently we were not able to offer that service over the wireless capability.

But when we met with PSC, we did try to negotiate and convince them of that, so I'm thinking in the next year or so it might be possible and positive for us to add that capability.

If you're interested what other states offer, the PowerPoint offers a link, so you can check to see what the other states are offering.

And we're trying to figure out why we need to change the PSA, because the terminology in the law is old. They're calling it "hearing impaired" within the law and that term "hearing impaired" is antiquated, as long as a few other terms that may no longer be appropriate and there are things changing with the terminology.

And the law limits us to landlines. The older technology, I guess from the 1980's, nobody wants to use that or keep it. And it's vastly disappearing.

For example, if you see here on one of the mentions that I have on this slide, it says, sadly, the number of lines, as we mentioned with landlines are diminishing and they're diminishing quickly. Previously we had over 2½ million and now there's maybe 1.4 million.

However, with that decline, we're only talking about half -- half a million, maybe 500,000 people using that.

But if you take a look at the last statistics, when you're talking about the number of landlines that Florida is using out of the 22 million Floridians that we have and only 1 million of them are using landlines, more people are using mobile phones. And those landlines will be disappearing and I would say probably within the next five years, no one will be using landlines no more at all. Just because of the fact that our equipment won't be compatible. The Deaf and hard-of-hearing community are screaming for that technology and if we have old technology, it's something for us to think about.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: We're often noting that the phone companies are following the mandate and law and they're collecting from each phone bill that landline surcharge and they take ten cents per landline and that goes to the FTRI that we offer and that goes to the cost of the phone as well, but as the landlines decrease, that means that the funding, therefore, decreases.

And luckily, we do have some money set aside, but still, the cost of doing business, for us, is going down, especially with COVID and a lot of other centers that are out there using those landline opportunities, we understand that, but we don't know what's in store for our future. We may have to spend less in terms of outreach and communicating with those centers, because we do pay for their time, we pay for their services, and we do provide new clients and, you know, for those current customers who need the trade-in equipment or return equipment or modify their equipment, we do pay them for their time that helps our

Deaf and hard-of-hearing community. Especially with problem solving and troubleshooting, we pay them. And we recently increase the fee.

I think it was last year, maybe -- it was most recently, in the last year, because I know we hadn't increased the cost -- I know when I joined FRID last November, we looked at the services and the funding and the centers were not receiving enough funding and we went ahead and analyzed the cost of living and therefore made the increase of the funding that went back to those centers.

So it ended up being that each center was increased to 70 cents, so I think what we need to pay attention to is the fact that we need to try and increase the service, but understand that through that, we need to make sure that the services that we're providing are appropriate and that clients are happy and that the Council is happy too.

So we need to really watch out for these adjustments. We're truly limited in terms of the availability for the technology that's offered to those landlines.

And I think with TSA (sic) and what we need to change within the TSA (sic) again, we are not providing bluetooth and wireless services.

I mean, in this day and age, with everybody loving wireless, I think we all love our iPhones and iPhones and Androids and tablets, the technology that's offered to us and the notes that we're able to keep amongst all those devices, if you can imagine the opportunities for contact, you know, whether it's the VRS or video phones out there being used, right now we cannot provide that because we're limited to TTY services,

And landline adaptability.

So if we could transition to bluetooth, we would at least be offered more of a flexibility for the hard-of-hearing community. It would be limiting to the Deaf community still if we transition to bluetooth, but right now we don't have the opportunity to transfer the flexibility, because I don't think we could offer that. The PSCs say now we need to follow the mandate of the law and things need to stay the same and right now they need to --

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

[Talking over one another].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Also adaptable phones, when people are using voice over internet, the VoIPs, using those adaptable phones and those old landlines, when we make those connections to the VoIPs, we go through a digital format, and that's a local digital format that can make those phone calls.

And sometimes they are choppy connections, sometimes there is some audio interference, there's some garbled sort of characters that pop up on TTYs.

So I know that sometimes when we pay attention, those adjustments, we need to move forward and understand the changes that need to be made to our technology and our accessibility, because we're losing callers, we're losing calls and callers and therefore noticing and increasing complaints, because the local phones are using digital connections through VoIP system. They're not compatible to analogue phones. So those are things we need to think about.

So if you've heard some of those concerns and some of those problems, those are the reasons why.

And one of the interesting things that I realized last year, when the committee met, I think it was before my tenure joining, but the PSCs met and the TTYs are a special type of device, and even those devices are being special, they don't recognize iPads, they don't recognize iPhones, they don't recognize the specialized equipment as what you consider... gosh... whatever the terminology is. When we add app to our world, they're not

compatible, the TTYs are limited.

And those are things that we should be able to offer choices for our customers.

There's different types of VRS services, there's Sorenson, V, Purple, there are other things we can offer to our customers and be able to do that, and as I mentioned, the TTY technology is over 40-years-old. Have we not and able to come up with something since then?

The TTY no longer meets our functional equivalency needs. If you can imagine the ability to type on a TTY and using the old terms with the G and SK and things in our community, the communication lag is no longer functional equivalent. The TTY needs to be something that we no longer offer in the near future.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: As I mentioned, the technology is not compatible and is no longer useful to use that TTY. With everyone using iPads and phones that are being offered by these services that we use in the community that we are within, the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, there are speech apps that are offered to the hard-of-hearing community. There are definitely some new and improved technologies we can be able to accommodate.

Even as of last month, when you think of a variety of the people that I met, at the companies that I'm working with and communicating to, when you talk about TTYs, there's something theoretically called, it's called a chat, where you can offer that three-way, four-way immediate chat within the process of communication, which means our future, we may not even need TTYs. Not only will they not be accessible, we won't even be using them, since everybody is using text features and apps that are far more accessible.

So really, we're just going to need to offer the variety and the flexibility to our customers.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: All right. So the FCC is pushing new technology starting in 2016, they have been using RTT which is replacement for the TTY, but that has not come out yet, it's not fully accepted at this point. It's still in the testing phase. Because many of our relay centers maybe are not able to recognize the RTT yet.

It is like a digital language. It's not analogue, it's not the TTY, that is analogue, that's the old system, that is old language to communicate, and they don't -- they don't cooperate, put together, they don't work together. The TTY is just not really compatible, like I said, and we're looking at the digital world.

The FCC ordered all phones to have, or iPads, iPhones, to have the app that you can download and you can install this on your phones.

If you -- you can even actually put something that's like a TTY.

And the RTT can go then to the TTY, but the problem is it's not perfect, the system is not perfect.

If you want to speak with another Deaf or hard-of-hearing person, you can do that face-to-face through the apps and it's so much easier.

For example, you could have, like, the RTT on the side and then you are able to chat back and forth. You can see my words and their words, our dialogue happening at the same time. It's not like the old TTY that was old conversation. I would type, send it, wait, they would type, send it, wait, and it was a back and forth with a long delay. And now it's simultaneous communication. It's almost like live dialogue texting, almost. It's almost like a video phone that we can see each other and communicate. It is really an awesome,

awesome tool that we have.

Just a TTY --

[Background noise].

-- this is kind of silly and we're trying to get past that.

>> [Open mic] hello.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: [Signing but no interpreting].

Okay. Let me go back to the TTY. As an example, in case you're wondering what a TTY is, I don't think I need to explain it, but if you look on the right-hand side, you can see the dialogue, you can speak into the phone and it will print out the words that I'm saying. It will write out the words. And then you can see what the other person, they're able to see what you said and then you can come get a picture of what they look like. Many people love it, it's turn-taking, but it's live messaging, and that way if somebody is on the phone and they can't hear and they're not sure what somebody said, they can read the script, so it's great.

The relay person also can help, you know, clarify some of these things, sometimes they have to clean up the words what people are saying to make sure it's written clearly.

But the caption, it's called caption telephone service, CTS. We have that in Florida, we have two programs, and both of them, unfortunately, are through the landline here in Florida.

TRS and CTS, that's what we have in Florida. Any questions?

If you don't mind, we can actually, if it's okay, we'll move along and if you have questions, we'll let you ask them at the end, that would be great.

[Signing but no interpreting].

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Okay. So, in Florida, what about the services here?  
So -- hold on, it kind of --

>> INTERPRETER: Can you repeat that?

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Okay. The PSP (sic), it's a point of access... service access program... it's similar to 911, you know, the emergency center, that's what this is, it's very similar to that.

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Okay. So the RTS, that does include the TTY. And the problem is not all emergency services recognize this new technology. So unfortunately, you know, even in Florida we're behind.

Chris, I know we were just talking about that. That there's just so many centers that aren't even advanced in the new technology and that is a challenge. Definitely here in Florida, that is a challenge.

So now going back to the TTY RTS -- RTT, remember I spoke about that being digital

and the TTY is analogue, which is the old phone landline. That's the difference.

Many hard of hearing use this, they use the speech, they use speech to communicate but, you know, for them it would be different.

The hard-of-hearing -- the hard-of-hearing people benefit from amplified on the captions phone as well.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Okay. So we spoke about T-Mobile and the service they provide. They go through the landline. And it's interesting, I learned actually this last month that T-Mobile is actually going to stop providing that service, they are not going to provide the caption telephone service any longer, so this is the last year of the contract that they have here in Florida, and so the relay is going to be taking over, over the whole state, in the whole captioning service.

So that new caption service is going to be taking over the relay here in Florida, in starting 2025. But of course they would begin the process now.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: So, you might not have our own option -- if you have the internet, you can access the captions, like capital -- CaptionCall phone service, they provide that, that's online, you have to have basic internet. I don't know if you've seen that TV advertisement, but that's not us, that's a separate call, separate CapTel.

I don't need to go into detail too much about this one. I basically just wanted to explain how the CaptionCall service works. You can see that there on the picture what it would look like, a person makes a call and they can watch the captions as they speak and another person can hear the talking, the conversation, and read it at the same time.

The person who's the operator is listening, making sure that the language is clear, that the typing is correct.

Sometimes a person that's hard of hearing may not speak clear enough, and so the operator would try to clean that next up and make sure that it's readable.

And that way, we would be able to understand the hard of hearing and their speech a little bit better.

Let's see here... the second one, we're talking about is the CapTel and that, again, is through the internet, and it's... um... yeah, so IPS-CTS (sic), that's the name of the service.

And sometimes they have a wireless phone and that's taken from the universal service funds and they can use that on the wireless phones and use the U.S. funding for that, to pay the federal -- I think it's 25 cents a month for that service, so that is separate.

That's for online. If you have a video phone, if the Deaf person has a video phone that they use, a national IP phone, that would work for an IP connection, even one would allow that.

And national level. National level internet access, that's what we would be talking about for national. So they are separate, from state and the national level. Sometimes I kind of wonder why, but I don't know, I guess it's because they're two separate programs.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: This is the interpreter, I'm sorry. Can you go back for me?

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: This is the interpreter. That screen was frozen.  
Hold on...

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Yeah, so I was saying, at the national level, is the all over -- it's all over across the United States. We have an internet program and we have the federal, that is over that. And then the state level, it's run over the landline program. That's in the 50 United States and so there's two separate programs. But, again, I don't know why there are two separate programs.

So, you have to understand, I mean, I'm assuming it's the federal supporting... um... you know, they're adding new technology, they're improving, and then the state level, again, unfortunately it is a little bit behind, so...

You see the problem and they're different, you know, but think about the future, you know, what's that gonna look like? We'll have to wait and see.

For the landline --

>> VOICE: Mary Hodges has left the conference.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: -- that dissipates and that would affect the state program if they're no longer, you know, using landlines. So whether that whole state funding and state programs cool down? I don't know, I'm not really sure.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: We have Convo, we have Z, we have Purple, we have High End (sp).

Thank you, Debbe, for catching that. She's our little cheerleader over here, catching what is going on, we had a disconnect. The interpreter had a frozen screen and had some technical difficulties. Thank you for your patience.

The new laws are -- and the policies are based on federal relay and captioning and now we have CVAA and what's really interesting is they're pushing for new technology, they're pushing for better usage for people with disabilities.

The VIP, you know, the more video phone for the --

>> INTERPRETER: Hold on --

>> CECIL BRADLEY: -- the COMP (sp), the TTY, that's still an old voice phone as well and a typed phone, things are improving, the technology is improving, and the states are saying the same, they're not going anywhere. There's a disconnect. The problem is the technology isn't matching what we have within some states, especially here in Florida.

And what's interesting is a lot of what's happening, you know, a lot -- within the last year or two, there was a new federal law that was passed with funds, it was, like, \$64 billion that was passed out to the state to be able to expand broadband and internet access. You know, the fiberoptics, satellite, all of this stuff was supposed to be increased.

And the reason was because many people in the country, here in Florida especially, do not have internet access. So they were pushing for all areas to increase. That means something.

Here in Florida, if we accepted the money, that means that we need to be delegating it

out to the cities for them. But they're not, you know, because all of these landlines are still stuck here in Florida. What is going on?

We need to make sure that people who do not have access are included. Those who are Deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, or no matter the disability.

Nobody knows. I didn't know until a few months ago. I was, like, what?! Nobody knows that they are not -- you can't contact the people with disabilities out there, you know, they're gone, you know, they're flying away without us.

And we want to check, you know, what are they doing for those people?

For example, the fourth bullet point down called digital literacy, that is encouraging people to use the internet, meaning we, Deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, no matter your disability, need to be able to -- we can't afford to be behind. We can't afford to miss anymore opportunities.

And sometimes it looks like we're ignoring what's going on. So we really need to think about that.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: So, why do we have a need for action? It's a lot of overwhelming information. But you have to be able to see each segment of what's going on.

And, you know, we don't have enough. We need something. Every year, every two years, you know, landlines are gonna be gone, they're gonna be extinct! And this new technology is showing, you know, our equipment is old. The TTY is no good anymore. And, you know, the phone, with the VIP (sic), the digital internet-based communication that we have now is having issues. Our TTYs are outdated, our dial phones are outdated. We need to give out basic internet phone equipment, even temporarily.

And that's because, you know, most of us prefer online. It's natural now.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, I feel that now.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: We need to advocate for change. We need to advocate for this law to change.

My Board of Directors I believe two weeks ago were discussing, you know, moving fast, and it's funny, because, you know, I'm ready, I'm ready to meet people.

And, you know, for example, ATA (sic), in October, they invited me to speak there for the HLAA group that they got and there's more and more groups and you folks are the first ones that I've spoken on this.

And we're realizing that November is election time, meaning that it's not a good idea for me, you know, to contact a legislator now; I have to wait until after November's election.

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah, that makes sense, I understand.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: So we're stuck, meaning I can speak with you guys and tell you to spread the word and reach out, you know, to my Board. I've talked with my Board and they said the legislation --

>> VOICE: Has changed the conference --

>> CECIL BRADLEY: -- there are so many new bills, they don't want to be involved, the legislator, you know, doesn't want to lose their position, so we have to wait until

November.

And I encourage you guys to think about this. Spread the word. Contact legislation.

In November, what we're going to try and do is to find supporters for the legislation -- legislator (sic) and in November, we're going to be reaching out and see if we can find people who are interested. Democrat, Republican, I don't know, we need to see, it could be either. But we need to make -- get more people aware, especially in December, January, February, you know, we're not going to make the change in this law next year. Maybe two years. But we need to start the process.

My goal is to have a new bill ready and amended, you know, same as the bill -- as the Senator Weiss was changing the bill in 2012, remember we were talking about that? We were talking about more clarity?

It would be nice if we had a copy of what his bill was, what the old bill was, and see what some of his revisions -- I have that, I would be happy to send that to you if you contact me.

My e-mail is included on that first slide if you go back and look at that and I can provide you the amended bill and what we have.

The bill has some amendments already. There's new terminology that includes WiFi, you know, it includes things that are updated.

And the Legislature will have to look over the billing. We want to provide wireless access.

So I really want you to start thinking about, you know, after the new year, contacting your legislation and hoping for this bill to get designed in early spring.

We don't know the exact name or number of the bill just yet, so... the point, you know, the man said "What do we do?"

Any questions?

>> INTERPRETER: Glenna is raising her hand.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: I'm open for questions.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do you mind taking down your PowerPoint?

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Oh, just one moment.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Okay. Is that better?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wonderful, great, yes, yes.

Thank you so much. Wow! Wow! That was a lot of information! And I'm happy, you know, to see that there's been so much research, yes, and I'm happy, you know, I've seen that you've done a lot of research and you've gotten a lot of the statistics, it's important that you have the numbers to back it all. And all of that will really help a lot when we go through that more the next time.

I have a few questions that I was taking down during your presentation and you said you already have a copy of that bill with some amendments and some updates to put into it.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, because I would like to look over that and meet with you to discuss more about that, what the expectations are.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Yeah, I can send over what we have to you.

>> INTERPRETER: He's making a note.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. Hello, Sean. Okay. I haven't seen you in a long time.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So the center for the Deaf, you were saying that the Council had 3.5 million? How do they account for that?

>> CECIL BRADLEY: If you look at -- hold on just a second here... so that was old data, yeah, so that's why we were looking at, you know, the old -- well, not old data, but... let's see... that was basically old data -- that's not the right word, hold on, what am I trying to say here... um...

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: So I found a source that I had taken that information from and I'm trying to remember which source it was at this time. Um...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: If you want to, you know, figure out the new statistics, you know, to make sure that everything is matching with what's current, you know, the Council has said 3.5 million people want, you know, our -- are included in this, we want to make sure those numbers match with what you have.

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: So I'll go ahead and do a little bit more research into what I have and I will send you that resource if I find it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So would you be willing to travel or do Zoom with different organizations and provide this FTRI information and TASA information to them?

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Yeah, I would be willing to do either, that would be great, Zoom or in person.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And I think when we go to Tallahassee in February, we'll have to, you know, discuss more with the Council, if we would be able to start mention for the TASA and all of the stuff. And if the Council agrees, we can go ahead and move on with

that. But I can mention it to our Council as well when we go up in February to Tallahassee, that would be wonderful.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Yes, I'll be out there for a period of time and I can get that information out there as well.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That would be wonderful. All of the organizations can work in collaboration together especially, you know, FAD. It's going to hurt the Deaf and hard of hearing more if they take this phone captioning away, you know, and I use everything, you know, I have a video phone, I have texting and I have captioning and I have an app on my phone and I have my old captioning phone, you know, died, but I have to order that from CapTel. And I still haven't, you know, bothered to connect it yet.

>> Well, you know how that goes.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. What's happening with the caption phone? When it first came out, it was great. I loved it. But now with the delay time and people -- hearing people hanging up on us, I got rid of my caption phone, I couldn't stand it, because of the delay time.

So I would rather use VP or CCL (sp) using my voice.

So I'm now with all of these new apps, you have Ava, you have Live Transcribe, you have Otter, you have all of these new ones that came out recently from HLAA and AGISH, that's a new one, and there's one called Otelo, that's another one.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Olelo?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: So whatever app is new, it should be on Facebook or on the website, that these are approved, that you have InnoCaption, that's another one. Are they officially approved? I mean, are they, you know, is this officially approved? Then we should post it somewhere that these are officially the approved web apps that hard of hearing and Deaf people can use for whatever they need.

I mean, what's happening with the caption phone, because if there's no longer going to be these landlines, then what? You're going to leave all these people hanging? You know, they just cut off all of the land -- all of the -- all of the landlines.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: You're right, you're right. I want to make sure I understand what you're saying. I think the problem, what about referring people to the landline, right? Is that what you were talking about in regards to the landline? Right? I mean, that's the problem, it's the same thing, you know, this same experience that you've had with messing up, disconnecting, you know, and again, it's because of the landline.

VoIP, that is a barrier, and there is a landline, there would be a direct landline-to-landline, but now phones don't do that, they're trying to catch up and they're coming in right in the middle between your phone and there's another person and you've got the digital, you know, you go from analogue now to digital, you have analogue wires going to digital, and it's just not compatible, it's not a good mix between the two.

I know you've experienced that at times. I'm hoping the law changes, you know, and then we can start offering better internet, you know, basic internet, and then, you know, in

the future, really I do think that landlines are going to disappear.

I would say within the next five or six years, because they're just dropping off so quickly, the numbers of people using landlines is just so few. It's not very good anymore, you know?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Is it possible that the Council can do a petition or endorse your organization or your thing? And then also ask for, is there something that Sean or Angie can do or the Council can do is ask for volunteers from all of the Legislature, somehow asking in a general letter and begging for someone, because according to our statute or bylaws, we're supposed to have someone overseeing the Council. And we never had someone, anyone, oversee the Council.

So, it would be nice if we can send out a general letter begging someone to please oversee our Council and also to oversee yours, and then maybe that will lead to -- to a wake up call to make some changes in the Legislature or something.

Is that possible?

>> CECIL BRADLEY: It's possible. You know, maybe you as a committee could get together and get the support that you need. You have to be very careful how you communicate with others during the meeting and after the meeting. I know between you can't communicate, but you guys can make a plan, you know, draft a plan, I think you said you were going in February, I think you said? I don't know to draft -- I don't know the drafting bill time, to draft a bill, but maybe you can plan on talking about that.

Whoever wins, I will definitely be chaffing to get support, whether it's Republican or Democrat.

I do have a contact, a democratic legislator here, if they're a Republican, and maybe I can reach out, whoever that is, and reach out to the subcommittee, no, no, no, the PSC service, the subcommittee in the legislative office to see who to reach out to.

Maybe we can talk about it by November and maybe by November or February we'll have a draft, a bill drafted.

That could be our goal, maybe start with a rough draft and you can advocate for that. But just to have a goal in mind.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I think that we should get the whole group in supporting this bill, you know, everybody to get behind it.

We can also contact... I'm trying to remember the name of the organization -- it might have to do with the Rights of Florida? DRA -- Disability Rights of Florida. I'm not sure exactly what it is. But they would be a great group. And that would be willing to help and they would support, you know -- I would be willing to help, you know, facilitate and reach out to them.

And another thing --

[Talking over one another].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: I'm going to contact --

>> INTERPRETER: [Echo].

[Note from CART Captioner]: Captioner cannot understand this interpreter speaking.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: -- so there's FRID, there are different organizations all over, and we can start reaching out and start contacting. Does that sound good? Start the process.

>> INTERPRETER: [Echo].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: All right. I hope to see everyone again, and we'll just take a step at a time.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Don't forget, I would like to see a copy of that.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: I'll e-mail it to you, Glenna, and I will give you a copy of the research.

[Pause].

[Signing and no interpreting].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: The interpreters should not have any side conversations. So if you're going to have side conversations, turn off your video.

[Talking over one another].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: We can be in contact in the future and I'm here and hopefully we can -- reach out if you have any questions. Very nice to meet you today. Hopefully we will be able to stay informed and we'll have a great year.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Does anybody need --

[Talking over one another].

[Note from CART Captioner]: There are two interpreters speaking at once.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: If anyone has any further questions, you can reach out and message us.

[Pause].

>> [Background noise].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Obviously -- Suzanne? Suzanne? There's confusion for Suzanne, with the interpreter. Janelle is trying to communicate with you, Suzanne.

[Signing and no interpreting]

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: Great. Thank you guys for this opportunity! Thank you. Bye.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So this morning, there was a request to have a little break, because it's been, like, an hour-long lecture. Let's take a few minutes, let's take about a 15-minute break and then maybe the interpreter can get everything situated with Suzanne and all of that and we will be back. We will start again at 2:15. So we'll start with the general comments.

I doubt that anybody will show up. I don't think we had enough time to advertise, but I don't know what's going to happen and I don't know, when I left, I don't know what happened.

Did you guys finish going -- did you work on the letter?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: No.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Or do we need to still work on that? No, okay, you didn't finish the letter.

Okay. So we'll continue to work through the agenda after the break.

Okay. So, you know, if nobody shows up for the comment time, then we'll just continue working through the agenda and we'll work on the letter.

Let's see... and then we can go ahead and discuss the bylaws and the reporting and all of that, and then maybe somebody will show up for the general comment time, public comments, that would be after lunch -- I mean after the break. Excuse me.

So 2:15, we'll get back together after the break for public comments. Sound good? Everybody clear?

Okay. 2:15.

[Break].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. All right, now it is 2:16, let's go ahead and get things started again.

We have Debbe, me, Cory I see, John, Mary. All right. It looks like five people here so we can go ahead and get started. And Cindy is on the phone as well, Cory is saying, Cindy is on the phone.

It's time for open contacts.

>> CORY PARKER: Cindy is on the phone.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: Cindy is on the phone, we're clarifying.

And also Cory mentioned that the captions weren't started yet? That the captions have not begun.

>> CORY PARKER: The Captioner? Okay, we're good, we're good.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Lisa says that the captions are up now.

Wonderful presentation from Cecil! About the TASA and FTRI. That is something, you know, we have known for quite sometime has been a big problem. So I'm really happy to see that he's unretired, pulling up his sleeves, and taking care of this to improve things for FTRI. I'm happy to see that he has done his homework and provided a very strong update for the bill.

>> CORY PARKER: I agree.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, that will make our job easier to support -- or with people's support, it will make our job easier, and I'm really excited about that.

Did anybody want to add anything else? What you heard -- heard -- heard from the presentation? Debbe, yes, go ahead.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I was wondering if it's possible we can add that presentation to the website? If that's legal or not? Sean or Angie?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna speaking. I think we would have to ask permission from Cecil first. Because it's his information, I suspect he will want to use it to make more presentations first before it's publicly released, so we might need to get his agreement on that first. But that's a really good idea. It's great information. But we need to get information from Cecil regarding that first.

All right. While I was gone... where did you guys actually finish up this morning? Where did you finish?

>> INTERPRETER: Cory is raising his hand.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Did you finish the organizational update? Cory has his hand up. Go ahead, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: Cindy?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy, did you have something to say?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, Cory, you had your hand up?

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah, this is Cory speaking, I wanted to let you know where we left off.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, please.

>> CORY PARKER: On the agenda, we had gone through all the debate... so we had all updated on our organizations. I finished. We were waiting for FAD to update and John to update. If you click through those people who are not here, I'm not sure if DOH was going to provide any type of update on those three organizations that are left?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you so much. And she has her hand up and Cory --

>> CORY PARKER: Angie, her hand is up.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Okay. I just wanted to state that Cindy says: So sorry. Fire alarms are going off and they are evacuating the building. I will have to be done till the all

clear is announced. Fire engines arriving as I type. Hope to be back on soon.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's from Cindy? Oh, goodness!

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I hope everything's okay!

>> ANGIE GREEN: That's the only thing I got, she had to sign off.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So, John...

>> CORY PARKER: Angie, there's an update or... hold on... I'm not seeing any hands up, I'm sorry. Okay, Angie, you're up.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Angie, go ahead.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Oh, no, that's all I wanted to say, I just wanted to let you know about Cindy.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. John Jackson, are you here? Is there anything that you wanted to comment?

>> JOHN JACKSON: Good afternoon, this is John. And no, I don't have anything at this time.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Is there anything happening with Department of Children and Families regarding the Deaf and hard-of-hearing? Is there anything?

>> JOHN JACKSON: I'm sorry, Glenna, I just don't have anything to update with at this time.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you.

Me for FAD, we had the National Association of the Deaf conference. FAD was there. And it was rather successful. We had about 2,000 people gather. Many, many Florida volunteers were there. And I was supposed to go volunteer as well, but I was not able to. For the first two weeks of June, I was traveling, and when I got back home, I was sick for two weeks. It wasn't COVID, but I was sick. So I was not able to attend.

But I heard that it was really nice! And the rest of the summer, FAD has been pretty quiet. We plan to call the president, but when we start the board meetings again, I'll be able to share TASA's information with them as well.

And I think that's it.

>> CORY PARKER: Sean?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I believe that's it for the committee?

>> CORY PARKER: DOH, does DOH have anything?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: They reported first. The committee, is there anything that the committee wants to talk about?

>> CORY PARKER: No.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Is that where we stopped?

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, wonderful. We'll go ahead and do the committee report updates, EMOT Committee? That's Gina and Cindy. Both are not available right now. And it's on the agenda, so we'll have to wait for one of them to be back to discuss that letter. So we'll hold off on that for now.

The bylaws that I had sent for my suggestions for edits, we can go ahead and discuss that maybe later this afternoon and tomorrow as well, if needed.

The Budget Committee, the Budget Committee, Cory? Did you find anything?

>> CORY PARKER: I have not had any opportunity or chance to discuss anything regarding the budget.

I do apologize... [Sighs]... I just had no information provided to me, so... I'm really sorry.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do you have -- do you have the budget information to let us know how we're doing monetarily?

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Are you recognizing me, Glenna?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: [Nods head].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yes? Sorry about that. This is Sean again. It is not Cory's fault. We have not had a chance to sit down and talk about the budget issue. We have had some updates on it, and so my apologies for not reaching out to you, Cory, to let you know that.

Quite honestly, it was just last Friday, I believe, that Angie and I had a chance to sit down and speak with our budget coordinator regarding the budget. So we will try to set up a routine meeting so that we can have those updates for you and that you can present that to the Council in the future, okay, Cory?

I had some updates to the Council that I wanted to explain and that was probably unfair to share with Cory, but I will explain anyway, and let me start by sharing those.

Number one, the Council and the Department has roughly, roughly about \$17,000 in the expense and supplies budget. That will have to cover the travel costs and the supply cost for the entire year, between July 1st of this year and June 30th of next year.

The Council has about 37,000 in the contract for services category and that is enough

to cover our costs for our four contracted services, currently which include the public notice service, which is the Florida Administrative Register, the interpreter services, the CART services, and the audio video services. So those are our four contracts.

And the Department has enough to fund those.

The Department did have a budget adjustment where they stated they could not give us as much as they did last year when it comes to our contracting services, and so that did take a slight hit.

And one of the ways that we were able to adjust it, and it just so happened to work out this year in sort of a weird way, in that the first meeting, since we couldn't have it face-to-face, we were able to take some of that cost from that and shift that to our other meetings.

So, instead of four face-to-face meetings and all the costs that are associated with that, we will have three scheduled face-to-face meetings.

Now, what that does do is put a lot of pressure on us when it comes to our contractors, though. And instead of three hour meetings for our committee meetings, we would have to change that to less than one hour for every month for our committee meetings.

And I did not think that that's something that you wanted to do.

So, what I would encourage you all to consider is just having two face-to-face meetings this year and then two virtual meetings for your quarterly meetings. That's a little bit of an adjustment, but it's a cut that I don't really have control over. And if that's something that you all object to, it would have to be something that you would have to communicate with our supervisors here, okay.

But that's the way I was suggesting we move forward.

Otherwise it kind of limits us as to what we can do throughout the year and between the quarters, because of that adjustment.

Any questions about that? I'm assuming I will have some questions.

Yes, Glenna?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna speaking. I do have a question. Is there a voice interpreter for me or should Suzanne do it? Okay. Well, anyway, as I was saying, so if we meet for less than an hour, as far as the committee meeting, or would that be for the quarterly meeting? What do you know, Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: We are still able to have two quarterly meetings and then allow us to have our regular committee meetings.

At first this year, remember we were changing over to Zoom and what we were trying to do was have more of our committee meetings be a little bit more standardized, right, and that's what we had it set up for, and each one of those committee meetings, I think we had it budgeted for three hours, between the different providers, if I'm not mistaken.

We can't afford those same hours. And so what they are saying is that we have to cut it. And what that cut looks like, in reality, to the committee is, you know, less than an hour per committee meeting one per month; basically 12. I think that's how the math worked.

And it just didn't seem feasible at that time.

So when we were looking at the budget, it looked like the easiest way was to have two committee meetings and then two virtual meetings and the virtual meetings would be able to be the full day and a half, like normal.

If we did three face-to-face meetings, then the -- even one of those virtual meetings --

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: -- would be very limited and I didn't think you all wanted to do that. So I'm asking you now, do you prefer the two virtual meetings and two face-to-face or would you still want to try three face-to-face and see how that works out when it comes to the hours? Knowing that it will be tight.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna speak... hmm... let me think...

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's a very big thing to consider, because, of course, it's better in person, because --

>> SEAN ISAAC: Right.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- it really fits our communication needs. So, you know, I mean... there are a few times we need committee meetings.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Mmm-hmm.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I mean, we could kind of work with that. It seems that the committee meetings really aren't, you know, as paramount as the others. Um... hmm... wow... it's a lot to consider.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. It is a lot to consider. I did not prepare a budget update, because I didn't know if that would be helpful. I thought it would be better to just explain it.

What I can do is just probably send you that information and we can consider discussing it tomorrow in further detail.

I thought it was better just to kind of explain where we are at and what sort of we were looking at as far as the easiest path forward.

But I can kind of break it down budget-wise and let you see. It's, you know some people don't like budgets, some people do, and so I didn't know how to best explain that situation.

And I see Cory's hand up. Cory?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Go ahead, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: The information you brought, Sean, is really good for us to consider, and especially when... we're trying to increase our membership attendance to five people. Because we would like the five people to be recruited to the meeting.

And I'm talking about the in-person meeting. Because we want to increase our activity in the Council.

Particularly with our internal housekeeping problems that are coming up. So we're going to need to -- it's going to require us to grow.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Because we need to have the appointments set up with the Government Chair (sic) and, like, there's the discussion that we had this morning with the various issues that we brought up, and so with the budget restrictions, well, that's going to be a lot to chew.

So, we really don't have an immediate reply. We're going to have to have time to mull this over. And because we have to have this limited amount of budget fit the needs of our committee. And that's going to be a tall order.

And we also would have to set up time for the meeting and, you know, to cut that out of our schedule, woo... for example, we might have to try till Glenna finishes her new topic.

I mean, so that if you're mitigated till 3:45, woo... that means we have a full day of interviews tomorrow and we would only work for a short time in the morning and then come back in the afternoon and, you know, try to wrap things up.

So as far as coordinating the schedule, with the mitigating circumstances, you know, I'm really sorry to tell you, you know, in a long-winded way, but, you know, due to the help of this organization and this Council, we're going to have to revisit our budget and really give it much consideration with the mitigated budget.

And the reduction in time.

So we do have this challenge that we have to meet.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You know, as far as right now, you know, at least we don't have the cloud of uncertainty with COVID as much in the past, with the pandemic.

So you're saying that the money for the budget would be the same and do you feel that it's less, Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: I -- this is Cory again -- so it's my understanding that we're not going to be meeting for this time in August, so we're going to save that budget to carry it forward to the end of the year, is that right, Sean? Am I looking at this right?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's July 1st, I mean, it doesn't really matter, it would be July 1st to August 30th (sic), you know, that would be the new fiscal budgeted year and the new budget is 250,000? No, wait, what was it last year? 260,000, wasn't it last year, Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Give me one second to take a look at that; I can't remember that by heart.

But, I'm sorry, this is Sean, the fiscal year, the state fiscal year remains July 1st to June 30th

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Every year it's always July 1st to June 30th.

What they do in budget is they compare your budget to what you spent last year and they make adjustments.

And as you know, nobody, including the Council, was traveling as much in the past two years. So they've made some adjustments based on that.

And I think they made some adjustments based on the size of the Council currently.

I believe, and I expect, the Council to grow. I believe that your needs will grow. And I

think what happens is once those needs grow and you show that need, then the Department will have to adjust.

If you understand what I'm saying.

So, I think we need to move forward cautiously, but still spending our funding the way we have it, and then I think there needs to be some conversations in the middle of the year to show the need is there and we have more needs.

Does that make sense?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Signing, no interpreting].

>> SEAN ISAAC: And Glenna, I can answer your question as to how much we had last year versus this year.

But keep in mind, the Council's budget includes staff, which I was not taking any funding from the Council as a staff this year, I was always paid out of my other funding. So that position went vacant and that, therefore, was not used. So that's one category.

The other two categories are your travel and then supplies and expenses, and then the last category is the contracted services.

And as you all remember, because we didn't have, what, two meetings last year, we probably spent at least half as we would normally spend. And with the Council being a little bit under and people not traveling who are even on the Council, it's probably even 1/4, right, of what we would normally spend.

So our spending was way down last year compared to, I guess, previous years. Which I don't have a -- I wasn't around in previous years, but I can only imagine it's less, right?

Once we start spending more, then I can see them readjusting this issue next fiscal year.

But we budget on a year-to-year basis, and so this is the information that I'm bringing to you all and this is why I'm saying this is kind of where we're at now.

We had some big goals as far as meeting. Every council having -- or every committee having multiple meetings throughout the year during the months, I think we're going to have to be cautious and conservative when it comes to our meetings.

But, Glenna, I do think we're going to have to have some meetings, because the biennial report is due and we do want to prepare for the Legislature next year.

And I think you guys have some goals and have some needs. So I think there's going to be some needs for our committee meetings. And that's why I was saying, the more flexibility we have of those, probably the better.

But that's just my input with you all.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Go ahead, Bradley (sic).

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah, go ahead.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Who?

>> INTERPRETER: Debbe --

>> SEAN ISAAC: Debbe.

>> INTERPRETER: Glenna is giving the green light. And Bradley (sic) is saying are

you talking to me? Angie? Angie?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yes, hi --

[Talking over one another].

>> ANGIE GREEN: Hi, this is Angie speaking. Can you hear me?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yes.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yeah, okay. Mary was just asking if we could send a copy of the budget to them so they could review that?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I will do that right now.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hi, Cecil. So were you at the open meeting -- all right, go right ahead, yeah.

>> INTERPRETER: So Bradley is saying --

>> CECIL BRADLEY: I looked at the numbers you're referring to, that 800,000 and that 230 figure... I couldn't find it on the website in the annual report, and then I found the 204 ADA group report and it said 1.8 for Deaf and hard of hearing.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Where can I find the other figure you were talking about, the 2.5 million... where is that? Just show me where it is in the documentation.

>> CECIL BRADLEY: I'll use it as a resource. Otherwise I'll look at the ADA group for the 2024.

So, I was just not sure which documentation to refer to.

>> INTERPRETER: So Glenna is now clarifying that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Let me look at the documentation.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: They never mentioned a dollar amount.

>> CORY PARKER: All right.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, okay. I don't even see a dollar amount in the annual report.

You know, so I think that has to be inserted

>> CECIL BRADLEY: That's something we have to look into later to see what resource we can refer to.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Can I ask a question -- this is Sean, can I ask a question? You all mentioned some figures involving the millions. Can I ask what resource are you referring to?

[Pause].

>> CECIL BRADLEY: No, no, no, no, no, we're talking about how many people, how many Deaf and hard-of-hearing people that we're including in this batch.

>> CORY PARKER: So I think it pops up when we look up -- when it pops up in those comments and so this is nebulous, this is nebulous.

>> [Coughing].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I really want to refer to how many Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals there are. We have the 100,000 Deaf and hard-of-hearing people or the 3.5 million? So we have to see where we get that exact figure from. So we're going to start an investigation of that.

You know, we really need the stats on that. And it's tough to obtain it to the T. So, because you're talking about a million budget -- ha, ha, ha.

[Laughter].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. From what I understand, this was brought up in the Sarasota meeting about the statistics for the Deaf and hard of hearing. The way it's calculated is based on the John Hopkins Hospital saying that there's some number, and then what they do is they take 10% of the population is how they figure out and calculate the number of hard of hearing/deaf in the county.

So you take the county population with 10%, and so you say one out of five has a hearing loss, so some people say it's one out of three.

So I don't know, I thought it was one out of ten. But now Sarasota is telling me it's one out of five.

So what's the number?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, I understand the ratio that you're talking about. One out of five would mean 20%. And that would be a pretty high ratio.

So are you saying in Florida or nationally?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: They were saying for Sarasota, Sarasota area.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, I see, just Sarasota. Okay. So then that would be, like, 10% of hard of hearing.

But I have the formative numbers. The deaf signers is .001% or something like that, and that has been since, but Florida is really a horse of a different color, because of the amount of senior citizens that we have here. So that might boost up the actual numbers.

So, you know, we have to see how many that we would have to actually care for, you know, including children and Deaf and hard of hearing.

And so we're going to have to check our numbers, for sure.

But I'm really concerned about the budget. So once you e-mail me that information, it will have a more expansive, you know, detailed report. And then we could probably, you

know, break it up and consider, by tomorrow, or... when will I get this? Let's see... I'm looking at my calendar....

I just want to know, I want to know for sure by February when we meet in person, because we're going to be using those stats to present our proposal. And at the February meeting, we'll understand and have more clarity as far as, you know, what our expenses would be.

Because I'm not driving nine hours, I plan to fly.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I can send you those overall budgets right away. And try to find overnight a better way to explain how we use the contracted services budget, because it's not broken down easily in the report that I'll send you.

I'll try to make a little bit better heads or tails of that report when I send it, after I send it today, and hopefully have that ready for you tomorrow, okay?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. All right. You're going to e-mail me what you already told me about, the different options? If you would just put that down in an e-mail, that would be great, just the different possible options that we would have to consider and the sites, that would be great.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, I sure will.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Great. This is Glenna. Anymore questions, especially in regards to the budget?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So the Legislative Committee obviously, you know, because of time and, you know, what we were going to do next, we don't need to do that one, do that part.

So the legislative... the Legislature, the committee. There's nothing to do with that, nothing is happening with the legislation right now, because it's summertime and everybody is -- all of the legislators are gone for the summer.

So, as far as that, there's a little drama anyway, and we'll push that off to the side and talk about that later.

Let's see... does that give us more reason to try to -- I'm just going to keep repeating over and over, that we've got to wait until after November. The election is kind of what is putting everybody on hold and kind of just waiting to see what happens in November, and then obviously we'll have a meeting in November and then February again, we'll be able to talk about where we're at with the Legislature at that point, with the committee and the TSA (sic).

Okay, yeah, the Website Committee. Debbe, do you have any information?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. We have 966 followers on Facebook -- on the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Facebook page. So I encourage all the council members to please "like" the page. So that's pretty high.

What I also can do, and I would recommend that we post the five positions that are open available now on the Facebook page, and encourage them to fill out the applications for those vacancies.

There's not much -- a whole lot of activity except that people are posting different organizations and posting things that are happening in their community, which is great.

We need to encourage people who represent the different organizations to post their events on Facebook, as long as it's related to Deaf and hard of hearing, deaf-blind, late-deafened.

Let's see... let me go back....

One thing that's interesting, the last one was posted about the Florida Hands & Voices, that's something we should look at.

There will be Deaf Expo October 3.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: The Family Center on Deafness, they did a central... um... survey, so I will reach out to them and ask the results of their survey that they did. They asked all the deaf and hard of hearing to fill that out, so...

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: As far as people posting questions, there hasn't been any. Me and Glenna are the two people that are watching the Facebook page, that I know of.

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. I have two things. I'm having some trouble with managing Facebook, specifically the page. Sometimes I get in, sometimes I don't. I don't know if it's just changes on the page or what. But I do like the -- your idea of advertising on there. But we do need to make sure that we put something like, you know, if it's a position from -- within an organization, then, you know, we have to make sure that we put that information there, you know, if people are -- that they be interested in an organization, if the position does not have to do with the organization, like, if it's in general, we just need to make sure we clarify what the position is that they would put up there.

And what is the website?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: For the Florida Coordinating Facebook page?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes.

[Pause].

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I lost it...

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: One thing, again, the meeting is listed on the bottom. I would like to see that moved up to the top.

The membership, it would be nice if we had a group picture. I don't know if you got the permission to use the picture from when we were at the FSDB? That would be nice to

use that instead of that one. It's kind of old.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, yeah.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: It would be nice to have pictures after our names, that way it will be easy and flexible instead of having a group picture, having individual pictures. That's one possibility.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: That's all I have.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, I like that idea. This is Glenna, again, thank you, Debbe. I do like that idea. We should use that group picture from FSDB, when we visited that. That time, we had the most people there. So anyway, that's a good picture. Plus, I do like the idea of individual pictures, you know, with our members, a picture with the name. I don't know if we could do both? That would be great. So you have their pictures ready and maybe you need the members to either send their favorite picture or a picture that they like to use and post up there?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Can I speak?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, go ahead.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yeah, does the Council have headshots that they can send to the Department? We can certainly post those. That would not be difficult to do.

And Glenna, regarding your question of the Council -- or the photo that we took in St. Augustine, I believe you're referring to?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Nods head].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mmm-hmm.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I still have that photo, I think we can post that as well. I would have to see if we have to get permissions from everybody in the photo, that might be the only thing. DOH is kind of sticky about that, so....

I think we have some folks who were from the actual school in the photo. And I remember them giving us permission to use it that day; I would just have to see how sticky our attorneys are.

But as far as headshots, if you all can provide me headshots, that's definitely something we can post on the website.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. This is Glenna. All right. Anymore questions or comments in regards to the Facebook page or the DOH website?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Any questions or comments?

Okay. Let's go on to the next part of the agenda. Let's see... oh, my understanding is that both Gina and Cindy are not here. No? So it looks like we're going to even have to hold that item. And if they do show up, if they're later to come back in later or even tomorrow, we can talk about the mail (sic), that's fine.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. So let's see what's left... I know we had some time there for public comments. We didn't have any. So public comments at this time would be closed anyway.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Hi, this is Sean. I wanted to actually ask Angie a question regarding --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm sorry, Mary has her hand up. Go ahead, sorry.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I wanted to ask Angie a question with regard to someone who contacted her this morning and wanted to share information on their business. And I think they wanted to provide a presentation? Which we have not historically allowed for private businesses, but they can certainly comment during public comment, is my understanding.

So, Angie, can you share about what that individual was wanting the Council to hear?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yes, he was looking to hire the Deaf and hard of hearing to fill many of the positions within his company. He's based mostly in Southern Florida, but he's expanding throughout the world and it's, like, a hub company.

And he said a lot of the jobs would be great for people like that who, you know, the Deaf and the hard of hearing. And that would give them an opportunity to have great jobs to be respected and he's really wanting to hire those kinds of, you know, those people in those positions.

So, he was supposed to call in, but I don't know what happened to him. But I do have his number and I can follow-up with him. But he was wanting to do a presentation just to kind of show what he was looking for and what he offers.

>> SEAN ISAAC: So, like I -- this is Sean, I'm sorry -- so like I said, we let him know the hours of the public comment and then hopefully he can -- he'll take that opportunity. And we were expecting him, like Angie said, to show up during this timeframe, but I guess he has not signed in or called in yet.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yeah, I'm hopeful he still, you know, has time to call in, so hopefully we can hear from him. I think he said he was going to try around 2:30 or 3:00 o'clock, so maybe he's running just a little behind.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. This is Glenna again. So could it possibly be Amazon? Is that the company he was from?

>> ANGIE GREEN: No, let me bring up his e-mail real quick and I can tell you the

name of the company.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I know Amazon was mentioned before.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yes, you had mentioned Amazon but it's a different company, it's a hub company. Here it is... let me look for it real quick... it's called --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: What's hub? Is that like Grub Hub?

>> ANGIE GREEN: It has to do with computers, I'm not exactly sure what it stands for, but it's networking and communications, I believe. It's called Kim... Kim... I can't pronounce it. I can send the presentation, if Sean says it's okay, I can send the presentation to everybody and you can take a look at it. I don't know if that's acceptable. Sean, is that acceptable?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Well --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, so he already made a presentation?

>> ANGIE GREEN: He sent me a copy of the presentation of what he wants to present and what he wants to say. But he didn't know if he would be allowed to present it in the forum, in the council, in the meeting today.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh. This is Glenna. I don't know, maybe you could send it only to me?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Maybe Cory and I, actually, the Chair and the Vice Chair. And maybe we could make that decision about whether it's appropriate or not to share with the Council?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Okay. Is that acceptable, Sean? Can I send it to the both of them?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, I don't know. I don't want to see marketing or if there's something that's not appropriate.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Right.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I prefer that we wait until the individual presents his information, because that was his request, to make the presentation. We certainly don't want to hold anything back from you, but I prefer that he get -- he be given the chance to make the presentation as he communicated to us that he wanted to do. That's my only hesitation.

Clearly he wanted you all to have the information, but he wanted to present it.

But you talked to him, right, Angie? Did he say he wanted the presentation sent to everybody?

>> ANGIE GREEN: No, he did not. He didn't state anything about sending it to anybody, he just wanted to get it presented and he wanted to get the information out. I think he wanted to present it himself, so I guess I would have to get permission from him to send it, if he wanted to.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, that sounds perfect.

>> ANGIE GREEN: Okay.

[Talking interpreters over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do you want to call him or text him, see if maybe he can come in and show up sometime maybe before 4:00 o'clock? Do you want to try that?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Okay, I can go ahead and do that and I'll be back then. Give me a minute.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, Debbe, did you have something to add?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Angie, you sent me an e-mail about Deaf dentists. I don't -- I'm having something done at home. I don't know anyone in that area, but I can reach out to a Deaf dentist in Rochester, New York, and see what he knows of what other dentists in the area in Florida for you.

>> ANGIE GREEN: That would be wonderful, thank you. I really appreciate that.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: You're welcome.  
[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I don't believe there's anything further, but I did want to go back. Cory had responded to Angie's question, her general question, and Cory said, you know, it just seemed like an odd question.

What kind of a question was so odd? What was he talking about?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Angie? Or Cory? Has provided a response --

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yes?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- I want to know what was so odd about the question. What was the question that was so odd? I don't know, Cory is not here to clarify right now.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Does anybody have a take on it? Sean, do you have any take? What was that odd question?

>> SEAN ISAAC: I wouldn't -- I don't know what the odd question was, I'm sorry; this is Sean.

I will -- can I say something that we talked about earlier this morning? And I hate to talk about it in too much detail, because Chris is not here, but Chris did have a concern and he thought that John might be able to clarify for him, and Chris's understanding was that members of the Council could... that members of the Council could communicate to one another outside the forum of a public meeting?

And as long as they did it with the entire Council, it was okay. And that was not breaking any Sunshine Law rules or guidance.

And what I was informing the group was that based on the presentation that Linda made to us back in February of this year is that she stated it's not good for the Council to communicate with one another outside the confines of a public meeting. Not just one individual, but the entire Council, if it's business related.

And so I think Chris thought that John could provide some clarification --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, no, no, wait, wait a minute. No, that's not what I was referring to.

Cory, you're back now. You mentioned this morning that you were working with Angie, there was a response to a question from the people via the e-mail and there was some kind of an odd question, and I'm just curious to know what was that odd question of the people who called in, you know, of the person who posed an odd question via e-mail, something that was off target.

So normally, you know, as I had said before, when we respond through this medium, you know, we would relate it to what the topic was, whether it was about India (sp) or hospital or whatever, but it seemed like there was an odd innuendo and I just want to know what that innuendo was?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Now I'm back. And so really maybe all of you are used to and have been on the Council for many years, you've had the experience with them.

While maybe it's new to Deaf or new to hard of hearing, the questioning discourse, but we, Deaf people would go, you know, what? So that's what I meant. It was a what kind of a question? You know, like, glasses or it's... it would be... uh... it would come with, like, captioning glasses built into the lower trifold of eyeglasses, captioning, it was something having to do with eyeglasses for the blind and to be able to hear something specific, it was... [chuckles]... it was not a bad thing for people who are not really involved in our population. They don't have experience with us, with the hearing loss and for those kinds of questions to be fitting for our culture.

And they say for people who can hear, you know... you know, these questions are for people who can hear, they never experienced hearing loss.

So I was just wondering whether the format of the Zoom is bumping around right now? But anyway, it was those particular type of questions.

It's not that it was problematic, it wasn't problematic in answering those type of questions from Angie. I'm happy to entertain them.

And it's one of the reasons why the both of us have so much feedback involved and, you know, I meet with her and we did our cursory introductions and, you know, as I said, I appreciate when people respond when I ask if there are any questions.

So, the three of us live in Tallahassee and that's fine, but there are some questions that really I have never encountered before, I've never had to give a direct answer to those

type of things, you know.

But it wasn't a cry.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I was just wondering because when I saw the word "odd," it kind of red flagged something and I've heard comments from last meetings, like the affordability of hearing aids, providing interpreters, providing medical and hospital and so on and so forth.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- and I wish we had, like, a subtitled on the closed caption to kind of set the intent.

But anyway....

Mary, did you have your hand raised? Was there something you wanted to say, Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes, thank you. I believe it was during Cecil's presentation, there was a comment, I think, in regard to antiquated language, specifically the use of "hearing impaired." And I'm wondering if the -- what the Council thought about cultural competency, maybe on the website or somewhere that we do clarify what is appropriate language when we're referring to the population?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, yeah. This is Glenna speaking. And I agree with you, Mary, that there has to be, you know, some politically-correct terminology clarification.

And, you know, I know and I will in the specific language on that, I agree, somewhere on the website there has to be some kind of documentation, you know, clarifying what is normatively correct in today's society.

So we plan to change the nomenclature and to have it more, you know, updated so that it's written in the law the correct way, according to societal's update.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So, you see that that was ousted, you know, about the budget, so we have the complicated schedule; you know what I mean? So you're going to be sending us, you know, or text or you have different options, whether we're going to be meeting virtually or in person and the number of meetings virtually versus in-person.

So, that's going to be e-mailed to us to give us food for thought.

And February would need to be an in-person meeting, because it would be with the Legislature.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do any of you have time to review the bylaws that was disseminated? Remember, it's a rough draft.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: There are a few things we've already discussed and mentioned that we wanted to amend and tweak a bit. So if you can take a minute to just

give a cursory review of the bylaws and give us some input or comments?

Unless you're ready to go ahead and discuss the bylaws? Or if you wanted to have a little prep time to look it over? So... maybe we have Jackson -- or John's assistance with this?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Are we allowed to make the adjustments to the bylaws before the statute? Or the statute has to be done first before the bylaws? That was one of the questions I had for Sean. I don't know if you had a chance to follow-up on that.

I don't want to do all the work for the bylaws if it's not -- it can't be done because this has to be done first or we can go ahead and do it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, uh-huh. Yes, because you're actually right, there are two separate pieces to it. There's the state updates, which are minor changes, little tweaks here and there, but we can amend our bylaws any time we want. So those are two separate subjects you bring up.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe again. And I know that in the past, Eloise Schwartz (sic) took a lot of her time writing up a report on all these suggestions she made to the bylaws. Do we still have a copy of that?

And then kind of if we can review that, just to see if we can get everything covered, you know, that we were --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, yes, Debbe, I do remember that. And you did based on your former state and each state, of course, has their preference and how they write, you know, their state requirements and how they draft their bylaws.

So, you can propose that recommendation, Debbe. But we have to be careful too, because we have to make sure that it's agreed upon previously. Because I'm reading it here, and it says the bylaws, the state has to be disseminated as far as the Council's activities.

Let me see, one second...

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: On the state report, the only change that I see is an issue that we discussed before, it's saying that we have to existentially apply the needs of Deaf and hard of hearing and deaf-blind and the blind have to be ousted on that.

And Cory --

And as far as hearing aids, we have to exclude that. But we want to include that.

And I don't know why that that was never really included previously. I'm reading here that there are services pertaining to interpreters. We want to add hearing aids, cochlear implants, and other ever-changing technology.

And we want the Council authorized to provide technological assistance and advocacy, education. So we have to amend that. We want that presented at the annual conference/expo.

You know, so hopefully we'll get the budget for that in order to accomplish it.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So, we have New York State, we have -- let me see, I'm reading this through... there was a comment that the statute needs some change or maybe some innovation and it was really open for discussion, because nothing has been finalized as of yet.

Cory, what did you have to say?

>> CORY PARKER: Could you please spell out deaf-blind to make sure that it's without the hyphen? You know, because we want to do the D with the capital letters, and then the deaf with the non-capital letters. Because D with the capital letters implies culturally sign language Deaf people, ASL, American Sign Language Deaf people, with the capital D.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm not sure which way you prefer it. You want deaf-blind? But there's no hyphen there. And deaf-blind, you want a capital D? A lower case d?

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, let's make that distinction. So right now, what we have is the capital D and then we have the lower-case e-a-f, and then we have the capital B, as in boy, and then the lower case blind, blind.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And we have no hyphen.

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah, we should hyphenate that.

>> INTERPRETER: And Glenna is now making the grammatical change.

>> CORY PARKER: Also let me look at this one second.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So that will be down for discussion tomorrow morning.

>> CORY PARKER: Give me five minutes and I'll return, okay? One second; I'm going to drop out now for about five minutes.

>> INTERPRETER: Cory is out.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So, do you have any other comments regarding the state bylaws?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbie. I notice that the hard of hearing, number five, hard of hearing, no dash. And then when you scroll down, when you scroll down --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, no, wait, wait, wait --

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Under section --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, no, no, let's just focus on part one, the legal authority. That's all. Don't jump around. You know, someone in legal authority. So that would be the state that we're focusing on. So that would be a separate activity in order, you know, to become a bill. And then we can update it for the purposes of the bill drafting.

But, you know, from here going forward, we'll design our own bylaws. You know, but we're just looking at the nomenclature that we want in order to communicate when we

present it to the general public.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: It's important that we be consistent for the word "hard of hearing." Some of the words "hard of hearing" has a dash in-between, hard dash of dash hearing and then in that same paragraph, you don't have the dash. So it needs to be consistent.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, while we're going through it, we'll make those amendments and make sure that it's consistent the whole way through, yes, right.

So, do we accept the idea of including deaf-blind? And including hearing aids and cochlear implants? The amended technology be evolved, the technology involving technology? And also adding -- hosting like a meeting or conference to make those changes?

I think that we should add all except for, you know, those who aren't at the meeting -- I mean at the conference, I'm not sure if that would be a problem or not.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No comments?

>> INTERPRETER: Debbe is raising her hand.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I don't know in the future if we have limited budgets, if we are going to -- by saying that, that we're obligated to go to the convention or something.

I don't know what...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, it's a good thing when we vote during the conference for 2024, it could give Angie some time to show why we need more money for our budgeting for the fiscal year 2023 to 2024. Maybe that's an idea? A possibility? Yeah?

>> ANGIE GREEN: This is Angie, yes, absolutely.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We can go ahead and put that in, that would give us a year, and then we'll have time to do more.

Okay, wonderful, Angie. Thank you.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I would say now, maybe, John, maybe you know, maybe Mary, you know? I don't know. If you know what we're doing with the legal authority state portion, do we have to wait until November to find somebody to write the bill? Or, I mean, we're going to write the bill, but... to provide reasonable, you know, updates, like Cecil was doing for TASA, writing out that report of why we need this, you know, the updates with legal authority and being able to add in, you know, all the little words that they want within the bill.

Maybe we could find somebody? Should we do that? What do you think? Should we do it?

Debbe's hand's up. Yes, Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I was wondering if we could somehow again, like I said before earlier this morning, if we could somehow write a letter to all of the council -- I mean all of the representatives from the state of Florida, if they're willing to volunteer or adopt our Council to oversee our group? We might be -- we've never done that. I'm wondering if we tried that, to see if we get some interest, some interest?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Why do you want outside people to oversee?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: According to the statute, it's supposed to be someone, a representative, to oversee the Council.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hmm? Where does it say that?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: In the statute, in the statute, if you look at it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Where did you find that? Where? I have never seen that before.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I don't have it up.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: The interpreter is clarifying, this conversation is going back and forth between Glenna and Debbe.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I'll look for it.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm looking, and... hmm... someone with legal authority for the statute... I mean, that's all it says. I don't see anything about anybody overseeing anything. --

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay, all right.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hi, this is Glenna speaking. Mary says in the chat, the counsel is assigned to Department of Statute number 413.271, Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Okay. I don't know. What... what... Debbe, maybe we could think of -- maybe you're thinking of another organization or another council not involved with -- that's not involved in our bylaws or statute about anything overseeing -- anyone overseeing anything.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay, okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Maybe... maybe it's something related to the Department of Health overtaking the Council and taking care of it that way, maybe something along those lines.

>> CINDY SIMON: This is Cindy letting you know I'm back.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hello, Cindy.

>> CINDY SIMON: It was a little crazy, but we finally got out, and so I called in from the car.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna speaking. Cindy, it seems like you live in your car! All your calls are from your car, goodness gracious!

>> CINDY SIMON: It's unfortunate. It's a 40 minute drive and it's been taking 2½ hours to go home lately.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, wow! I see.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So, we finished this morning's business, except for the letter. I don't know if --

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm not ready to go into that and pull papers in the car, I'm so sorry. We did not expect a fire in the building.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay, okay.

>> CORY PARKER: I am so sorry!

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Nobody's here for -- one moment --

>> INTERPRETER: Glenna got distracted.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Nobody is here for open comments, so we went ahead with other things.

Now we're discussing the bylaws. First thing we need to discuss is the statute law portion, the first paragraph. We made a couple changes that require a separate process for writing the reports and explaining the reasons why the changes are happening, we were changing words and adding a couple of things and writing the bill itself.

>> [Open mic].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We're waiting until after November's election to find somebody to sponsor our bill and --

>> CINDY SIMON: Well --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- and to make any changes. Do you agree with that?

>> CINDY SIMON: So, I actually read it and I thought we were going to discuss this tomorrow, or I would have this on the seat next to me.

But even in the first paragraph, some of the changes I disagree with, just based on what goes on professionally.

And I'm talking about the part where you changed it from excluding hearing aids to getting rid of excluding and adding cochlear implants.

I don't think -- that would be considered outside of scope of practice. We stopped speech pathologists from doing otoacoustic emissions, I think if you had a medical doctor, you could get away with it, but I don't think there's anybody other than an audiologist or a hearing aid dealer who would have the expertise for that. And assuming it was someone who actually worked with them and not, say, someone who didn't work with them and did other things.

So, you could leave other technology that comes up, but I would leave out the hearing aids and cochlear implants.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: You know, how do you go through that? Does anyone understand compression? The concept that in a child's ear, it could do damage if you don't understand that the output is greater than it is in the average adult ear and that's based on average adult ears?

That's why I don't think that's in the area of the Council.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna speaking. Remember, the Council is also advised to share information, to provide referrals to skilled experts. So there's a lot of things related to that as well, though.

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm not sure I understand what -- I'm fine with evolving technology --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. The Council is supposed to advise and share information. Really, that's all.

>> CINDY SIMON: I understand --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- regarding --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- skills referrals --

>> CINDY SIMON: Who would advise on what hearing aid -- if someone came to the Council and said what kind of hearing aid should I get?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, hold on, hold on, no, no, the Council would never do that, no, the Council would never do, the Council would never do that.

We have the interpreters, we have the captionist. Never!

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes, I understand. But that --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We wouldn't tell people what to do, we would refer them to someone who has the skill and the expertise for them to figure it out. Because we're seen differently than --

>> INTERPRETER: One moment for the interpreter.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: Hearing aid.

>> INTERPRETER: Okay, okay, thank you. Hearing aid, sorry.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We wouldn't make the decision, we would refer to an expert, skilled person to provide that information.

>> CINDY SIMON: And I understand and that's why, you know, you might change the wording around, but I don't think those should specifically be there.

And in some ways, if you say listening devices and assistive technology, you can almost lump that into it without specifying hearing aids. And that's what happened with ASHA, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association using the term augmentative technology and we had to, I made them put in "excluding hearing aids" because of how it sounds.

So, I would be very hesitant to say that I think it could give the wrong impression. It doesn't sound like advising them.

And if you run it by -- I don't know if it has to go by someone in Legal or something, they might say you can't say that.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, I agree, right.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Go ahead, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory speaking. I have to -- I have to back Cindy on everything that she just mentioned. I know it. Recently you've been seeing on the news regarding the over-the-counter hearing aids. The President had signed, you know, la, la, la, la, look at how easy this is, and people are misunderstanding the monetary portion of what this is, that they're saving money, that's what they see.

But here at VR, you know, people are seeing that advice that's being taken and they're trying to compare the benefit and there aren't any, they're not understanding everything

that we know as professionals within this.

That information is not accurate, meaning that Cindy is saying, the words, regarding the word choices, it's definitely better to follow her comment regarding the word choices and avoid providing the wrong impression.

So, we want to avoid, you know, you know, people depend on us, on our website, they e-mail us questions as if we are the experts.

So we, as professionals who are experts, we want to make sure the public is understanding particular things.

So, I can see how this could cause a misstep just simply because the President signs this bill making hearing aids affordable, when really those people have no idea.

>> CINDY SIMON: And Cory, I don't want to cut you off, but my partner was listening to one of the hearing aid companies doing their OTC. Right now, if you go to get a hearing aid, you have a 30-day trial period. The OTCs do not have to give you a 30-day trial. So if someone with severe hearing loss mistakenly bought an OTC and it wasn't strong enough, they may not be able to return it.

So I want to be very careful on all of this.

>> CORY PARKER: Right, right, I'm in agreement with you.

The same token for us, as our consumers here at the VR, we have to sit with a particular client, same with this, Cindy, the over the counters are not, you know, this new mother, you know, this new mom getting a hearing aid for their child with hearing loss and their kid, you know, goes along and we want to make sure that we have general captions (sic) that fit the referrals and the information is good. That's what's really important.

>> CINDY SIMON: And pediatrics is not part of OTC. You still cannot fit a child that way.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So, we need to focus I guess on the word. I know there's a lot of stories, everybody kind of has a story, you know, knows a story about this. But the way -- let's see, we need to change the word that maybe can include hearing aids without saying hearing aids?

For example, we could say instead of hearing aid, you could say assistive hearing device? And then assistive and adaptive hearing device? Would that help? Kind of drop the word, the actual word "hearing aid"?

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: You already have assistive listening device. Is a hearing aid or a cochlear implant an assistive listening device? Of course they are. You can even say augment -- [lost audio] [audio cutting in and out] but that could -- you could stretch it that it could include that without saying that. And you might not give the wrong impression that way.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. This is Glenna, I guess -- another question. If we put assistive and adaptive listening device, what if we do that? Listening devices, and then even in parenthesis -- I don't even know if you can do that -- but can you actually -- can you include parenthesis and then do i.e., you know, for example, hearing aids, cochlear

implants --

>> CINDY SIMON: No.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- and some other assistive listening device, can you put that in parenthesis as examples?

>> CINDY SIMON: No, it says -- it gives the same message. I don't know why we're so determined to push the "hearing aid" thing here. And I'm not sure what the word "adaptive" means, unless you're taking it from hearing aids that have adaptive compression and adaptive volume control.

I'm not even sure what the adaptive is for.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. This is Glenna again. For deaf-blind, let's just leave that then. Let's go do on hosting a conference, seems fine, but the language there... listening technologies, do we need to include -- I mean, how do we cover everything and without mentioning? I don't know how you cover it. How do we put that language clearly?

Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: Could you mention -- as you're talking, maybe Mary is typing in Zoom, so let's not overlook Mary's comments because she's been chatting, she's been adding comments.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, Mary says are you recommending changes to the statute on the bylaws or both? On the statute... well, we have to take care of each one separately, because each one is a different process. You have the statute language, that one has to be out there in the bylaws, and then the actual bylaw itself is what we do ourself. Only the Council, and then we approve it.

So, technically we do all the changes we need to make, then we pass the statutes first and then we pass the bylaws after that.

Some things we can change now, sometimes we can change the statute -- or as far as the statute goes to later.

Like, when we want to add about the conference. In the bylaws, it says we have to wait for approval, the state to approve that, but we can put that in for the conference and then we can change and put new wording in, like Cory just said deaf-blind, we can clean up some of the language in the bylaws and then we can go ahead and proceed with that.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Does that make sense, Mary?

[Pause].

>> MARY HODGES: Hey, I'm sorry, this is Mary. I just was wondering if we were trying to make changes to the bylaws or preparing to make suggested changes for the statute? I don't know if we can be more... um... if we can go outside of the statute and put things in, in our bylaws, that are not in statute. Do we need to be -- I don't know if we

can -- we certainly don't want to be more restrictive than what's in the statute, but can we go and put things in that kind of take us outside of what's already designed in statute, their definitions in statute already?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right, this is Glenna, so the bylaws we can do whatever we want. We can do, you know, add whatever, as long as we follow the statutes that are set.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So if we change, like, the statute and the bylaws, really, really, technically we're just cleaning it up, updating terminology, updating some different things. Right now we're talking about the conference, you know, we're just adding that, and I suggested maybe for the council members, I don't know, we don't want to jump ahead, but it seems like we maybe need to change -- oh, hold off on the statute conversation, the wording in the statute, maybe that's something that we can work on even tomorrow morning, and maybe continue this discussion and talk about the wording and all of that, if you guys can think about it, we can be creative and come up with the right wording that we want.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, I agree.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay. I just wanted to make one more suggestion. On the biennial conference exposition, maybe put it as optional, so that you're not required to do it if it's a year that's lean or other things are going on.

Because once you put it in, you have to do it. But give ourselves the option of doing it, as long as it's feasible at that time.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, yeah, that's a great idea. I will definitely include that. All right. Section 3, Section 3 is some definitions and the meaning.

There's a lot of definitions and different services. I think we overlooked -- it doesn't explain anything about an interpreter. It talks about CART. Let's see... it mentions about CART, but doesn't mention about interpreters. So I thought maybe we could add and mention interpreters. An interpreter means a person who has acquired skills to relay information between the signer and a non-signer, whose American Sign Language -- with signed interpretation or is certified or recognized by an organization. For example, the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, that's RID.

I'd try to make it as simple as possible, you know, you know, opening a can of worms here, you know, you know, I know they serve and, you know, but how do you recognize, some of them are certified, some of them are not. And maybe they have a certification from another state, from Texas or another state.

So it's just a thought. Any discussion over the meaning of an interpreter? Do you want me to read it again?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I know that we can e-mail anybody the bylaws and, you know, you can pull that up on your own and, you know, watch the interpreter on Zoom and look at the bylaws if you would like. I'll repeat the definition again, number nine, the interpreter, the definition of the interpreter is the person who has the required skills to facilitate communication between a signer and a non-signer via sign language interpretation or

transliteration.

And is certified by a recognized organization such as the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf and in parenthesis I put RID.

I didn't want to go on and on, there are other things you can add in the definition, but I tried to make them all pretty short, you know, and I tried to keep that consistent with all the other terms.

Anybody want to add anything to that definition, to that word? Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: Okay, before we move on --

>> CINDY SIMON: So I have a question about that --

[Talking over one another].

>> CORY PARKER: -- I want to let you know really quick that I am stepping away. I have to leave. I am step forward -- so, I will see you tomorrow, I will be here for the first hour tomorrow morning, so I have an interview that begins at 10:30.

So I am expected -- it's expected to go past lunch. So I'll be here for the first hour, then I'll leave, and then I'll come back after lunch tomorrow, just so you know in advance.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Actually tomorrow we're done at noon.

>> CORY PARKER: Oh! I thought the letter that was sent out said 8:00-5:00? No, 9:00-5:00?

>> CINDY SIMON: Cory, I saw the same letter, but on the agenda it ended the noon.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah, you know, I saw that it was maybe 8:00-5:00 tomorrow.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, no! No, no, we'll see you tomorrow for I guess the hour in the morning.

>> CORY PARKER: All right, sounds good.

Glenna? Glenna? If you need anything, any kind of immediate answer, please just send me a text, shoot me a text, and I'll respond. Okay? Bye everyone!

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It just depends how much work we get done now and maybe we can just kind of wait. If you leave, we can vote tomorrow morning, I guess.

>> CORY PARKER: Please just text me if you need anything. Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I can't text you with any committee/council business anyway! Okay. Well, thank you. Bye, Cory.

>> CINDY SIMON: Bye.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Did anybody have any comments related to the definition of an interpreter?

Was it clear and concise enough?

>> CINDY SIMON: I have a question. What does transliteration mean in this case?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Interpreter goes from English to American Sign Language and it's two different languages, right, it's ASL, goes from either English to ASL or ASL to English. But transliterating is spoken English to signing English.

>> CINDY SIMON: Ah.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So interpreters do most of the time. Some of us are more English signers, some of us are just able to go back and forth between American Sign Language and more of English sign. Does that make sense?

>> CINDY SIMON: So the signing is the exact English? That's the transliteration?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, nobody -- well, no, not exactly, not signing exact English, not exactly. No, no, not that exactly. That's kind of gone.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay. I was just trying to figure out what that meant, because usually transliteration is, say, if you spoke in Hebrew, writing it in English letters, transliterated, so that's what I was trying to figure out.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right, that's exactly -- yes, that is exactly the same concept, from a written language into sign language, English into sign language, yes.

>> CINDY SIMON: All right. Then I'm fine with it. I just wanted to clarify.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, that's -- Debbe has got her hand raised.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I was wondering, does that include let's suppose we get someone with Spanish, since Miami and some areas are strong Spanish speaking. Does that interpreting only say sign language, so we might want to include in the future any languages, from -- to English or something.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: I would say --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- we could mention American Sign Language. It said sign language, because it could be Puerto Rican sign language.

>> CINDY SIMON: Correct.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's why I didn't choose to use American Sign Language --

>> DEBBE HAGNER: And textile for those deaf and blind, should that be included?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah, I would think so. Or CDI to ASL?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm sorry, did you say GDI?

>> CINDY SIMON: No, no, no, like the Certified Deaf Interpreter and a dialect that's not American Sign Language and needs to be explained shall the same thing, it would be maybe any form, whether signed, tactile, or verbal, to another? And by saying sign language, does it mean whether it's American, Spanish, whatever?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right, it could be any language that they could be interpreting into.

>> CINDY SIMON: Right.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's why I'm trying to keep it kind of vague, a little bit more general as possible. I didn't want to put out too many restrictions there.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So let's move on.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm just looking now at my notes.

Okay. So we have Section 5, so we'll host an annual conference, expo, and this will be to bring people together to coordinate organizations and agencies and companies to share information, services, technology, advocacy

>> CINDY SIMON: And again, I would suggest here having some kind of language that's a little bit more vague as said in the first paragraph, that it should be maybe on an as-needed, as-viable basis, because we never know what's happening and not made to do it, not necessitating it.

But leaving it open to having it as viable.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna, yeah, so it would be the wording that Mary suggested about presenting options. So we could add that.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, let's keep it standard in our wording.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So for the membership, you know, we can make sure you agree or not and that's why I'm putting it out there to you.

So article 4 Section 1 about membership, the composition of the membership.

>> CINDY SIMON: So, before we go into this, did we not have it in statute what it had to be? So I don't think you can change who's part of it in the bylaws if it's in statute.

You can do the word for Hearing Loss Association. You're okay on 4. Okay on 5:

Okay on 6

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Number two. Wait a minute, so let me read it first. So we have Section 2, we have the California Association, Florida, formerly known as the Florida Association advocacy blah, blah, blah, and that's out, we don't need that. So --

>> CINDY SIMON: Agreed.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- we're going to clean up that language a bit.

And as far as number four, it says individuals who are deaf-blind have been in the organization and they have been represented as deaf-blind individuals, so we're going to be adding maybe deaf-blind members represented, the Florida Association of the Deaf and Blind? So let me just look at this one second.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm looking at the computer. So, we have number five, parents of people with a hearing loss, they represent the Hands & Voices and then you have, like, four representations, A.G. Bell, representatives, number six, members of the Deaf organizations, number six folds it, so we'll leave that for now.

And then we can add member representation, like the Centers for Independent Living, the Deaf and hard-of-hearing programs, you know, specifically for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing programs, I'm not talking about the periphery.

And then for number 12... well, that's a big sticky...

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah, I'm not sure --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: -- I understand that one.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I know, that's exactly my point. So, you know, I was considering because, you know, we could reasonably include the Department of Children, you know, because of the huge lawsuit that occurred several years ago and it made such a debacle, so we want to handle Deaf and hard-of-hearing children and their families and, you know... so since that we have heard nothing about Deaf and hard of hearing, it's been quieted in that area and that will decrease the number, I'm not saying that, but I'm saying that maybe we could replace it because, you know, there's a lot more related to Deaf and hard-of-hearing people, but that would be open for discussion.

I'm not saying that I know it all, I'm just bringing it to the table.

>> CINDY SIMON: So if we have representatives for Elder Affairs, I think we should have the Department of Children and Families. They are involved in this. And FTRI isn't only those with hearing loss, it's for those with speech impediments as well.

And I think that we had the department of -- DCF in there in the statute, and I'm not sure you can replace that.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, so I'm not sure of that part and we'll have to look into it

fully and, you know, we have to look at the state -- the statutes in order to consider the bylaws.

So the FTRI, I mean, is kind of up in the air.

>> CINDY SIMON: I would --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You know, I'm just throwing out ideas for now, you know.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You know, and then we'll deal with this.  
So, that would cover children and adults as well, FTRI.

>> CINDY SIMON: Hmm... not really...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And now number two, deaf-blind parents, six, with the CIL, I think that would be acceptable if you're all right.

>> CINDY SIMON: I think you're just replacing one with an equivalency.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: What, what do you mean? Which one is the equivalency?

>> CINDY SIMON: Going back, okay, HLAA, no problem on the wording, but the Deaf Services Center, that's no longer there. You're giving a reasonable equivalent.

Or are you in Section 2 part 2 where at the end it says in addition, the applicant must be recommended by organization?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, Article 2. Let me see.

>> CINDY SIMON: So if you're in there, there are some groups. Audiology doesn't have one organization and is not represented by an organization. And hearing instrument specialists are not being represented by an organization.

In the past, parent of a deaf child was not, although they may be, based on what was added.

Therefore, maybe recommended by the organization to be represented where applicable? Since it's not applicable to everybody? Or just leave that out?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: -- since the organization recommends them anyway.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, look in the chat what Mary put and it's right on target with you. It talks about the membership, the members.

>> CINDY SIMON: Right, I can't look, because I'm in the car and I don't have anything to see, so... I'm on phone only.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay, I'm just reporting to you what's in that chat. So it says the reported bylaws about the members and then it says as far as what's in the statute. So if you want to change it, it's in the membership bylaws, you would have to change the statute, of course, so what we have made is define, let's say the full statute, the full documentation for all of you to review, and then you could actually see what the statute says, what it reads.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So, it's not a Florida organization here. The audiologists, you're saying, you know, have a particular organization?

>> CINDY SIMON: We have multiple organizations. How do you pick one? You can't. Audiologists just have to be licensed. Same thing with hearing instrument specialists. Very many are not members of those organizations 'cause it's not something that's required or people feel is valuable. So I would be careful.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. This is Glenna again. So we could say the hearing aid specialist, because there's really no one organization, so it's just earmark them as the hearing aid specialist and that's the term --

>> CINDY SIMON: Right, they're already written --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah, they're already written that way, as long as you're licensed under the statute, so... that's already there.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right. So we're good there. So let's just move on, you know. So, then the members can discuss it further, we'll move on.

So, we have the terms to offer. Look at number two. I wanted to add something there, to the services of the Council, you know, the applicancies, appointees have to have these other things, and I'm adding on, I'm thinking the applicants have to be recommended by an organization that it represents.

So it happened a few times, that people would apply and just, you know, they weren't even involved in that organization. We didn't know who they were from Adam.

So, I mean, we could -- I mean, we discussed that before, but I don't know how you would word that, whether you should --

>> CINDY SIMON: That's why --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- keep it or oust it.

>> CINDY SIMON: That's why I'm saying you can write "where applicable" meaning those individuals who are not required to have it, but those representing a specific organization would.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right, good. So we can put that in.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: [Papers rustling].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You know, I put something in there and I don't know, maybe I can, maybe I can't. I mean, we can always throw it out. So as far as vacancy... so, regarding the appointment and vacancy, so in full representation of all 16 members have to be maintained, do you see that part, with the governance?

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm not sure you can dictate to the Governor's Office you have to do this now.

We were on the table --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, let me just tell you the reasoning behind that. I'm sure the wording really isn't what we want.

>> CINDY SIMON: Right.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Because, you know, Chris had explained, you know, from another council that they said you have to have full representation, and the council was required to do that, I mean... I don't know if you have to have full representation or not.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: [Papers rustling].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. So really, I just wanted to throw out the question, you know, so this way you have a chance to just preview the question and then tomorrow morning we could discuss the precise wording. Maybe we can borrow the wording from somewhere else and then, you know, make it more suitable for us.

But this is just like the dream highlighted, the general concept.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Hi, this is Sean. Glenna, with the other organization, were they responsible for making the appointments or was the Governor's Office also responsible for making the appointments?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm talking about if somebody wants to apply -- excuse me one second, I'm coughing here -- so suppose they want a position in the Council but they're under an organization, then the organization has to recommend that individual, so if they say, let's say they're a Florida organization of the deaf of some sort, the Deaf and hard of hearing or whatever it is, if they can decide to be appointed, they're not even a member or endorsed by that organization. Do they have to first be endorsed and recommended before they even apply on behalf of that organization? I mean, they can't show up out of context out of the blue on their own, you know.

They'll say who you are, you know, or you're not affiliated with us.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Then -- this is Sean -- I understand what you're saying. When I look at the sentence here, that, to me, it looks like it is directed at the Governor's Office and that's why I asked the question the way I did.

Was that the intent to say that the Governor's appointment should be done expediently?

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: I think, Glenna, and Sean, correct me if I'm wrong, you're not referring to the person being recommended by their organization, but, rather, the idea of telling the Governor's Office you must assign them immediately when it comes up.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, is that what I'm hearing? Because I can tell you I am unaware as to how that will go over with the Governor's Office of Appointments.

>> CINDY SIMON: Right.

>> SEAN ISAAC: And I think we probably should seek advice before we make any language like that so that we don't get ourselves in trouble, or at least on the bad side of that office. I mean, they do great work for us and continue to do great work for us.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Um... let me see, regarding that point... as far as representation from an organization, you know, I mean, this comes as no big surprise.

In the application, if I remember correctly, no one said "Are you a member of this particular organization?" I mean, no one verifies that they even know about that applicant. So maybe it could even happen, you know, because there could be somebody, you know, Joe Blow comes and decides they want to apply and, you know, they have no expertise, no membership in the organization, they want to represent that organization in the Council. I mean, it's absurd, it's ludicrous.

So, you know, it would have to be included in the interview and the background to determine the veracity of that person.

>> CINDY SIMON: [Papers rustling].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You know, there might have to be a person that particularly questions them, you know, how are you affiliated with this particular organization? I mean, if you're sending that person as a representative of that organization, you know, you

would make sure you catch it, not to be blind-sided by it afterwards and then try to oust them.

So you want to take preventive measures.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I agree with that 100%, you do want to make sure that individual is in good standing with the organization and that the organization is making the recommendation.

And personally, I think you would be in good company to make some language change that indicates that, that verification needs to be a part of this process.

So I --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: I understand --

>> SEAN ISAAC: I just want to make sure that we understood that that sentence that I'm looking at in red, it is not clear that the Council is not dictating that the Governor's Office needs to be moving expediently, and I think we need to make sure that language is clarified so it's not miscommunicated.

>> CINDY SIMON: So what if we have --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna --

>> CINDY SIMON: Ask the Governor's Office to say something in their interview that we have verified for the audiologist or hearing instrument specialist and that way they have covered it or verified it so you don't need to put that in here?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right, we would have to find somebody from the Appointments Office to get rid of that. If not, we'll find better wording on what we want. Debbe, go ahead.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This refers to are they asking the Florida State organization or are they asking the National? It's two different things. So, we need to have some kind of verification that it should be a member of the State organization, like -- like ALDA, there's only one. And there is National. HLAA has 14 chapters in Florida, but one state, and then one national.

>> CINDY SIMON: [Papers rustling].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: And FRID has one state and one national.

And then the other organizations I think have just -- I don't know if they have Florida levels or national levels. So they have to double-check both organizations.

I mean, they could be a member of national and never show up or have anything to do with a state-level organization or vice versa.

Do I make sense?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes.

>> CINDY SIMON: That's true, Debbe, but then they only have to look up for the

position for which they're going. Whether it's state or national.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I was just going to say, I can double-check with the Office of Appointments and --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hold on one moment, this is Glenna, hold on one moment, time out. This is Glenna. In the member portion, we'll have to make sure for whatever we can put, the wording is Florida, Florida, Florida, Florida.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The Hearing Loss of Florida, Hands & Voices for Florida. Everything for Florida. Maybe that would help.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That part of the organization, we'll find out more from the Appointments Office about their process and how that goes. We'll hold off for now. We need to find more -- how to word that, Chris (sic), like how to word that. I'm not sure.

The last thing here... mmm-hmm, hold on...

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Part 6, responsibilities of the staff members. The only thing there that I changed was assistance.

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I changed to liaison. We don't say assistant really anymore, we see liaison. Correct, Sean? Am I right?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, that's correct.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You're nodding yes.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That's correct.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And in this focus, it talks about...

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Quorum. It says simple members -- the council members, you know, we have to find... I thought we dropped the number to nine, it says simple majority action council members. It doesn't really say how many. So... okay. Again, assistant we changed to liaison.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Let's move on. Article 6, on the committee. The standing committee, the Exe stays, standing committee stays, change medical network -- change medical network Technology Committee. The website will stay. I have added Legislature and bylaws. And I think that's what we're doing now.

>> CINDY SIMON: I had one more thing in the bylaws to discuss. And it's at the end --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: One moment, Debbe.

>> CINDY SIMON: -- and that's the section composition. I think it's the last page first paragraph. This has bugged me since we did it, and I would like to present an argument for deleting some wording.

I was there when it was added on and I think it's very unfair. Unless we add additional wording.

And that's -- can I go on?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes. Which paragraph are we talking about in particular?

>> CINDY SIMON: All right. I think it is Article 7, Section 1, where it says composition. First paragraph on the last page.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: One moment, let me bring up that spot.

>> CINDY SIMON: All right. I just want you guys to think about this.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Article 7, okay, the EX committee, the X committee?

>> CINDY SIMON: The Executive Committee.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The Executive Committee, that's what we're talking about?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes, a sentence was added that says: In the event that no person with hearing loss is a member of that four-person committee, there shall be an election for an additional member-at-large who has a hearing loss.

I was there when this happened and it was assumed that --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right.

>> CINDY SIMON: Sherilyn and I were Chair and Vice Chair and everyone assumed that she had no hearing loss and wanted to put that in, thinking that if you have no hearing loss, you can't understand or be fair.

Number one, yes, I advocate for all agrees of loss. I find that somewhat insulting.

However, I would also say that if you had that, you would have to say that if -- well, if -- if those with hearing loss on Executive are all culturally Deaf, then you need to invite a

hard-of-hearing person who may have a totally different viewpoint.

So, you know, we're all on this -- we're all on this Council and we're supposed to advocate for everybody. And so... I find that not just insulting, but even if you leave it there, then everyone with hearing loss shouldn't have the same degree of hearing loss, because someone who is hard of hearing is going to have a very different viewpoint than someone who is culturally Deaf.

And we want to represent everybody.

So, we'd have to add wording for that as well.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna speaking. So, Cindy, you are saying that we should remove that sentence then? Or should we add --

>> CINDY SIMON: That's just --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay. So that sentence was never originally there. And I would recommend removing it.

In the event that you don't remove it, then I think we need to tweak the language so that every one of the same type isn't always sitting there, where you still have to have someone different.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. I've already changed it.

Do other people have comments? Does anybody else have a comment about that or do you want to -- or we can ask again in the morning. I'll go ahead and make that change.

>> JOHN JACKSON: This is John. Just curious, which change are you making? Taking it out or...?

>> CINDY SIMON: Well, John, I'm saying I think we should take it out --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, I made the change --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I don't think it was there in the final, but we'll continue discussing it more in-depth tomorrow.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> JOHN JACKSON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: But we'll have the quorum vote for all of the changes and see, maybe each individual line we'll have to vote on yes or no. And we'll get it all figured out, you know, if there's, like, two or three parts here that are still a little bit sticky.

But Mary, you had your hand up, I saw? Go ahead, Mary.

>> MARY HODGES: Yes, I'm sorry, I got a little lost in the document. Specifically where are we? Which part are you talking about taking out? What section, please?

>> CINDY SIMON: Mary, it's the last page, first paragraph, last sentence.

[Pause].

>> MARY HODGES: The composition?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The committee Article 7, yes, Section 4 -- nope, hold on, that's not correct.

>> CINDY SIMON: It's Article 7, Section 1, I believe. So it's before Article 8.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's the Executive Committee.

>> MARY HODGES: Yes. Thank you. I just wanted to make sure I knew where we were. Thank you for that.

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm just saying that sentence was never there before and then when it was Sherilyn and myself, without knowing that Sherilyn had hearing loss, but she didn't announce it, people -- it was suggested to put that in.

And if we're all working for the betterment of everybody, I'm not sure I see why that has to be there.

And if it is there, then by the same token, if both Chair and Vice Chair are culturally Deaf, then we should add someone in who's not, to have the additional viewpoint, which was the concept when that was added in.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna here. I made some changes on what we've discussed so far and there's still some parts that we're a little puzzled on and need more discussion and we'll make different color changes for those and I will go ahead and send out the bylaws to Sean.

Please, if you could get those out to everybody else tonight for everybody to see, what we're keeping, what we're changing, what we're still discussing, and tomorrow morning we will be ready to focus on these and discuss further. Okay?

All right. It is almost 5:00. We've got a lot to wrap up here.

So tomorrow morning, the meeting time is 9:00 a.m. Please get on Zoom and on the conference call, check your technology, resolve any problems before. 8:45 would probably be best in the morning, if you get on a little early, 20 minutes before. You are able to get into the Zoom link early, try to log in at 8:45, get into the conference, get into Zoom, you'll have time to chat, make sure everything is ready to be worked out so we can start on time tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.

We have to review the bylaws and we'll get those out this evening. We have to also create some ideas to make the 2023 report and finalize the information regarding November -- no, hold on -- regarding -- oh, we have to discuss how we want to do the meeting, how we want to get that set up for budgeting, and if we're going to do that on Zoom or in person. So we have the logistics for that, for that November 4 meeting in

Kissimmee or Zoom or whatever we decide.

Okay. Talk about the bylaws, report, the budget, and the November meeting.

So there's four things that we have left to discuss tomorrow.

Your homework tonight, we have two things: The bylaws, please review those, come up with any suggestions, any wording, any phrasing you want to change, if there's anything that you see that needs to be amended, removed, let me know, give me ideas for the report, okay?

All right. Any final questions, comments, concerns?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. Angie? Do you have any questions for us? You've been quiet. So I want to give an opportunity, ten minutes, to say something, if you have questions for us.

>> ANGIE GREEN: I'm just sitting back taking it all in, trying to see how everything goes, how Sean's answering questions, the questions you guys are --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm sure you're a little overwhelmed?

>> ANGIE GREEN: -- I don't have any questions right now, but believe me, if I have any, I will ask them in the morning.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's great. No problem.

Okay. Well, let's see... I think that we could go ahead and wrap up. It's 4:51. It doesn't really leave a lot of extra council time, so I think that we can go ahead and close the meeting. Does everybody agree?

All right. All right. I see some heads nodded. I think that's good. I think we're going to call for this meeting to be adjourned, the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and I will see everyone tomorrow at 8:45 and make sure our technology is in place. We'll go over the bylaws at 9:00 o'clock, we'll start our meeting, and we'll plan for our meeting in November. Sound good?

Okay. Good evening! Goodbye, everyone.

[Concludes at 4:52 p.m.]

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