

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

Friday, August 19, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Remote CART Captioning provided by
Lisa B. Johnston, RMR, CRR, CRC
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>> SEAN ISAAC: Good morning. Everyone.

>> Good morning.

>> CINDY SIMON: Hi.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Who's happy it's Friday? [Chuckles].

>> CINDY SIMON: I wish I could get CART and Zoom up at the same time.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Oh, you have one screen?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah. I'm trying to move everything around so that I can see both, but as soon as I click on one thing, the other disappears.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Do you have windows or Apple?

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm on a Windows desktop.

>> SEAN ISAAC: So I wonder if you -- I wonder if you use your... um... put your if I can spit it out... put your cursor in one window and hit the Windows key and left arrow and then.

>> CINDY SIMON: Well, right now I have the Zoom to a very small screen all the way to the right and I've got the CART towards the left.
So it's not great viewing, but I have it.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. So --

>> CINDY SIMON: It's just a little weird, but...

>> SEAN ISAAC: Do you want them to be the same size?

>> CINDY SIMON: We're going to try -- well, you know, this is actually a screen that can be split in half; I just never learned how to split it in half with two different functions. No one knows how to explain it to me and I'm one of those people, I can't read anything.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: I need someone to talk me through it.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Gotcha. Okay. We'll try that for another day [chuckles].

>> CINDY SIMON: I tried to get my son-in-law who is IT and he couldn't do it.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: That's why I have a dual monitor, so I can switch things.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Same here.

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah, I don't even know how that would work and how I could do that. But there's not enough room. I'm looking at a 32-inch monitor in front of me.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Your IT son-in-law, he should be able to help you with that now.

>> CINDY SIMON: He could do a dual screen, but right now I'm about -- I don't have room to put a second screen anywhere. I'm on a massive desk with a massive screen. A very large desktop tower. I'm about to get a new computer in two weeks and maybe my IT guy here can help me.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Cindy, I'm not sure what to tell you on that one.

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah. We're very challenged...

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. I wish I could help. But, guess what, I'm laughing with you, but not at you, because, my goodness, DOH has their issues on a daily basis, whether it's our PDF is not working or e-mails are not opening up or documents disappearing. Oh my gosh... it can be anything on a given day!

>> CINDY SIMON: Oh, I believe it.

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: I had to re-download the agenda, because when I went to pull it up from where it was loaded, it converted it to Word and has left out the Zoom information,

that came up blank.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Interesting...

>> CINDY SIMON: So I have to re-download. PDFs are my nightmare.

>> SEAN ISAAC: We send a lot of PDFs, don't we.

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah. I'm a Word person.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Well, as far as the agenda is concerned, I guess we can send out both versions in Word and PDF in the future.

>> CINDY SIMON: No, no, I mean, I was okay, it was getting the Zoom in that was the problem. If it comes up PDF, it doesn't click on it for me to join, and I had to actually manually input the CART site yesterday and when it converted to Word, it doesn't show the Zoom, so I re-downloaded it where it comes up in its own way, which did let me into the Zoom. So...

>> SEAN ISAAC: Gotcha. Okay.

>> CINDY SIMON: I did what was instructed in advance, to make sure I was working.

>> SEAN ISAAC: [Chuckles].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: What you could have done was highlight it from the PDF. And then bring it in.

>> CINDY SIMON: I understand, Debbe, except that when the PDF -- if I pulled it up from yesterday, it converted it to Word, and left out the Zoom altogether, so I had no way to highlight it.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: That's the first I've ever heard that it converted it, so you must have some kind of app that's doing that in the background. Hmm...

>> CINDY SIMON: My Word was doing it. I was in Word and I pulled up the PDF and it said we're now going to convert it to Word. So then I re-downloaded the PDF so I had everything.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: And Sean, my interview was put off till Monday.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'm sorry, I was on mute. I said more time to study, huh?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yep. I actually -- this is the size of the document [indicates] that was the ruling.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: Good morning, everybody. Good morning, Lisa. Good morning, Angie. And good morning to the interpreter since I don't think I've met you before!

>> INTERPRETER: Good morning.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: [Signing but no interpreting].

>> VOICE: Rebecca Hill, sign language interpreter has joined the conference.

[Echo]

[Pause].

>> [Typing sound].

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> [Typing sound].

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean? Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yes?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Did you get the e-mail I sent you this morning? I sent an e-mail to --

>> SEAN ISAAC: I sure did --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- to forward to the Council.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I am about to send it right now.
Did you hear me?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, I "hear" you but I don't know what you're saying.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Oh, I'm sorry. I said I sure did and I'm about to send it right now.
Was there any --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I sent you a copy of the full statute that's on the -- that's the law, on the book, and I wanted you to send it, forward it to the whole Council, the whole thing.

>> [Typing sound].

>> SEAN ISAAC: I received it and I'm sending it right now.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, thank you.

Also, Cecil said that he tried to e-mail me something and it bounced back, so I sent him your e-mail. I don't know what happened.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yeah, during the meeting yesterday, just before -- or right after lunch, I guess, he had attempted to send me the PowerPoint presentation the first time, and I didn't get it. And then he sent it again and I received it and forwarded it to the Council that time.

So I'm not sure why it bounced back the first time.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Maybe he had two addresses for you and one of them was wrong and one of them was right.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Could be.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean, I've been wondering, you've not been clear about now that Angie is here, are two of you staying on to work with the Council or will you be, like, transferring to Angie and then you leave? Or are you just waiting for DOH to tell you what to do?

>> SEAN ISAAC: [Laughs]. You know, that's funny you say it that way. We often find ourselves waiting for DOH to tell us exactly what to do [laughs]. I like the way you put it!

I will be speaking with Anna today and getting some additional guidance as to how we move forward and how we transition quarterly.

My office is probably about ten seconds down the hall from Angie, so I'm still going to be here and available to her to answer any questions.

You all still have my phone number and you can reach out to me at any time. I'll be here.

But as far as my official role, they're still figuring that out.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Because -- okay. In the past, they used to have two positions. One was an office position that took care of all of the logistics and all that, and the other one was the true educator, you know, the one who has the knowledge and background to travel around and provide workshops and training, blah, blah, blah, blah. We used to have two positions. So obviously both of you are in the office position, not the educator position.

And I notice that the title for Angie said educator and I'm, like, hmm... [chuckles].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yeah, and that's what I've been trying to share with you all over the past year, is that due to several things that I mentioned before, we lost our office support, because for one reason, the previous office support person retired and so the person who did the travel and the organizing and the filing and all those things that make an office run, she was no longer available to us and, therefore, we had to use other resources, basically.

And so that's part of what you all have seen when it comes to the website. I have another staff employee, Louisa, who has been updating the website for us. When it

comes to the budgeting, in a small way, Shannon, who came to our of last meeting in May, she has, you know, assisted a little bit there and is a resource to Angie.

When it comes to the travel, Lashandria, my office assistant, she's been assisting with that, and so we've gotten a little support from a lot of folks around here and all those folks are still available to Angie to support her needs.

But it has been different not having that full support or that full two people to help, and that's part of the struggle that we've seen and partly why I'm so excited that Angie has started!

In addition, she won't have to learn the lessons that I learned the hard way! And she's gonna be even better and more responsive and quicker in her responses to you all. So I'm very excited about that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Well, so you don't know if you'll still be around for the November or February meeting?

>> SEAN ISAAC: I plan to be at the November meeting. I'm working to see if I can get my supervisor, my bureau chief, who supports the Council, to come as well, so that she can meet you all.

And it seems like --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: -- it seems like she is going to be able to make it.

She actually reports to Shay, which you all know very well, so we're working to try to make sure we all can be there.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, yeah, we know Shay. Shay used to come to our meetings pretty regularly.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Mmm-hmm, yeah.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Where is everybody else?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I see from Cecil that he said he started to e-mail me and it's either blocked or bounced back or whatever. So I sent him your e-mail address that I use, and he said yes, it was that, but something happened.

You got mine this morning, so you should have gotten his, so I don't know what happened.

>> SEAN ISAAC: He sent that this morning and it bounced back or are you talking about yesterday?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm looking... he said that, just to let you know, I tried to send Sean an e-mail this morning but was blocked, it said e-mail address is not recognized or unable to receive e-mails.

And then I sent -- and then I sent him... I sent him your e-mail that I had and he said yes, that's the one he used.

>> SEAN ISAAC: The only thing I can say --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Maybe you can try sending an e-mail to Cecil at FTRI. Maybe it's not recognized. It's Cecil at FTRI, send him an e-mail, and if he's able to respond to it, then he would be able to, I don't know, make a connection or something. You can try that.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Do you have --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The e-mail said I heard you were trying to e-mail me or something, respond to him and see if that works.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Will do.

>> CINDY SIMON: Maybe we can find his e-mail on the FTRI website and --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay, okay [laughs]. No, no. Cecil had the wrong address. He had dot org instead of gov and now he has the right address.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I was going to say, I didn't block him, so I don't know what happened! [Laughs].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, right! He had the wrong address. That's right, he had two addresses, one's wrong and one's right; yeah.

>> SEAN ISAAC: And Glenna, I just sent out the e-mail --

>> VOICE: Mary Hodges has joined the conference.

>> SEAN ISAAC: -- including the 413.271 statute, I just sent that out.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: And Glenna, when you're ready, I can start the recording. Please let me know.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We don't have a quorum; we only have three of us here.

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

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, four of us! Good morning, Mary. Oh, that's four. We still need one more.

>> CINDY SIMON: Hi, Mary.

>> MARY HODGES: Hi, Cindy.

>> CINDY SIMON: Was that the statute you just sent? I loaded it yesterday and did a comparison.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I sent out -- I forwarded the e-mail of all the things that I sent regarding this meeting between yesterday and today, and the last attachment was the statute 413.271 that Glenna asked me to send to you all.

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah, I pulled it up yesterday so I could be prepared today.

>> SEAN ISAAC: The one that I sent, Glenna, was a Word version -- I mean the one that Glenna sent me was the version in Word.

>> CINDY SIMON: I took it directly out of the statute.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We have four; hopefully the fifth one will join, either Chris or John or who else...

>> CINDY SIMON: Well, Cory said he was going to be here --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: -- said he wasn't going to be here the first hour.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Start recording?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Start recording, yes.

[Pause].

>> VOICE: This conference will now be recorded.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. Good morning, this is the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing meeting, August 19th, and this call is being recorded.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Good morning. This is the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing meeting today, August 19. We have the meeting from 9:00-12:00 and we will start by introducing ourselves.

I'm Glenna Ashton, I'm representing Florida Association of the Deaf and I am the Chair. Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: My name is Debbe Hagner, I represent HLAA Florida State. I live in Port Richey, Florida.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: Good morning, everyone, my name is Cindy Simon and I represent audiologists.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary?

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

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean, introduce yourself; you didn't do that yet today.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Good morning, this is Sean Isaac with the Florida Department of Health.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Angie?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Hi, this is Angie Green, I'm with the Florida Department of Health and I am the liaison for the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We have two interpreters: Kelly Gagain and Rebecca Hill. And we have our CART, Lisa Johnston.

Hopefully we will have one more member to join for a quorum.

Okay. Yesterday, we covered a lot of the Council, Sean had a lot of updates, and we welcome our new person that, Angie Green.

We were not able to discuss the letter, because Gina -- good morning, Cory!

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Good morning. My name is Cory Parker and I'm representing VR, as well as the Department of Education. Good morning, everyone.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So we were not able to discuss -- so we have five for a quorum. Yay! Okay.

We were not able to discuss the letters, because Gina and um... was not here yesterday. And Cindy was not ready to discuss letters.

Cindy, would you be able to discuss letters today or no?

>> CINDY SIMON: Actually, I'm not. I'm here -- I thought we were doing the bylaws and that's what I brought with me.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm sorry!

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. And then we heard from Cecil about FTRI and TASA. There's a lot of information and we'll work with him to hopefully get some changes to TASA.

No one showed up for public comments yesterday. And we started working on the bylaws.

And several changes were okay. We reviewed and we still needed more discussion. And I had sent last night the bylaws framework. I deleted words to be added and the yellow highlight was to be discussed more.

And this morning, I meant to do it last night, but I was so tired, the full statute from the law books and immediately I noticed that the statute did include a definition of "interpreter" so I just pulled that out and put it into the bylaws to match it up. So that was changed, the bylaws did not match the statute completely, so that's something to consider, that we go through the statute again to make sure that the bylaws match the statute.

>> VOICE: John Jackson has joined the conference.

>> CINDY SIMON: So, Glenna --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Who joined the conference?

[Note from CART Captioner]: John Jackson.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: John Jackson joined the conference.

>> JOHN JACKSON: Yes, I'm here.

>> CINDY SIMON: Good morning, John.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Can you introduce yourself, please?

>> JOHN JACKSON: This is John Jackson representing the Department of Children and Families.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CINDY SIMON: So, Glenna? One of the nice things in the statute, definition of interpreter covered what Debbe was saying yesterday, it included visual, gestural and tactile methods and we discussed that yesterday.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, it was a much fuller definition than what I came up with; I tried to be similar with the other definition. But I saw that covered what we discussed yesterday and I'm fine with that. Is everybody fine with that?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I need to pull up my...
[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. What I want to do is to... eh...

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Go word-by-word, word-by-word, line-by-line of the suggested changes.

I'm trying to have everything on the screen at one time... hmm... I'm trying to have everything on the screen at one time.

Okay. Um... we have six people in the meeting, which is great!

Can we -- each of the changes that I made/recommendeded, we can do a quick vote yes/no, so that way we can be done with the process. There's no real need for discussion. We propose and go back to the ones that we need for discussion. Is that okay?

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. All right. So, does everybody have a copy of the bylaws in front of them so you know where we are?

Okay. Article 1, Section 1, legal authority. Added deaf-blind. Yes/no?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes? Yes?

[No response].

>> JOHN JACKSON: Yes.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory, I have a question.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: One, two, three... Mary? I think it would be better if I do a roll call and so I'm not confused if we answer. Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [No verbal response; thumb up].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes? Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary? Yes or no on deaf-blind?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes.

>> MARY HODGES: Okay. John?

>> JOHN JACKSON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Four... three, five... Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So that's it. Now do we have the yellow highlight? We'll hold that for later.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Still Article 1, Section 3, definition. Okay. The interpreter definition, the one that you have is not the one that we're keeping. Instead I changed it to what was already in the statute, and what it says is it says interpreter means a provider of accessible and effective communication between and among individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and between and among such individuals and other persons.

This process includes, but is not limited to, communication through American Sign Language and spoken English.

It may also involve various other modalities that involve visual, gestural and tactile

methods.

So this is the same as the statute.

So, am I right to assume that you all would say yes to that?

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: If I may, I would say --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's exactly from the statute. Yes?

>> CINDY SIMON: My question is do we want to add that they should be certified by a recognized organization? I don't think that was available when this was written, and so the question is can we add that, maybe within the bylaws, to the interpretation, even it's not worth opening a statute for that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Um...

>> CINDY SIMON: It's just clarification of what we would like, that they should be certified by the organization. So we're not changing the statute, we're just adding for our purposes something that's a little bit stricter.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. That is a very sticky situation, a very, very, very sticky situation. For example, there's a cost definition, is that the same as being certified or licensed or a graduate from school or something like that.

I mean, I would love to include that, but I think that would be very sticky.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Because we do have many interpreters working out there that are not certified. Sometimes they're good, sometimes they're not. We have many certified interpreters who sometimes are not good, so....

I think it's -- I would love to put that in, but I think it's better to leave it more general.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Moving on to duties and goals.

B, where it says host an expo where we can bring together organizations and agencies and companies to share information on services, technologies, and advocacy.

Debbe? Yes or no?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [No verbal response; thumb up].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes. Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: John?

>> JOHN JACKSON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Me. Okay. Thank you. Article 2.

Number two, two members representative of the Hearing Loss Association, period. We dropped the old name. I assume that's okay with everybody, it's just cleaning it up, is that correct?

Number four, an individual who is deaf-blind or a member of the Association Of Deaf-blind.

Is that okay with everybody?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Again, it's cleaning it up.

Number five, parent of a child with hearing loss or a member representing Hands & Voices Florida. I added that "Florida" in because we had that discussion in about wanting it at a state level.

Is that okay with everyone?

>> CINDY SIMON: I do have a question on that one.

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> CINDY SIMON: Are there other organizations where we may not want to limit that comment to one organization?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We have -- we have, number eight, we already have Alexander Graham Bell.

>> CINDY SIMON: I didn't know if there were any other Florida organizations besides the Hands & Voices that we have to account for.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, no, just those two, those were the only two that had parents involved.

>> CINDY SIMON: And what happens if there are other organizations in the future? Are we limiting it and leaving them out, even though we said "or a member"?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Put a "or." Again, again, the bylaws are something that can be changed, if we want to, so if five years from now things have changed a lot, we can go back and change the bylaws.

The bylaws are not a problem, they're much easier to change. We only need the Council to agree and that's it.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. Number six, a member representative of the Deaf Services Center association or a member representing the Centers for Independent Living Deaf and hard-of-hearing programs in Florida.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Signing and no interpreting].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Does anyone --

>> INTERPRETER: Cory has his hand up.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Does it have to be an association that's completely deaf? I don't know. Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: So, if there are no more Deaf Service Centers, then, according to the statute, you can put in the equivalent organization, which would allow for representation -- for a representation from the Centers for Independent Living Deaf and hard-of-hearing program.

So, if the Deaf Service Center no longer exists, you can maybe put that in and emphasize maybe it's replacing the Deaf Service Center organization or leave it the way you wrote it.

And I think Cory had his hand up.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wasn't there somewhere in the statute that said something about equivalent somewhere?

>> CINDY SIMON: It does.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, okay. Can you tell me where it is, where it says it talks about equivalence? Where is it?

>> CINDY SIMON: Oh, here it is. I can read that to you. If any organization from which a representative is to be drawn ceases to exist, a representative of a similar organization shall be named to the Coordinating Council.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I see the first line is similar, not equivalent, but similar. Okay. Cease to exist. Okay.

But I think it's -- let me read -- we don't have to name anything, but I think it's safe to name an example or whatever, because someone could just out of the blue say hey, I'm some other organization, but they're not. I don't know.

Debbe? Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. There is a comment that we still have the Deaf Service Center, so that still exists.

And then other areas, they call it the federal independent living, so we use both names.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. And remember we heard from the Fort Myers Deaf Service Center, so they're still alive there.

But I think the association itself is gone, because we used to have a lot of them; like more than ten of them.

I think the association itself is gone. But there's one or two Deaf Service Centers still around, who tried to... to do minimal changes.

>> CINDY SIMON: Then this is good the way you wrote it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, fine. All right. So is everybody okay with number six?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Signing but no interpreting].

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory, I have a comment.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: I'm good.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. All right. Cory? Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wait, wait, wait. Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: While we're flying through this process, I just wanted to make sure it was okay going back to number four related to Article 2.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CORY PARKER: Where it says the individual who is deaf and blind.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay.

>> CORY PARKER: That is not how that should be.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, change the wording, okay, I see it.

>> CORY PARKER: Mmm-hmm. It should just say and generalized, the person who is deaf and blind --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, I changed it.

>> CORY PARKER: -- or deaf-blind with a hyphen in-between deaf and blind. And then you can remove the -- it's just unnecessary.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, I fixed it. I remember. We'll be consistent all the way through.

>> CORY PARKER: Perfect. Thank you.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Moving on to -- Debbe? Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. That goes the same for "hard of hearing." In some

places you have hyphen and then in some places you don't have hyphen. So let's be consistent with the term "hard of hearing."

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait. What are you talking about? Which one?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: In the very beginning, you have hard of hearing with dash and then some places down, you don't have it. So just make sure that's being consistent.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm looking for it. Oh, I see what you mean. Okay. Um... and you prefer to keep it no dashes all the way through?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do you want to keep it no dashes all the way through? Okay.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: Another interpreter has joined. Do you mind spotlighting Natasha Robbins, please? Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Moving on....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Okay. We're still on Article 2 -- no -- yeah, Article 2 --

>> CINDY SIMON: Twelve, I think.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm getting lost.

>> CINDY SIMON: It's --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Article 2, Section 6, goes way down, responsibilities -- Mary? Mary? Mary? Yeah, Mary?

>> CINDY SIMON: No.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes, thank you. I have a question. I just wanted to make sure that we are okay. I'm looking at number four and number five under composition. And the statute, we have what's read, what's indicated in the statute in terms of number four, an individual who is deaf and blind. And we are adding "or a member"? And the same thing in number five, the parent of a child with hearing loss, "or a member."

If the intent that we actually have a person who is deaf-blind and that we have a person who is a parent or are we okay with just somebody representing those individuals?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- my answer to that is the two organizations are very small organizations and you would have a lot more people who are deaf-blind or a parent not being a member of those very small organizations. So we want to be able to have, as much as possible, those people being able to apply.

[Pause].

>> MARY HODGES: I wonder if we could --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It also is a way to encourage that -- encourage the organization to be more involved too.

[Pause].

>> MARY HODGES: I wonder if we could say "this may include..." rather than "or"? It almost seems like we're saying we can have the individual or we can have somebody representing.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right.

>> MARY HODGES: Ideally, we have an individual who is deaf and blind. Ideally we have a parent. But if we cannot have one, a parent, then we could have somebody who represents a parent of a child who has a hearing loss.
Ideally, we would have --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, the Florida Association of the Deaf-Blind are all deaf-blind.

The Florida Association of the Deaf-Blind are all deaf-blind and the SSP, the service support providers, there's a new name for them, I forget what it is, and they offer services and help with the driving.

But the officers and the official members are deaf-blind. So we're okay with that.

The parent, the member representing Hands & Voices could be a parent or it could be other people. Remember in the past, A.G. Bell had a professional representing A.G. Bell, not a parent or a deaf person --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- have to be involved if they're a member of the organization, they would need to be more actively involved and need to know more of what's going on. Whether they are actually deaf-blind or actually a parent, um...

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Signing but no interpreting].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary, are you saying you want to eliminate the parent or the organization mentioned?

The thing is we have not talked to those organizations yet.

>> MARY HODGES: No --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy?

>> MARY HODGES: -- my point was, Glenna, is just that we don't want to appear to be... excluding the option.

Basically, we want an individual who is deaf and blind. And what we're saying here "or a member."

So, either/or versus leaving it as it is in statute and adding a statement that says that we could include --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do you have a wording you would suggest?

>> MARY HODGES: Yeah, yeah, I do. For number four --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do you have a wording that you would suggest? What? What would you suggest for wording?

>> MARY HODGES: Well, in number four, an individual who is deaf and blind. And then this may include a member representing.

[Pause].

>> MARY HODGES: And the same thing for number five.

>> CORY PARKER: I'm good with that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: An individual who is deaf-blind who may also be a member of the Florida Association of the Deaf-Blind, is that what you're saying?

>> MARY HODGES: This may include --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: An individual who is deaf-blind who may -- who may also be a member...

>> CINDY SIMON: That's better.

>> MARY HODGES: An individual who --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Is that what you have --

>> MARY HODGES: An individual who is deaf and blind, period. This may include a member representing....

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: I'm good with that.

>> MARY HODGES: So the person could be deaf and blind --

>> INTERPRETER: Cory and Debbe are both giving thumbs up, yes, we agree.

>> MARY HODGES: And they may not even be affiliated with the association, but they could be affiliated.

Same thing with number five. It would be the parent of a child with hearing loss, period. This may include a member.

I don't know. The wording in -- I just didn't want it to seem like we were saying we take either/or.

>> CORY PARKER: Those are good word choices.

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I'll fix it.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: What if you said an individual who is deaf-blind or a -- or who may also be -- yeah, that's good, who may also be a member of.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So I changed both four and five --

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- and this may include a member of blah, blah, blah. Okay? So, is this acceptable to everybody?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes? Okay. What, Cory? Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: Sean also has his hand up.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: All right, thank you, this is Sean. I didn't want to make things more complicated, but I felt like I'd better share this now.

I did respond or I did ask Linda McMullen, the DOH attorney, if the bylaws can be changed before the associated statute, 413.271, and her response to me was the bylaws can be changed according to the procedure for amendments set forth in the bylaws, but the bylaws cannot conflict with the statutory requirement.

And so I think that's probably why Mary made that suggestion and it's probably a good suggestion. That's my two cents.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, thank you.

>> CORY PARKER: And thank you for that, Sean. Good to know.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Thank you.

>> [Typing sound].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. Moving on to not the yellow highlights, to Article 2, Section 6, responsibilities of council members. And all I did was change the word "assistant" to liaison. We don't use the word "assistant" anymore, we use "liaison." That means Tallahassee people.

>> CINDY SIMON: I have a question, Glenna. Are we skipping where we're asking for the applicant to be recommended by the organization where applicable?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm skipping the yellow highlights --

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- because that requires discussion. Okay. Any comments on changing assistant to liaison? Sean, am I right, liaison is the right word to use?

>> SEAN ISAAC: That's correct.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. That's just to clean up things. And then Article 3, on meetings, Section 4, the original statement is nine members, and I eliminated that and changed it to a simple majority of active council members. What say you?
Debbe, yes?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [No verbal response; thumb up].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory? Cory? Cory?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory? Say yes.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: John?

>> JOHN JACKSON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Thank you.

Moving on, okay, again... changing assistant to liaison.

Article 6, committee, Section 2, standing committee, changing number 3 from education medical and outreach and changing that to education, medical, outreach, and Technology Committee, adding legislative and Bylaws Committee.

Any comments or anything?

>> CINDY SIMON: I have a question.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CINDY SIMON: Would the Bylaws Committee not be an Ad Hoc Committee brought up as needed when we're looking at changing it? Because it's not something that's done routinely every year. So it would be created at the request of the Chair at times such as we need to review those bylaws.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: True. Right now it is an Ad Hoc Committee. But considering how long we go between changes, we should be a little bit more regular in looking at changes. Because there are so many changes that seem to happen faster and faster and faster.

The last time we changed was in 2013 and the last time before that was 2004, so....

It's an awfully wrong time to go between changes, and I'm just wondering if we should make it a more regular thing, so that we keep up with the -- whatever changing is happening.

>> CINDY SIMON: What if you put something that, I don't know, whether it would go ad hoc or standing, but that there would be a bylaw review committee once every three years? And that way you wouldn't be waiting too long, but it's not too soon?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. But we don't have that, saying anything about the Bylaws Committee every three years, we don't have that there, right?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: What if we were to say... um... a biannual/bylaw committee and can make changes or not? Biannual? Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Maybe we can say review or check the bylaws every odd year or every other year? Or that way -- or even years or something like that, every other year to review the bylaws to make sure it is reviewed.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, that's what I said, biennial committee/Bylaws Committee.

Anybody else have any other ideas or suggestions?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: One other thing is that the Education/Medical/Outreach/Technology, it would be nice to have the abbreviation in parenthesis, EMOT in parenthesis, because we use that acronym all the time.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We could use that for ourself, for our council business, but we don't really need it in the bylaws. The bylaws are not a fan of acronyms.

All right. So, it seems that EMOT and Legislative are -- that's definitely a yearly thing. The only question is the Bylaws Committee, how you want to handle that. Do you want it -- do you want to leave it there or do you want to take it off and leave it as Ad Hoc or what?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Signing but no interpreting].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: I'm sorry.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary, do you have a comment?

>> MARY HODGES: I'm sorry, Glenna, I just had a question. And I think maybe I was remiss... I was trying to remember why we added technology to education/medical/outreach?

And I was trying to remember what -- when we say technology, we're talking about... um... the -- related to devices? We're not talking about, like, the website and things like that. We're talking about devices, correct? For the community?

I just didn't remember what --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy can answer that.

>> MARY HODGES: Thank you, Cindy.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy can answer that because we had a big discussion about that before. Go ahead, Cindy.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay. So, we used to have a Technology Committee about you we didn't do anything with that other than come up with brochures, trying to do the PSA and way back, the two people who were in charge of those committees kind of worked together. So they were just combined as one, because so much of what the Technology Committee was doing was really the same kind of writing that the education and medical and outreach was doing.

So, everyone decided to just combine it.

It's not really technology, it was for the PSAs, we did brochures, etc.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Thank you, Cindy.

I'm wondering if we can come up with some other name that would couple all four areas? Make it a shorter name? I have no idea what we could come up with.

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: The education committee and the Technology Committee, um... you could almost call it an Information Dissemination Committee, which would cover all of that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: What about -- what about advocacy?

[Pause].

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: How about advocacy? Because that's what we're doing, we're doing the letters and things, what are we doing? We're advocating and sharing information. So what about information and advocacy?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's one of the main missions of the Council is to advocate.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So...? What do you think of the idea of combining what Cindy suggested and make it Information and Advocacy Committee?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Any discussion? Suggestions or anything? Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: I was going to ask, would it be appropriate for us to define these committees so we don't forget what they are and what they do and then we don't have to put these long words in the committee.

I mean, I like the idea of the information and advocacy and dissemination committee, but I'm just wondering if we can just put some brief definitions to the committees, and maybe even with that, we can say, you know, it convenes annually or biannually or whatever or ongoing. Can we do that in this section?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Um... for the other committees, we don't have explanations for those committees. Um....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: What we could do is... is say Information and Advocacy Committee and then in parenthesis formerly known as the EMOT.

[Pause].

>> MARY HODGES: Could we not define all six of them?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Um... well, we're not defining the other committees, so that would not -- that would be not specific.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: I think the other committees are self-evident and really don't need definitions.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, and advocacy -- and information and advocacy I think do cover, you know -- whatever information we share, whatever we advocate for, it's going to touch on all of those areas, plus more anyway.
You know, whatever the Council was set up to address.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. May I ask if anybody likes the idea of saying Information and Advocacy Committee (formerly known as EMOT)?
Can we have that for now?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe? Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Information, education, and advocacy. Because part of our community is sharing information and then we're advocacy.
So, with that, we're educating and getting information with medical, we're sharing information and educating about outreach, and then that gets incorporated with technology as well.
So... um....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Any other suggestions or comments?
I maybe would accept saying Information and Advocacy Committee (formerly known as EMOT). How many would accept that? Debbe?
Yes/no?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [No verbal response; thumb up].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Information and Advocacy Committee (formerly known as EMOT), yes, Debbe?

>> INTERPRETER: Numbers up from Cory.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory? Cory? Cory? Mary? Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. John?

>> JOHN JACKSON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory?

Cory? Do you accept the Information and Advocacy Committee (EMOT)?

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Let me change it, let me change it.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Moving on, moving on. Article 7, Executive Committee. We have discussed this yesterday, we changed assistant to liaison. And then the line about the hearing loss being on the committee, we dropped that completely.

I need to see if you accept that.

Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [No verbal response; thumb up].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory, do you accept dropping hearing loss?

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary? John?

>> JOHN JACKSON: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you.

Okay. We are done. Now, we can go back to the yellow highlights. The very first one is -- this involves changes to the statute itself. And we didn't realize that --

>> CINDY SIMON: Oh, okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That changing the statute itself is a separate process than changing the bylaws itself.

>> CINDY SIMON: Wait a minute.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Changing the bylaws itself and changing -- this is done, we are required to set the process, so I would suggest that anything that's directly in the statute we leave as a separate discussion for another time and only look at the actual changes within the bylaws.

Is that okay with everybody?

Because actually we couldn't even do anything until after November anyway.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We had... we had from... we have one, two, three, four that are highlighted, because those four things are the ones that's directly from the statute, and we probably should just leave it alone, because we would need to address changing the statute itself separately than changing the bylaws.

Is everybody okay with those yellow, those four yellow highlights? Don't touch. Is that okay with everybody?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The changes we made were more of a cleaning up thing.

>> CORY PARKER: That's fine.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Is that okay with everybody?

>> CORY PARKER: That's perfect.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yeah, this is Debbe, I approve; I agree.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Is everybody... okay. So....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'll change it back again to....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Let me get rid of the yellow highlights, and that way I can send you a new copy to review it again.

I'm sorry, I'm talking without signing and I'm trying to do double things at the same time and it's, like, eh! eh!

[Pause].

>> [Papers rustling].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. One is gone.

>> CINDY SIMON: Quick question. Where you say the applicant must be recommended by the organization represented, is that really a change of statute? Or just a procedural thing, where you can put under Section 2 number one, upon approval of the

Council, a recommendation can be made to the Governor, and then add an addition, applicable where the applicant is recommended by the organization to be recommended?

I don't care if we hold off on this, I just thought that was just a clarification that would apply to that first paragraph, just before the last sentence.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right, Cindy, we talked about that yesterday. And we asked Sean to check with the Appointments Office to see if they do include, as part of their process, putting in a representative organization or not and Sean was going to follow-up with the Appointments Office to see if the -- if it specifically mentions a representative of the organization and how would they check that.

So we need to find out that part. If they do cover that, then we're fine. If they don't cover that, then we would want a change.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay, that makes sense.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. That one's done. In the scheme of having full representation throughout.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: On that one, you could say that the Council is most effective when the full complement of members are present.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: But if you say that, where is the teeth in that, saying that? You're saying oh, it would be nice if we had that, but if not...

>> CINDY SIMON: I understand. I'm not sure that we can make a demand like that. So, I was just trying to put a clarification of that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right. And that's why I'm taking it out.
Okay. We're all done with bylaws. Is there anything more from anybody?
Cory? Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: Unfortunately I have to leave at 10:00 o'clock today. I have a super busy day today; I'm so sorry. I just wanted to say thank you so much.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: A quick one minute. Do you have any suggestions or ideas for the biennial report?

>> CORY PARKER: Hmm...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you for --

>> CORY PARKER: Not at the moment I don't have anything, but I am available through e-mail.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You are allowed to have discussion with Sean and Angie about the report, because you're part of the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee can't talk to each other.

Okay. Thank you, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: Thank you so much.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Thank you. John and Mary --

>> CORY PARKER: Have a great meeting, everybody.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. Thank you. Bye.

>> CORY PARKER: Bye-bye.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I think John and Mary had their hand up. All right, Mary, go ahead.

>> MARY HODGES: Yes, I was waving goodbye to Cory.
But also --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay.

>> MARY HODGES: -- also with regard to the comments that you have in yellow, for Section 2, number 2 and number 3, perhaps we could, in number 3, instead of using the word "must," you could say "should"? And same thing for -- for number two.

I think -- I don't think that that hurts the, you know, the language that the statute -- that -- I don't -- I think those statements are good additions.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary, yes, there are some things we would like to say, but I'm afraid that it's not in the statute and -- I think it's a separate thing. It's not a language cleaning up and not a clarification, it's adding something that is wrong, and so I'm afraid -- I don't want to do something that would conflict with the statute. So that's why I said the yellow highlights and other things, do it at a separate time, where we would work on the statute itself alone and get a sponsor for the changes.

But, yes, we would keep that in mind that's what we want in the statute, which is different than the --

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: John? John? John? You had your hand up? Did you want to say something?

>> JOHN JACKSON: Yes, thank you, Glenna. Just real briefly, this is kind of similar to Cory's situation. I have a call at 10:30 that I will have to leave the meeting for. I will get back on the meeting, assuming it's still going, as soon as I get off the call. But I can't miss the call at 10:30.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Remember, we have -- okay, thank you for letting us know. Remember, we are finished at 12:00 noon. Do you have any quick comments about doing the biennial report? Any thoughts?

[No response].

>> JOHN JACKSON: Did you hear that? I'm sorry.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, no, no.

>> JOHN JACKSON: Okay. I have no comments at this time.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you. Debbe, let me finish.

Okay. I made changes in the bylaws. I will send a new revised again bylaws to Sean and he will send it out and you guys can review it over again and see if we forgot anything or overlooked anything, check for spelling, check for proper wording, like the deaf-blind and hard of hearing or whatever. This is the time to be picky about the wording and the proof-reading.

And then once we all agree on it, then we can have a vote to approve the whole thing. And then say that's been revised in 2022. Okay?

Okay. Debbe, did you have any -- Debbe, did you have anything more related to the bylaws?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Sean --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yes?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I know we only have quarterly meetings...

>> SEAN ISAAC: Uh-huh.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: In some organizations, they have quarterly meetings, but they also allow for e-mails discussion or e-mail vote.

Does Tallahassee allow, like, for example, specifically with the bylaws, if I send it out to you, you send out the bylaws as revised.

Are we allowed to ask or vote by e-mail to accept the bylaws as a follow-up to the meeting?

And they send their votes to you and --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- and we can vote by e-mail. Are we allowed to do that?

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I know of other organizations that do that. I know there's something related to finalizing -- to finalizing documents, such as bylaws, biennial reports, different plans, whatever, the Council may vote by e-mail for the quarterly meeting.

>> [Open mic].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Are we allowed to do that?

>> [Open mic].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Excuse me, Glenna. Somebody needs to be muted, I hear some background noise.

>> [Music playing].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. This is Sean. I don't know, Glenna. I can certainly ask Linda and see what she says. I'll e-mail her now.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Do the council members feel... um... well, we will have -- let me see....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We do have a break at 10:15. What if I finish fixing up -- I think I did -- send it to Sean and Sean e-mails it right away to the Council meeting, and then after the break, we adopt the bylaws, that's another way we can do it, while we still have a quorum?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, we lost quorum, because both Cory and John left.

>> JOHN JACKSON: John's still here. John's not leaving until 10:30.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay. So we have five. Woo-hoo! Can we do that?

Okay. All right. This is the plan: I will -- I already made changes and I'll go through it to make sure that it's good and then send it to Sean and Sean will immediately e-mail it out to the Council, and when we come back from the break, we will vote on it and pass it and being adopted in August of 2022.

Is that good with everybody?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Can I see a yes?

>> CINDY SIMON: It's good with me. Just as a quick comment on what you said before. We have voted by e-mail in the past on things like this, so I don't think you have to write it in. I think it's already acceptable. Someone sends -- whether it's Sean or Angie sends it out to us, we all reply to that individual and then the vote is tallied.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Well, if we have voted by e-mail before, I think it should be stated that we put it in the bylaws by something that we allow voting by e-mail. Hmm... because I know in other organizations, they put it in the bylaws that we have that. Hmm... where would that go?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Where would that go? That would go in the council meeting, council meeting.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right. Article 3, meetings.

>> CINDY SIMON: Article 3, okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We put in... Section 1, where it talks about -- no, maybe add a new section saying that....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Where it says Section 5, procedures, that would be an appropriate place to put it.

>> CINDY SIMON: I see. I thought it would belong in procedures.

And maybe you could add in it to four and just add a line saying, "In addition, e-mail"... um... voting by e-mail is possible. Because we've had it in the past where we had to send out e-mails for voting for Chair and Vice Chair for those who weren't there and then get it back. So it would be quite appropriate.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Debbe? Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: After Section 4, you have no members shall vote by proxy. But you can say something like voting by e-mail is acceptable. Or whatever the technology allows.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. You're talking about a different part. We're looking at Article 3, procedures, number four. When a motion is made and before voting is done by the Council, the Chair will repeat the motion into the record, thereby ensuring that all members present have a clear understanding of this motion.

Um... I think it should be number five, a separate thing, to say that... um... in order to complete the business before the Council, votes on motions can be done electrically to finalize the document or... elections, bylaws, reports, letters... I don't know.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: But I think it should be separate. I think we should add number five.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: Mary has her hand up.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes, I --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I don't see everybody on Zoom because I'm looking at the papers at the same time, so I've got windows all over the place!
Okay, Mary, go ahead.

>> MARY HODGES: This is Mary, yes. I see Debbe's point, because basically what we're asking for is a vote to approve the edits to the bylaws.

Unless we change that, we are not allowing for it currently.

Because we do need a quorum in order to approve the changes. So that's why we want to do it before John is off the phone. And what you're suggesting is that we do it by e-mail.

So, I think if we make a change, it would have to be up there, in terms of if we're going to allow for a vote electronically versus physically being present, is what I'm understanding.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, right... um... the e-mail would be for the future. Right now I'm trying to add quickly something about e-mails and send it to Sean so he can send it here during the break, which is happening in one minute, and then when we come back from the break, we still have a quorum, because John's not leaving until 10:30, we still have five people here, we can vote today --

>> MARY HODGES: Yes, and that's --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- and we can talk about that new section about e-mails, we can have that in the future if we need to vote on other things between quarterly meetings. Those are two separate things.

The bylaws today, we vote on today. And then the e-mail thing is a new section we're going to add on right now to use for the future.

>> CINDY SIMON: Where it says that you can't do it by proxy, that assumes it's an in-person meeting and that you would assign someone to be your proxy to vote for you.

We're talking about something that's being done outside of that and has been done in the past. So if we don't get anything in right now, that doesn't change anything. If we can get the wording, then I would agree that it goes in Section 5, where you could say... um... if outside of in-person meetings, a vote is needed, it may be sent out by the representative of the Council and votes returned to that individual to be tallied.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: When you mention --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You mentioned the word "proxy." I don't remember where I read it, but somewhere I --

>> CINDY SIMON: That was on Article 3, Section 4 --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: -- which is where Debbe was saying to go.

But we're not doing proxies --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Article 3, Section 4?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yeah, that's where the proxy is.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm looking for it.

>> CINDY SIMON: It's the last word on the page.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh. It says no member may vote by proxy. And that would be a reason for having an e-mail vote, because we can't do proxy.

>> CINDY SIMON: Exactly.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CINDY SIMON: That just means an in-person meeting and assigning someone your vote, versus giving it directly.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. It's -- we're past the time for break. Let me work on the e-mail thing and see if I can come up with a real quick one, an e-mail, and send it to Sean and we can vote on it, with the e-mail addition or without the e-mail addition, okay?

And we'll need a quick vote before John leaves and we have a quorum. Is that all right with everybody?

Okay. Thank you. Wait, we will be back at....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We will be back at 10:29 so John can vote at 10:30? Okay. Bye-bye.

[Break].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: [Signing but no interpreting].

>> LISA (CART CAPTIONER): This is Lisa, the Captioner. Will somebody will voicing for Glenna?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: [Signing but no interpreting].

>> INTERPRETER: This is the Rebecca, the interpreter. I can voice for Glenna.

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> INTERPRETER: This is Rebecca. Are you able to hear me?

>> JOHN JACKSON: I can hear you, Rebecca.

>> INTERPRETER: Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: [Signing but no interpreting].

[Pause].

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sorry, I won't be using my voice anymore, so I will be using the sign language interpreter from here on out. I'm tired of using my voice.

Okay, so, yes --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I lost sound for a moment. Go ahead.

We will go over the bylaws. I just sent them through e-mail, so go ahead and check that now, please.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, thank you, that's right. Thank you for clarifying, Sean, I'm glad everybody's back.

I'm sorry, I forgot to say that this is Glenna. I am in charge of the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and I just sent out all of those bylaws.

So, all of our discussion is finished at this time. And it was all in simple language sent through that e-mail.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: When the proposal requires action in-between the quarterly meetings --

>> [Open mic].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- then it may be an electronic method for the Council's vote, so let's keep it as simple as possible.

>> [Open mic].

[Note from CART Captioner]: There is background noise from somebody.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's the new thing for the bylaws and hopefully we can read that clearly and everybody will be able to see that.

And that proposal is in the e-mail.

So we'll go ahead and do the quick vote right now before John leaves.

>> CINDY SIMON: Please note the date at the end is from 2013 and not 2022.

Where it says amended August 8, 2013 at the end.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, at the end, okay, mmm-hmm.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Let me change that.
Okay. I'm finished with that.
Okay, great. Are we ready to vote?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: First I need a proposal of the bylaws and the changes for the annual meeting of 2022.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I need somebody to start it.
I need somebody to make that proposal.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I make a motion to accept the bylaws with all the corrections.

>> JOHN JACKSON: I second that motion.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We'll go ahead and make that motion accepted that the bylaws can be changed for today, August 19th -- or, I guess, sorry, August 21st, let's say, of 2022.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: John Jackson seconded the motion.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I know John has to go. All right. I appreciate your vote. So I need everybody to say yes.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe, yes.

>> JOHN JACKSON: John, yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes from Cindy.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, I heard John's yes.

>> MARY HODGES: And Mary says yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary?

Do we have any nos?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No? Okay. That has passed. Thank you so much. I'm

glad we were successful for something!

>> VOICE: John Jackson has left the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Great! Woo! I'm glad that got done!

So now that we've finished passing the bylaws and those amendments, that was for August 20th of 2022.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I will be sending you a copy of everything and it's all going to be posted on the website as well. So the committee can keep a copy.

Let me make sure we have the report.

I'm trying to encourage Cory, Sean, and Angie to be a little bit more active and involved in the design of the new report, because the three of them have new, fresh eyes to look at it.

I know they all have great ideas.

And everything has really looked beautiful and it's been very consistent and I think it's designed to shake everything up.

The formatting, the pictures, everything that's on there, I would like to try to be a little more creative.

So, I know it's been, like, four or five times now where it's been very similar each time, and I'm sure people might look at that and just kind of throw it to the side.

I think if we make some drastic changes in what it looks like, make it a little more creative, then I think maybe might actually take a look and be more interested.

So, I don't have a ton of ideas left at this point, but I think the three of them will be able to help.

So I'm hoping that other people will take over and help with writing that report.

And I know that myself, Cory, Sean, and Angie, I know that you guys have been working on that report, but the committee has lots of great ideas and I know you guys are very creative.

So if anybody has any thoughts or inside, please share them with us; the floor is open. So let us know your ideas.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: Can you review what you have so far?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: For 2023?

>> CINDY SIMON: Yes.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I was thinking that maybe we should follow-up on -- about the what's happening with the Text-to-911. In the report, it says that whatever the number is, out of 67 has been completed, maybe we can follow-up on that, to get the latest report on that, on what's happening with COVID, maybe some of the still ongoing

problems with that.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The first page of the report right now starts with FCCDHH and I don't think it's a bad idea to keep that up at the top, I think that can be consistent.

And then on the first page we have an introduction, just basic information about the statutes.

On the second page, we have special interest information about COVID.

And then on the right column, we have more information. And on the last page we have information about the text-to-9/11. We have all of the committee members on there and it does state who was absent.

I don't know if we want to remove the committee members' list but we have everybody's names on there and their organizations, just so you're aware.

And looking back, we've had some hot topics over the past few years and I still want to may not the same type thing, the information about interpreters, about assistive devices, we have stuff about hospitals. I don't know, what else do we have under hot topics? Any other ideas?

We have interpreters, hearing aids, the hospitals.

>> CINDY SIMON: And something to point out to them, and I don't know if you have this in the COVID section, is how many people who didn't think they had hearing loss discovered they did after everyone was wearing masks and they could no longer see faces?

Therefore, our hard-of-hearing population is severely underestimated.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mmm-hmm, yes, I totally agree.
I see what you're saying.

>> [Open mic].

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, we haven't said anything about that. So that might be a great follow-up to add.

>> CINDY SIMON: Correct.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That could be a new topic.

Yeah, we can talk about how many Deaf and hard-of-hearing people and maybe deaf-blind people as well, late-deafened, yeah, that could be a new topic of discussion. It has been tough for many people, especially everybody who's using these visual languages. Yeah, we would like to know the numbers of that population.

>> CINDY SIMON: And --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So, yeah, it would be good to know how many are in the area. That might be a good new topic of discussion and it has been really tough to get those statistics, but maybe we could figure out something. I think it would be great to do a survey, maybe, and see.

>> CINDY SIMON: It's okay to even say we don't know, because they're coming out of the woodwork.

But the other issue here are COVID and COVID vaccine-related issues. There are a number of articles about how many have suddenly lost their hearing, developed tinnitus, and other issues related to having had COVID or post-vaccine.

And so, again, the hard-of-hearing and Deaf population is significantly underestimated after this, because there's been nothing to check the numbers for that.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, maybe that can be a new topic. I would love to get those statistics and maybe we'll be able to figure that out.

I know it is tough to get those numbers and get an accurate count. But you're right, after COVID, it would be good to know.

I know there are more and more people moving here that aren't necessarily documented in those statistics yet. So it might be hard to get the numbers. But I have noticed -- I don't remember who said this -- but they did some kind of survey and it was done through the phone and they were asking questions about hearing loss and things associated to this. But I'm sure that they didn't contact a bunch of Deaf people through the phone, because I'm sure they didn't know about video phones and such.

But they were talking about the problems of getting those statistics and how COVID affected the community and how people were identified.

But, yeah, we are facing that problem still and we don't have those statistics.

So, maybe for 2021, there might be some information. But I know that they said there were, like, 305,000 people, I think, and there were only 205,000, I think, from previous years.

So, I don't know if they're any closer to getting the statistics. I don't know if we'll be hearing anything else.

But there would be four parts. The first would be the statistics, those numbers; and then we would have interpreters; the hearing aids; and the hospital as well. So we would be able to focus more on those four topics.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So maybe we can put in problems and solutions as well. How does that sound?

We have four different articles in there.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. We also need to add the over-the-counter hearing aid. I got some information from HLAA --

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: -- about the latest announcements about over-the-counter hearing aids. And Cindy, I would appreciate it if you can give us some pros and cons regarding your opinion on over-the-counter hearing aids, like, where do you take it back if it's -- if the dog chewed on it or dropped it or fell in the sink or water, you know, that kind of stuff, or different ideas, pros and cons, of over the counter, and that way we can share that on to the public.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay. I just printed the entire opinion to go through. I'm being interviewed on this.

Um... one of the things is you're now accustomed to be able to return a hearing aid. That will no longer be mandatory. My business partner was listening to a webinar yesterday from a company that's a well-known hearing aid company and they're going to have no return policy.

That's definitely a negative.

And one of the reasons that's so negative is people -- these things are made for mild, sloping, to moderate hearing loss. If you have a flat hearing loss, if you have a more severe hearing loss, if you have a hearing loss in the low that comes up normal in the highs, none of these will work for you.

And if you can't return it, that just gives the whole thing a bad name.

The biggest negative I see is I know people wanted more affordable. If you've never worn a hearing aid before, who's going to give you realistic expectations? Who's going to teach you how to properly use it, properly clean it?

We know that people do not read their instruction booklet.

We'll have to see if they have domes and filters, whether you will be able to buy it at the point of sale.

You don't need a hearing test for this. So I have an issue with that. Because we're going to be missing people with acoustic neuromas. We're going to have parents who think they're going to buy it and put it on their child.

What you don't realize is because a child's ear is so small, the sound pressure is that much more. And you could actually be giving a noise-induced hearing loss to that child if this was not necessary.

People with impacted cerumen, even if it says it has limited area to go in, that doesn't mean that people won't try to shove it in.

And there was another company before, I know of at least three perforations that occurred in the eardrum because they tried to shove it in with wax impaction.

Additionally, this state has mail order laws and if somebody were to send it in and send it to you, I'm not sure how that works with our mail order laws. And what the Federal Government is doing supersedes the state's mail order laws.

So those are some of the negatives that I see.

I can look it up and let you know... I'm trying to see....

And they don't know all the answers yet.

I have a big issue if you can't return it and it's going to be up to each place about the return policy.

And that's a little scary to me as well.

And what else would you like to know, Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: That would be great, I think if we can add that into the report, pros and con, about over-the-counter hearing aids or a separate -- a separate paper and then we can post that on the website.

Because this is a big issue. We're getting all kinds of phone calls. I'm getting requests to be on the radio and all that kind of stuff.

And also, HLAA Headquarters is getting a lot of requests about this information.

So I think we really need to put that somewhere or some more information here.

Another thing is I'm wondering if the Department of Health has any statistics about the results of the COVID shots, if people have become more sick or not sick or whatever the result is from COVID versus those who didn't get the vaccine, if there's a comparison or

anything like that, if you know of.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Uh....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Back to the report, there was that information on the hearing aids that we can include in the paragraph, the over-the-counter ones, and put warnings of being aware of the new over-the-counter, and that way we have records of the problems.

Because right now we're perceiving these as issues.

The companies before were under laws, so we have to kind of wait to see what's going to happen now.

>> CINDY SIMON: The concept --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- hearing aids and the problem with the over-the-counter hearing aids, we can make mention of that.

>> CINDY SIMON: The problem there is so many people --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Because --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- we can do a letter with the white paper and with pros and cons, a pros and cons list, and just also remember -- I want to head back to... hold on.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The part of the report of the statistics with regarding interpreters and hearing aids here and hospitalizations, those three I think we've been handling for a while here on the Council, right?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Is everybody okay?
Mary, your hand is up? Mary? Is your hand up?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Go ahead.

>> MARY HODGES: Thank you. I wanted to let you know that I prepared an article for hearing loss in older adults that is in draft and is being routed through the Department's Communications Office and I can give it to this committee to see if it's appropriate for the report.

But if you want to take a look at it, it's just basically talking about the prevalence and

seeing how older adults can get the cost paid for for various, you know, for visiting the doctor, audiologist, and etc.

So, I would like to put that before the committee to -- I'm sorry, the Council to just review and see if that would be something we would want to include in the report?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: [Signing, but no interpreting].

>> CINDY SIMON: Mary, are you talking about the cost of hearing aids or the cost of the exam?

[Pause].

>> MARY HODGES: I'm sorry, Cindy. The cost of hearing aids. Basically it's Medicaid, what Medicaid pays for in regard to various types of assistance and also Medicare.

>> CINDY SIMON: Well, always be aware, some Medicare Advantage plans do have some hearing aid benefits. A couple of secondaries have partial payments, they'll pay up to certain amounts.

When you're looking at some of the others, they go based on what is submitted to them in price and they pick the least expensive.

So, be aware that on some of them, you may not get the best thing out there or even the second best.

And then people come in complaining "this isn't working for me." But it's the level of technology.

>> MARY HODGES: I guess my question is would the committee, would the Council be willing to review the article for appropriateness for the report?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. I would be willing to do a review for the professional article anyway; I will.

>> MARY HODGES: Thank you. So would it be appropriate then to send that to Sean to get out to the Council?

[Pause].

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

>> SEAN ISAAC: As far as -- this is Sean -- as far as appropriateness, it's totally fine for you to send it to me, to send it to the Council; no issues with that.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Thank you, Mary, for that great idea.

I'll think about the report, you know, and maybe we can change a few little things regarding the statistics -- the statistics, the interpreters, and that will include hospitalizations and hospital VRI and the issues there. Hearing aids, that would include the over-the-counter hearing aids as well, senior citizens, which would include the advice (sic) for hearing loss and insurance.

And we have to be careful with the senior citizens because the legislations know they're a lot of the vote, so the new four-part statistics with the interpreters --

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy? Cindy? Did you have something?

>> CINDY SIMON: Have you considered -- and this is probably more informational than anything -- but, you know, we've mentioned cochlear implants in the past and people know about that, but what about other things, like middle-ear implants, brainstem implants, and maybe look at how many we have in the state with that? People with conductive issues with the atresia which is in the ear canal and maybe using bone conduction implants.

So, do we want to do anything informational about that or see if we find enough statistics to make it worth mentioning?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wow... um... we don't have basic statistics, a baseline to go off of yet.

So this is what we're looking at for the legislations and what the general public wants to know regarding these statistics.

So it makes it really, you know, we've got to listen, we've got to see what we find, what we hear.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay. I just thought --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Remember, we don't have a lot of availability within the report to include everything that we want, you know?

>> CINDY SIMON: So, we can look, going way back, and when you said asking for others' opinions to shake it up, we did not always sit on the same topics for every report.

I would say that was more common after around 2013-2015, and so we used to have a fold-up, then we had a tri-fold, and then we went back.

So maybe it's worth holding a phone meeting to discuss do we want to keep it the same? Do we want to change it? Do we want to change the topics?

They don't have to be the same every report.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right.

And the interpreters we mentioned before, the hearing aids we've mentioned before, and we are looking for new statistics for senior citizens. That's the focus.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Anybody have any other information?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do we still want to do the four pages of color?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: What do you think about the last page, the list with the council members? There's so many vacancies. Should we remove those for now? Because there's so many vacancies, it doesn't look so great.

We have the contact information for each of us.

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: Debbe is saying Sean had a question or comment?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yes, thank you, this is Sean. As far as the vacancies, I don't know, there might be a way to recruit folks to be a part of the Council? That's one way to kind of consider it and look at it. But that's, you know, that's you all's call.

And then I was just gonna add that you were talking about being creative. This is just a suggestion, and you all can certainly do what you want, but we get so many calls from folks who are interested in service animals or information about other animals, emotional support animals, that you might want to put a cute dog in there. Because who doesn't love cute dogs, right? [Chuckles].

So, it might generate some attention, if you want to talk about that. But that's just a suggestion.

>> INTERPRETER: Debbe said -- sorry, hold on.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And did we want to put that in as an issue? Any comments about any of the issues? I've never heard anything about help with a hearing dog. That's never really been an issue that has come up for me on the Council, since 2013. Never had any kind of problem with, you know, dogs or animals.

Yeah, I had a... um... hearing cat, I believe she said, and it was all over the place -- yep, my cat -- and, you know... it was great [chuckles]

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. The questions that we usually get are related to access and accessibility for the animal, actually. Folks want to be able to take their service animal to the doctor and the doctor may say you can't have that animal in here and they have a question about how can they address that issue or who do they report that to.

That's a lot of the questions that we get, in addition to also where can we go to find this type of service or this type of help. We get those two questions a lot.

>> ANGIE GREEN: This is Angie, I had four calls yesterday for that issue.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. So were you talking they were calling to ask specifically for the service animal or getting access for the service animal?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. They would call -- they called to ask how can they get a service animal. They call to ask how do they get a service animal certified. They call to find out who do they contact if they're being denied service from an organization, a business, or an office, if they have a service animal with them at the time. That's what they usually call for.

And we get a lot of calls. And I think Angie just said that she got four yesterday

>> INTERPRETER: And this is --

>> CINDY SIMON: Sean, are these --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Are they specifically mentioning a Deaf person with a hearing dog or are they saying an emotional support dog? Because that emotional support dog is becoming a problem with many businesses. They're becoming more strict with their requirements and, you know, because people are getting so flexible with it, because an emotional support animal isn't, you know, it's not a baby, it's a pet.

So I'm wondering, is it specifically from a Deaf person asking with their hearing dog/service dog? Is that -- if that's it, that's no problem. But if it's an emotional support animal, that's where our problem starts to come in, and that's why I'm asking, when they call in, is it a Deaf person calling in talking about a hearing dog?

Other people are looking for excuses to bring their "baby" to all the businesses. No, no.

>> CINDY SIMON: And that's true, I have people --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And I know people that are doing that.

[Talking over one another].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I just sent you the link for the hearing dog company. I believe they're in Orlando. Maybe we can invite them to our next meeting, to give a brief presentation about it?

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: A presentation what for?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay, so this is Sean. And I heard Debbe's comment and I heard Glenna's question. So the answer to Glenna's question first regarding who's calling in, are Deaf folks calling in or are folks who are having a service animal -- I'm sorry, an emotional support animal calling in?

And the answer is both. But we have not separated the two and done any kind of statistics on that.

I think that's something we can do in the future --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: -- because we get so many calls, that it's probably worth looking that up, okay. So that's the first response.

And thank you for that information, Debbe.

We -- it appears that there's more than just one company in the state of Florida that does this, right? And so do you all have any information about who categorizes or who has a list of all these different companies in the state of Florida that provides these services? Because we would love to have that information to provide to the public.

[Pause].

>> CINDY SIMON: Sean, we do have the name of one in a past meeting, so I would have to comb through the agendas to see where they were. But they came, they showed us how they're trained, they showed us how you can tell when they're certified or registered as an actual hearing dog.

And the problem I have -- and I'm allergic to animals, so I really don't let anything with fur near me --

>> SEAN ISAAC: Right.

>> CINDY SIMON: And I will pass a person who has a hearing dog over to my business partner, because I can't go near it.

But there is an issue with the emotional support and I can't tell you how many patients say immaterial to have this dog with me, can you write me an emotional support letter for me to get them registered?

If they are -- if they have a need and they're an actual service animal, then nobody can refuse them. They have to be allowed, unless -- or accommodations made, like I do, I can't be near it and I pass it on to someone else.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. And thank you for that. That's what we've been telling the public.

But we get so many calls and questions about it that it might be helpful and a service to the public to provide some information on the differences and then the laws that govern them.

And if we could find a list of these, because I can tell you from attending the Family Café event in May this year, there were three different companies that showed up at that event who worked with either service dogs or emotional support dogs. I believe at least two of those were emotional support dogs, though.

But when I did a Google Search, there were many different companies that were starting to offer this type of service to the public. And we don't have a good list defining which are the emotional support dogs versus the service dogs, and I think that would be helpful for the public.

>> CINDY SIMON: I wonder if your predecessor has it, since she recently got a new service dog, just before she got off the Council.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I can ask her. I know she provided information about a company. I don't believe she had any information about all the companies in Florida, and so that's one thing that I can check and see.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Mary has a comment.

>> MARY HODGES: Hi --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary, go ahead.

>> MARY HODGES: Thank you. In response to Cindy, the group who came to

present to the Council was Paws with a Cause, like p-a-w-s, and they categorized, they train five different types: There are service dogs, hearing dogs, seizure response dogs, service dogs for children with autism, and then a combination dog.

So, I do have some literature from that presentation that we had when the lady actually came and brought the dog and talked about the organization.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you. This is Sean. Thank you, Mary. Please send that to us, if you will. Because I think it would be a good thing to put on our website, since we get so much traffic and information and questions related to that topic alone.

>> CINDY SIMON: And that might actually look cute, a small article about it. That might attract people to look at the report.

>> MARY HODGES: Also, there --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna speaking, I think what we would do is we won't necessarily find it in the report but we can find the resources and put it online. Is that something that would be okay with you guys?

So then back to the report. We'll stay with the interpreters, the hearing aids, and the various topics in terms of the discussion that we need to hear from the public when it comes to collecting and gathering resources. We'll put that on our website.

We'll have more information and we will be able to respond and answer accordingly. Were there anymore ideas or discussion about the report?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So then I guess the Executive Committee, they can go ahead and write the report, myself and Cory and Angie and anybody else that wants to be involved can go ahead and write the actual report. Anyone else?

Mary, are you still here? Your hand's raised.

>> MARY HODGES: Thank you, Glenna. I just wanted to comment Cindy talked about in terms of COVID or somebody mentioned COVID and hearing loss, I just googled and there are several articles currently about how people have been impacted by COVID.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Great, thank you, Mary, thank you for sharing that. Please and go ahead and send that to Sean and Sean can pass it on to the committee.

Submit anything to Sean in regard to those types of topics, please.

You can send those articles or any links to Sean and he can share that with the committee. Again, thank you, Mary.

We can look at over and maybe some of those would be great for us to put on the website as resources for our community.

So, do I see any -- we don't see any volunteers for writing the reports yet, so I guess we're kind of stuck.

Let's move on, if we've got no other discussions about the report.

>> CINDY SIMON: Glenna, call me if you need help with it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cindy?

>> CINDY SIMON: I said you can ask me for help if it's needed.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. I appreciate that.
Let's move forward with the discussion of the November meeting.

We were talking about the November -- oh, Mary, did you have -- do you still have your hand raised, Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: I was just going to let you know, Glenna, that I'm happy to help as well with the report, if you'd like.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Thank you, Mary. I'll make note.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So in regards to writing the reports, the only way we can theoretically work together is if we have I guess shared articles or things that we can refer. And if we can use them as reference and that could be shared information, again, that we can send to Sean and Sean can send it out to the Council.

I think even if we have a committee meeting, after we have a rough copy, we could have a goal of that meeting to have it finished before the November quarterly meeting.

Because we'll need to have some time to publish the information by February, and that's not a lot of time for us. So we'll have to start get working on that.

So the goal then will be to have that complete in a rough draft by the November meeting, so we can discuss it and review the report during the November meeting.

And after that November meeting, we'll have enough time to give ourselves some reporting of the color scheme and so forth so we can share and have it published and ready for dissemination by February.

Does that sound good?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Whew... time is not on our side....

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean, this is Glenna. Sean, do you have anything that you wanted to talk about for the November meeting? It's November 3-4.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Well, I'm excited about it, because I have been asking Angie to sort of take the lead in the planning of it, and she has done so and has made some great headway.

I think she gave you all the details of the meeting yesterday and I'm going to ask her to repeat them again today, if she would, and that might generate some discussion furthermore.

I did want to ask you all, did you have any ideas as to what type of speakers you wanted to show up to that particular meeting?

And also....

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: I am hesitating a little bit because I don't want to share too much, but I am working on and trying to get our bureau chief to come -- I think I mentioned that earlier -- to the meeting as well, and so that would be great, if she would be there and I will be there and Angie would be there. That's the goal.

So Angie, could you share some more details that you mentioned yesterday?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Yes, this is Angie. The meeting will be Thursday November 3 and Friday November 4 in Kissimmee and it will be at the Hilton Garden Inn. Everything is still being organized and waiting for the bureau approval and then everything will be sent out to you and good to go.

But that is what we have so far.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna --

>> SEAN ISAAC: And --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- is there any possibility that that information in regards to the hotel can be ready by October? So we have time to promote the meeting for public comments?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This might be a good opportunity for people to come to that Kissimmee meeting, from Orlando as well as Ocala.

>> SEAN ISAAC: So this is Sean --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And if we can find presenters too that are popular for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, that might make it willing for them to come. Whether it's a performer, presenter, whatever we need to do.

I thought of something. I think every year, we tend to host a deaf art show? And we have exhibits of different types of art and artwork by Deaf and hard-of-hearing artists.

Maybe we could ask the founder or whoever that coordinator is to come and show some different examples the artwork.

I know that's not necessarily a service need, but... it's a thought.

That art show is the type of thing that we would like to include in our conference.

I can contact the people that are involved in that art show and see if they can come. We could have sort of what you consider a mini-exhibit of some artwork. So we'll have a variety of different communities represented, whether they're Deaf or hard of hearing or late-deafened and so forth.

Is that a thought? I could try, if you guys are interested in that.

What do you think?

[Pause].

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

I'll make note.

>> [Typing sound].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. It's definitely November 3 and 4, right? Oh my gosh, what was the name of the hotel? Was it the Hilton?

>> ANGIE GREEN: The Garden Inn Hilton.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Are we just waiting for approval?

>> ANGIE GREEN: Go ahead, Sean.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I was going to answer your question on when can you all start making reservations and promoting the meeting. The good news is we've got the contract almost done, the wording is done, the Department has signed off of it and we're waiting for the provider to sign it and hopefully we should have that done by next week. So after that's done, then we can send out the information regarding contacting the hotel. So it will done really soon and then you all can go ahead and promote it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Okay, great. If we can also reach out to those Deaf artists, I'll need to let them know the definite days and location. Thank you.

If you can send me the name of the hotel and the address, then that way I could share that with the Deaf art show group and let them know where it would be and see if they can promote that amongst themselves.

And that's about an hour-ish, for the November meeting. I think we'll have enough time for our reports that we can review, as well as maybe the one-hour presentation from them.

And if we have that Deaf exhibit, I think we've got our November meeting -- wait, was it the November meeting -- yeah, we'll need to plan for the February Legislature visit to, that legislative visit as a discussion point.

How many of you would be willing to go to the November meeting in person?

>> CINDY SIMON: I will.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Some people still can't go in person. If you're not able to and you know now, just let us know.

Mary, you mentioned. Who else? Cindy, what about you? Will you be able to attend?

>> CINDY SIMON: I said I would.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I should be able to.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So that's four of us. So hopefully we've got Cory, John, Eugenia and we have a quorum and we have that conference call. I think, if I'm not mistaken, I think Eugenia is working on the schools? If she's working in school, it might be hard for her to attend. I don't know if she'll be able to ask for time off.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Then the other thing I think we can also do, it doesn't help necessarily in the office, but we could try, in regards to all of us, try to find people then who could apply for some of those vacancy positions on our Council. We'll need to talk to the president and put out a search for the second FAD crew. And also for the our groups and talk to people who created a vacancy there.

Is there any other points of discussion? Are there any other announcements? Other pieces of information we want to share?

>> CINDY SIMON: I would just like to make a suggestion. In some of the areas we go, there may be a school that has a program of thespians for the Deaf and hard of hearing and it might be interesting for one of those groups, if they're working on a performance, to do one for us, or even on a Thursday evening, have one for the community to come and see how beautiful these performances are. South Plantation used to do this and they had speakers and signers behind the artists and it was like poetry in motion. It was so beautiful.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. And I know one specific performance travel group in Florida, but we would have to pay for them.

And we're not quite sure where that money would come from just yet. And that group lives in Miami.

Is it José Granda, Cindy? Is that the group you're talking about?

>> CINDY SIMON: No --

[Talking over one another].

>> CINDY SIMON: If we were in Fort Lauderdale, South Plantation High School used to do this routinely. And if they still do, it would be beautiful, when we're here. Maybe even the Center For Hearing and Communication, they've had groups doing this as well on their behalf, so they may have a group creator performance for us when we're local again and do that.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Sean has had his hand up for a while.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, go ahead.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you. This is Sean. I wanted to mention to you all that, like I said yesterday, the Department has plans on attending the SERID in October. I want to see if any of you want to perhaps join us or sit at the booth?

It seems like a good opportunity to also meet people and invite them to be part of the Council. And so we were really happy that local leadership allowed us to -- approved us to go. But it wouldn't be the same if we didn't have council members at that event.

It's October 13 through the 16 -- correct me if I'm wrong, Angie -- yeah? -- and so it would be great if someone could be there.

I realize everybody can't go all -- at all events, but I'm wondering if there are any takers on the call today?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. And that's SERID, S-E-R-I-D, is that SERID? And you said that was the --

>> SEAN ISAAC: SERID.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- the 13th through the 15th, is that correct?

>> SEAN ISAAC: The 13th through the 16th, I think.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I think I would be able to go. I could do the 13th through the 16th, I believe.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, that's great.

[Talking over one another].

>> SEAN ISAAC: That's great. We will send out information to the Council and then I'll certainly send you more information as well, Glenna. Anybody else?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Maybe -- [indiscernible].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Can you say that one more time?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I think I can go.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. That's great.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. There's also another event October, the first weekend in Lakeland.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Lakeland, Uh-huh. It's a Deaf Thing.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I don't know if we can try to get a table/a booth there? But the last two times, we failed to get a booth, so maybe we can try it this time?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna --

>> SEAN ISAAC: -- do you know the dates?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna, it's Saturday, it's only a one-day event.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I think it's on the 8th, is it the 8th of October? It's the 1st or

the 8th.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, it looks like it's on the 1st, if the internet is telling me the right thing here. And I will certainly route that and see -- can anyone make it for that event?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Debbe, are you able to go? I know that's fairly close to you, for It's A Deaf Thing in Lakeland?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I believe I can, yes.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Then we will route it for approval, yeah.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That would be great if you can go to It's A Deaf Thing.

Before, when we were talking about the November meeting and talking about calling the Deaf artists and seeing if anybody can come and even considering those performing arts groups, if we can start working on those contacts now, it would be great. And then maybe we can consider having them for other meetings or conferences as well; that would be great.

Okay. Are there any other announcements or information that needs to be shared?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I have a question about that, Glenna. Who, on the call, knows about those artists or is going to reach out to those artists?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I will.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. I was thinking, this is just an idea, but between now and when you all have the expo event or when they have the expo event, it may be a good idea to kind of test out some of the folks that we want to come to that event. And just like you were talking about the art show, that might be a good opportunity to see, you know, what they can do.

You may kind of consider that for other face-to-face events, if that's something that we're able to do.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna, yeah, absolutely. We'll start including those people now.

The only problem is asking them to come and present or to put on a performance without any funding, you know. I'm not sure how it will go. It might be kind of a sticky situation, but we'll see.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. [Sighs]... I mean, you might ask them what they would charge to do a small event or would they be able to come for free and just kind of talk about what they do.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Yeah, for the performers, I'm trying to try to keep it local as we mentioned before, if they're local and close by. I don't want people to

travel for the event, because the cost would be much higher for them.

>> SEAN ISAAC: True.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. For the record, Cindy said I won't be there, I already have a conference and I'm running that weekend. Maybe I can go on Sunday.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You're talking about SERID, correct? That conference, Cindy? Okay, I'll make a note of that.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Any last announcements, any comments, anything else we need to discuss today? The floor is open.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I just wanted to make sure, for the record, that Sean has done a fabulous job during the few of our meetings. I don't want to lose him in any way, shape, or form. I know Angie will do an outstanding job, but I want Sean to make sure he stays in touch with all of us. And so I just wanted to make sure that he got recognized for that great work.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Yes, you know, we don't know how long he's going to stay with us, but we definitely appreciate it. We don't know when he will transition out, or which way everything will go in the future. But we definitely appreciate it. And we do love working with all of the staff.

Yeah, we want to make sure everybody stays involved and we appreciate all of the hard work.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean -- oops -- Mary raised her hand and I was hesitating. Go ahead, Mary.

>> MARY HODGES: I didn't mean to interrupt you, Sean. But you can go ahead and finish.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. I was just going to say quickly, thank you for that, Debbe and Glenna and everybody, thank you for the opportunity. It's been great. I learned a lot. I enjoy it, you guys are a lot of fun [chuckles].

I wish I had more time, quite honestly. But I will definitely -- I am planning on being at the November meeting, so we don't have to say our goodbyes just yet, hopefully [chuckles].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you. Mary, you can go ahead.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary, are you still there?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary? Your hand is still raised.

[Pause].

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

>> SEAN ISAAC: Sorry, I've got one more. I did reach out to the Office of the Governor's Appointments here at DOH regarding the question of is it part of their process to verify that the individual represents the organization that they're being nominated for, and the individual mentioned to me that yes, it's part of their process. But they did say that program offices, meaning we, Angie and I, also need to be involved in that process as well, okay. I wanted to mention that to you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay. Thank you, Sean, I appreciate that. I don't think we'll have to add anything else at this point; it looks pretty good. But thank you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Mmm-hmm.

>> MARY HODGES: Hi, I'm sorry, this is Mary.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's 11:42 now, this is Glenna -- oop, Mary, go ahead.

>> MARY HODGES: I was wondering if we needed to send a special invitation to the group in Kissimmee, the Deaf community group, it's the CCDHH FLA, are you all familiar with that group?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna, I think that they actually have come to present previously. They have presented before, yes.

>> MARY HODGES: I didn't know if we needed to reach out to them about our meeting in November.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, I can go ahead and do that, and that way we can promote it as well. I'll start reaching out to people to see who can come to Kissimmee. But I know that they have presented before.

It's important we just get everything ready for it. So we need to start promoting it as well.

I know we need to set up the agenda and so we have the time schedules and everything ready to announce. But once we know everything, and things are pretty much ready, but once we get the agenda done and we figure out the time for those general announcements and meetings, then we can promote it.

Go ahead, Sean.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. And I think we lost track or we disconnected or we

weren't able to get Amazon at our August meeting because of the change in the dates, and so I can reach back out to that contact to see if he's available for November.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. Okay, thank you. That would be great. So we can have one presenter on Thursday and maybe one on Friday; that way we'll keep everybody busy and we can get the report completed.

Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. Since we -- Angie, since we created a sign name for Sean, because he likes motorcycles, now we need to find a -- create a sign name for you, Angie.

So, what is your --

>> VOICE: John has left the conference --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We'll have to wait until we meet in person and once we meet you in November, we'll make a name sign for you, after we chat and talk to you, something will pop up and we'll get the perfect name sign.

>> ANGIE GREEN: That sounds perfect.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: All right, guys, this is Glenna, it's 11:45 now, I think that we're all finished with our discussion and everything for today.

I hope this has been a good process with creating all the bylaws and we've had good discussion.

So if anything needs to be changed with the statute, we'll go from there. But I think we'll wait until November and we'll make anymore votes if we need to.

We'll put everything on the agenda for November and I will finish that report.

And then if we look to change any of the statutes, just let me know and we can change things as we go.

But I'm happy that the whole Council was able to come together today to clean up and change those bylaws and I'm happy to have all of those basic topics and procedures finished, if you have any ideas for that November meeting, just let me know. But this was a good meeting. Thank you guys so much to the Council for coming. And we'll go ahead and adjourn this meeting at 11:46 a.m. Great, all right. Thanks, everybody.

[Concludes at 11:46 a.m.]

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