

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING
Quarterly Meeting
Fort Myers, Florida
Friday, May 13, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

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>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna?

>> INTERPRETER: We have a request. If you could speak directly into your microphone. Yesterday they were struggling to understand what you were saying. You're a soft talker.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Oh, okay.

>> INTERPRETER: If you could just turn up your volume, please.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you. Got it. I think that goes for all of us. We need to speak directly into our mics so everyone can hear us, okay?
Glenna, are we ready to go or do we want a couple minutes?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Good morning!

>> SEAN ISAAC: Wait, wait, wait, I'm sorry.

[Laughter].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Good morning, this is Sean Isaac with the Florida Department of Health. You called into the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and we're about to get started in just a few minutes.
It cut off on me.

[Dial tone; busy signal]

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'll try again....

[Telephone dialing].

>> VOICE: Welcome to open voice audio services. Please enter your conference room number, followed by the pound or hash sign.

[Pause].

>> VOICE: Incorrect conference room number. You entered no digits. Please re-enter your conference room number, followed by the pound.

[Dialing].

>> VOICE: Conference room accepted. Please record your name after the beep followed by the pound or hash sign.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Sean Isaac.

[Music playing].

>> VOICE: For a menu of available commands, press star one. There is one other caller on the call.

Has joined the conference. Sean Isaac has joined the conference.

To begin recording this conference, press one. To....

This conference will now be recorded.

>> LISA (CART CAPTIONER): Can you turn up the volume, please?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean Isaac and today is May 13, 2022, and we will now start the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Good morning.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Good morning. This is the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing meeting on May 13th, 9:03.

Welcome here, everyone.

I want to check to see if anyone is on the conference call or on chat?

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I'm trying to get into the chat now.

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

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Good morning, Mary.

Okay. We will do a roll call. I'm Glenna Ashton, STILL Chair!

[Laughter].

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina Halliburton representing Florida Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf in Jacksonville.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, sorry, I forgot. I'm the representative of Florida Association of the Deaf.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Good morning, this is Karen Goldberg representing HLAA Florida.

>> CORY PARKER: Cory Parker -- can I use the Vice Chair title now?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes.

[Laughter].

>> CORY PARKER: Okay. I am Vice Chair [laughs] and I'm here representing the Department of Education and DVR, vocational rehabilitation.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe?

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: She can't hear you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We can't hear you, we can't hear you. We can't hear you. We can't hear you.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [On mute].

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [On mute].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Can Shannon Harp mute herself?

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I'm here representing HLAA of Florida.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. That was Debbe Hagner. Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Good morning, Sean Isaac representing the Florida Department of Health.

>> SHANNON HARP: Good morning, Shannon Harp representing the Florida Department of Health.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And I recognize the continuing wonderful service providers of Lisa Johnston on CART and Lashay on AV and all his wires everywhere and Donna and Carrie and Chris and Jody. Thank you!

This morning we're going to flip the agenda a little bit, because Gina has to leave to return her rental car on time.

So, instead of starting with public comments, we're going to start with the new business of the Expo, which requires a motion and a vote.

>> [Background noise on telephone].

>> VOICE: Has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Yesterday and today felt like we were hearing text all day, can I hear that or not?! Errr...

>> [Background noise on telephone].

[Echo].

>> VOICE: Has left the conference.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. The folks on the conference call may need to remember to mute themselves as well. Otherwise we're going to get some feedback here in the room, please. Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Normally it was easy to make a motion and then have a discussion. But since I have no idea what I'm going to talk about, I will explain first. And then hopefully someone will make a motion whether you agree or not and then we will vote on it.

We have talked about this many times, the idea of having an Expo, for lack of a better word, where all different organizations, in any way related to the entire spectrum of hearing loss, could gather together.

Because there is no such effort like that.

Most of the times, it is in groups of Deaf signers here, and be late-deafened here, deaf-blind here, hard of hearing here. All are separate. And there's no such effort to actually have them all together in one room, so to speak.

So, there's a lot of people that don't have exposure to each other and may or may not be aware of each other's issues and may and may not be aware that really they have more in common than differences.

So that's my vision, to have that.

Because we, as FCCDHH Council, are in a unique position, because we do represent the entire spectrum of hearing loss.

So I thought it would be unique for us to do that.

Um... of course, the first thing we have to consider is getting funding for that, sponsorships, donations, foundation. Um... big companies and so forth. That's something we can discuss later on.

I'm thinking the central location, of course, Orlando, but I don't want to do the usual "vacation area." I would prefer to do it someplace like the Florida Mall Hotel, which is a little bit away, and the Florida Mall Hotel is attached to a mall; you go downstairs, you go out, and it's right there, in the food court area. So we wouldn't have to spend a lot on food, it requires a lot of -- I'm thinking September 2024 and that will give us a lot of time to plan and promote and not conflict with other conferences that's going on this year, next year, and 2025.

I can't think of anything that's happening in 2024 that's on a national level, something.

We would have an exhibit hall, tables, and it would be everybody that has any possible

connection, all the council organizations and agencies, all the organizations that are Deaf or hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and so forth.

All the, um... all the Deaf and hard-of-hearing, etc., owned business, small business.

All the Deaf and hard-of-hearing artists of any kind, of medium.

And we think that exhibit hall, the businesses that have products to sell could have a stage to do product demonstration, where they're not included a workshop part

>> VOICE: Mary Hodges has left the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I would not do a whole lot of workshops. I would do a limited number of workshops.

What I would prefer to emphasize is what's called posters. Some of you might remember that from college, where you're in a hallway and you have a poster stand and you stand there and people walk by, look at the pictures or graphs or whatever, and you explain quickly, and this would be a good place where they could explain about their services, their organizations, membership recruitment, all that kind of thing.

And the workshop would be something that would emphasize the whole point of this conference, which would be our teamwork, advocacy, skills, even lessons to learned, basically sign, lip reading, basic technology and something that would promote the connection.

And the most expensive part probably would be providing every possible communication access: CDI, pro-tactile interpreters, CART, loop, support services providers, so on and so forth, that would be the most expensive part.

Again, Deaf and hard-of-hearing entertainers, Friday and Saturday night.

And of course another expensive part would be all the AV equipment we would need for presentations, screens, projectors, video, WiFi, all of that.

And then I would like to see a special session for all the different organizations, agencies' presidents or representatives to come together and really discuss how to come together, okay.

And then end with a town hall, where everybody in the audience could get up and discuss different issues and discuss different ideas.

And so I would call it the five C's. Those of you who do foreign language, don't confuse that with the foreign language, five C's.

It would be community, connection, cooperation, collaboration, and I'll try to think of another C word, I made it co-advocacy. The five C's.

And the schedule -- I mean, I should dream about it when I got up and wrote it all down!

The schedule would just be Friday night and Saturday, that's all, okay.

Friday morning, exhibits and stage setup. Friday afternoon, exhibits and demonstration opens up. Friday night, dessert reception. They can go get a meal in the mall. And entertainment, there would be a keynote speaker, show, whatever.

And Saturday morning would be exhibit, demonstration, workshops, posters.

The same thing Saturday afternoon.

And Saturday, at the end of the day, the town hall to focus on the five C's, for the future. And Saturday night would be a dinner banquet.

How -- can we figure out how we can do this conference? We can ask for help from the Family Café.

And if the motion is passed, it would be good for Sean, if he's going to the Family Café, he can get connections on how to get help; how do you do this? How do you do that?

Department of Health, DeafNation, and then I happen to know a couple of -- last name is Tusulli (sp) who used to do ASL Silent Weekend every year for, like, almost 40 years at

that hotel and all the setting up and things, and they might maybe be willing to help too.

A clever name is logo whatever... I know it's a lot of information I'm throwing at you, but it shows I've been thinking about this. And we've talked about this for several years.

I would like to try to see if we can actually accomplish this.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I know it's a lot of information. But it's a basic idea. Let's try a conference where everybody from the whole spectrum comes together and becomes stronger in supporting each other.

Do I have a motion so that we can discuss this?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I make a motion.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen, I make a motion.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina, I second.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, what does the motion say? [Laughs].

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I make a motion that we -- I make a motion I turn on my mic.

[Laughter].

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I make a motion that we make this an agenda item so that we can discuss it in more detail.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, I make a motion that FCCDHH hosts a --

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Do you want to make the motion? [Laughs].

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Make the motion.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I make a motion that FCCDHH actually hosts a Expo that includes all factions of hearing loss; service providers, people, etc., in 2024. Correct?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: In 2024.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. I second the motion. Will we have a discussion, though?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Now we have a discussion.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Okay. So, my question is, is this going to be, like, a Deaf

Expo kind of thing?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right now I'm calling it Hearing Loss Continuum Conference. That's not a great name. But it would be, you know, all the organizations on the Council, plus more organizations. The whole... I mean, anybody with any relation to anything to do with hearing loss, the whole spectrum, of any age.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: All right. Sounds good.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Any questions or discussion?

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I have a question. Could continuum about your C, your five C, your number five C, can you use that?

>> VOICE: Mary Hodges has joined the conference.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, we can have it in there somewhere.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Okay.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Um... I'm just thinking about how people may view this, and how maybe state agencies might view this as along the lines of entertainment. So we need to be very careful about how we're approaching this. They always -- they tend to shy away from entertainment and if you have workshops, it might make it something that more people would be interested in sponsoring.

Do you see where I'm coming from?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The entertainment would only be Friday night, Saturday night, with the food.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay, okay, I'm not saying that the entertainment going into connection with showing the arts and showing the organizations.

I'm not just looking at it to keep it to a point where we can get state support

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right.

>> CORY PARKER: And not look at it as something that's just not entertainment, but that doesn't have the learning component. I think that's what I'm struggling to say.

We want to keep that learning component in there, somewhere along the line, but not let the learning component overwhelm the conference. And that's a balance, that's a balancing.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, yeah.

>> CORY PARKER: It sounds like a great plan.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: If you go to any conference that's based on workshops and things like that, entertainment is not a big part, but it's, like, it just gives something to relax, with that nice --

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- like at the reception or the banquet, you have speeches or keynote speaker and you have maybe, like, 20 minutes of entertainment.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: A comedian or a dance or whatever.

>> CORY PARKER: Right.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It would be a small part. But the part is to showcase Deaf and hard-of-hearing people to be able to entertain, like with artists and experts and entertainment that don't get as many opportunities to get to showcase all about talents and skills.

>> CORY PARKER: It's a great idea.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We can be heavy on workshops and posters.

>> CORY PARKER: A wonderful idea, yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Any other questions? Okay.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina. I don't really have a question as much as a comment.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes?

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: And that is the reason I think it's very important is because the -- I know the focus is for the Deaf community, but the hearing community is so ignorant of deafness, they are so ignorant that at any moment, any one of them could belong to this community.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: They don't realize that age, they don't realize that you can lose your hearing by listening to all that loud bumbling music.

The interpreters are going to be working for Jesus because the music is so loud every where you go because everybody needs an interpreter!

And the fact we don't have any exposure, I mean, I have a bunch of hearing friends that don't have a clue!

I have been 35 years trying to get them to stop saying "hearing impaired"! You know? I mean, 35 years!

So, I think the Expo or the conference is an excellent idea, to expose the beauty of the art --

>> CORY PARKER: Amen!

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: -- the beauty of the talent, the beauty of the experience of living in a world that is a sound world without sound. That's just fabulous!

You know, and I think if we market it to say, you know, you could belong to this community, you better come find out what it's about. I think it's a great idea!

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, hearing people or anybody would be welcome to come to the conference. But I'm looking at it from more of an advocacy viewpoint, because we, as the Deaf and hard-of-hearing group, are not as strong as some of the other disability groups or minority groups in getting heard, you know?

Like, for example, Family Café represents certain groups of disabilities. And they're HUGE!

And yet hearing loss is probably the number one disability. And we don't have that equivalent representation like other minorities or other disability groups.

And we rarely have -- you know, we are in silos and rarely have a lot of opportunities, because when you're separated in silos, then the numbers are small. But if we combine all of those numbers, then we can become strong, with the bigger numbers, representing everybody, advocating for each other.

One group that's a good example that tried to do that is the Disability Rights of Florida. They have gone to bat for the Deaf several times. And they go to bat for all disabilities, but they included the Deaf and hard of hearing.

So I'm thinking, like, like... like build a house that we all could be in and then invite others to come in. We can have the hearing people come in and it's still kind of... ehhhh... I want to see that we can become strong together and truly represent everybody. And everybody can work together.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes. Amen! I like it.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: And I have one suggestion for a workshop or an experience in the conference, is one that I had many years ago and I have never forgotten, where people would go in with headphones, they have to follow the instructions that they hear. The instructions that they hear are all in a different language.

>> CORY PARKER: Oh!

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: And at the end, nobody got out of the maze. Nobody got out of it, because nobody could understand where to go.

And at the end, the presenter explained that's deafness.

Now, you're asking people to follow instructions and understand things that they aren't hearing, you know.

And it was mind blowing!

And the whole group, it was a job -- on another job I had -- they changed their lives forever.

I've never forgotten it and that's 40 years ago

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wow.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: So we can do something like that. Because hearing people

don't get it! They don't get it!

I'm hearing, late-deafened, and I'm telling ya, they don't get it! [Chuckles]

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah. Well, it's, like -- there's two things that reminds me of a workshop that I've taken twice with the deaf-blind, the deaf-blind provided a workshop where you experience being deaf-blind and they have things to make you wear a blindfold and headphones and trying to eat and walk around and stuff, and that was a good experience! So that's another good example.

But what you're saying, Cindy Simon, she's worked many, many, many years as an audiology and done a lot of counseling, so a change for her when it impacted her personally was when her own husband started losing his hearing and she had to live with it.

And in that case, another viewpoint of the experience was, like, wow, you know... you could know her professionally but to know her personally... yes.

Another thing I want to discuss is the funding, because that's the biggest challenge.

I'm looking at different conferences and I'm thinking we need to get the huge business companies to sponsor. And the two groups that I think that represent the opposites, really, are the cochlear implant companies, they have money! And the video relay services companies, they have money.

If we can get those two range of different companies to sponsor, that would help a lot! Maybe hearing aid companies, the hearing aid manufacturers, maybe. That covers --

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Cory?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: I wanted to go back and comment on the two of you on the experiences.

Like a deaf town or a deaf-blind town or you just go to different booths and you just experience --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, yes, I remember doing that!

>> CORY PARKER: I used to do that in North Carolina. And there was another exercise that I did when I worked for the Commission in Illinois, is where you have two different groups that speak two different languages, as you're talking, what Gina was talking about, where they're never going to trade, they're never going to do what they set out to do, because they can't understand each other. And that gives a -- this is something, like, the U.S. military gives people when they go to different countries, they give that exercise, so it's like being in a different country, like being able to speak the language.

But that's something that, again, that helps people understand our world.

So, um... it would be good to have that. It would be good to have that

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: A great experience, mmm-hmm. Glenna? This is --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, thank you, Cory. Yes, I'm writing down the different workshops, because this would be great, hands-on type of workshops.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And maybe we could have the exhibit and regular state workshop and maybe a third area would be an experience room.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: An experience room and experience what it's like to be Deaf or hard of hearing and experience what it's like to be deaf-blind and experience what it's like to be an ASL signer and that kind of thing.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: You just made me think of something. Call it The Escape Room!

[Laughter].

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: They all love escape room where they can't hear any instructions from anybody! And tell them to get out of there! That's my first thought.

My second thought, this is probably directed to Sean and possibly Shannon. Is it possible, you said we have, like, \$16,000 just sitting there somewhere.

Since we're starting this conversation today, can we earmark that as part of our planning for, you know, now? Because we're doing it in this fiscal year, so why can't we use that money as a baseline and build from there? Can we do that?

>> SEAN ISAAC: When you say -- this is Sean -- when you say "earmark," it sounds to me like you mean hold over. And the problem with general revenue funding, is that it does not cross state fiscal years, we have to spend it by June 30th.

The Council is expected to get budget for next year, but those purchases will have to be made in that particular year, so we can't hold funding over from one year to the next.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Okay, so then -- excuse me, this is Gina -- so some of the things that she knows that she needs for the Expo, she could buy now and then we put in storage -- why are you smiling, Sean?!

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'm not smiling!

[Laughter].

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I'm just thinking, you know -- I've got to leave, I have to put my two cents in there. If she can buy what she needs now with the money that's available now and then we just put the things to the side, not the money, because we can't cross the money over the fiscal year, but we can bring things into the fiscal year, so all her giveaways and prizes or headphones, all that kind of stuff she could buy now and then we put it in storage and it's...

>> SEAN ISAAC: So this is Sean.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: In the bylaws, Section 5, duties and roles... um... Subsection 2(c) it says that we can -- and we've never done this and we should be doing this -- it says that we can apply for and accept funds, grants, gifts, and services from local or state government or federal government or from any other agencies or any other public or

private source and can use the funds for the purposes authorized by this section.

So, that would get them out of that whole council funding. It doesn't have to be council funding, it could be outside funding.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina. I know it doesn't have to be council funding --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: -- but the council should or donate or fund some of it, because we have \$16,000 -- remember we talked about last year, some people's concept, if you don't use it, you lose it. So let's use it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Let's go ahead and buy the things now. You know you're going to need headphones, you know you're going to need giveaways, you know you're going to need tablecloths and buy them now and put them away.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm giving Sean a list of things to order because we things now for the NAD conference anyway, so he can buy a bunch of them to use for all future exhibits and stuff, so it would start to build up.

Okay, great. Karen left the room.

>> CORY PARKER: I think you're talking about promotional items?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes.

>> CORY PARKER: Oh, okay.
Please let me know --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Where's Karen?

>> CORY PARKER: She stepped out, she has a call.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Is there any more discussion? Because I want to have a vote before Gina leaves.

>> CORY PARKER: We can call --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We need four, we need five.

>> CORY PARKER: Let's call her and see if she can put the person on hold.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, if she's on the phone, it's usually an emergency, a call with a patient and we can't interrupt that.

>> CORY PARKER: Who -- do we have -- we have -- we have, uh.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary, are you still on the phone? Mary? Are you still on the phone?

>> MARY HODGES: Yes, I'm here.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: She left.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CORY PARKER: We have five people.

>> MARY HODGES: I was just thinking, are there -- are there pamphlets or are there basic, um... instructional or educational materials that would benefit the hearing community to have -- to learn how to, just basic communication with individuals who are impacted by deafness?

I'm thinking about, like, you know how you can get basic information about different languages? Say, if you're going to a different country and you can have -- just get a little pamphlet or something that says basic words, you know, that you say in a different language.

Are there materials that we could purchase like that that we could have available at the conference?

For example, if I wanted to walk -- if I wanted to say hello to someone, how are you today, or something like that, or very -- you know, just basic kind of communication material?

I know that I had a book and I was looking for it while we were talking, I think I must have taken it home that day, sometimes I speak and sometimes I sign. And it's just, you know, different little things to learn how to say little things.

So, I don't know, something like that. We could certainly purchase that and have those available for -- at any time, as a Council.

But we were talking about awareness and promotion and things like that so that people can become more aware, as Gina indicated, of the world that the hearing world is not aware of the world without sound.

So, just kind of thinking from that perspective.

We do have dollars. These are things that we could use if we had a conference or things that we could use for, you know, different kinds of exhibits when we're doing things.

You had talked about, you know, participating in other conferences, so....

Those are -- I just think those kind of materials are basic materials that we ought to have on hand.

Thank you, Gina -- or, Glenna. I'm here, I was just listening.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, thank you, Mary.

There are materials like that out there. Few of us can look for that online to see what's the best fit for us to give out.

But right now, most of the exhibits we do are Deaf-related conferences, so....

She brought up something I was thinking about... oh....

Go ahead, Cory.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. And I think that we can use those businesses, we can support Deaf businesses who make promotional items.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hmm...

>> CORY PARKER: I think that would be good as well. I'm trying to do that. I'm always ready to support Deaf businesses. And you can make promotional items, I want to do business with you, you know?

That is really, um, really supporting the community and really inspiring to continue to do that.

So, when we look for resources to purchase or, you know, get promotional items, look out for those who already have businesses and support them.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Of course! We're trying to include everything in the conference.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's going to be quite a catch!

Sean, I want to check with you. We are allowed to do something like this, right? Because we talked about it over the years and nobody from DOH said we can't, so...

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I'm not aware of anything that would prevent you from doing this.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And, um... can other people be involved in planning the conference or does it have to be only the Council?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I mean people who have conference planning expertise.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I think that would be fine as well, whether they were volunteers or whether we hired them to help you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We have five people here, and with Karen it would be six.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So, to respect Gina's time, I would -- is there anymore to discuss?

>> CORY PARKER: I move that we close discussion.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I second the movement.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We call for a vote. All in favor, say aye.

>> CORY PARKER: Aye.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Aye.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mary?

>> MARY HODGES: Aye.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Raises hand].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Passed. Thank you!

Now the headaches start in planning this!

This is pretty exciting! Because this is something we've talked about for many years and we've been trying to do something.

Next, I don't know what you call it, a proposal or a concept proposal or something that we shop around to find sponsors now, so that we have money to work with.

And I know that a lot of these big companies, they can't commit two years ahead of time; they have to wait till, like, either one year or six months before, you know, one year. But still, we can do a lot of planning and a lot of outreach, finding all the businesses and organizations and artists and, you know, doing a lot of information, finding a lot of connections, is what we can do, in 2022.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina. I don't know if this would work, but I met a Deaf woman, I think she's from Seattle, but she writes grants for Deaf issues and things.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: And I don't know if we could use someone like that or not. But she has an organization.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: And her particular expertise is to write grants. And she gave us the time that you have to get a state grant in or a federal grant in. And so that's just a thought.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Would DOH have their own grant writers? We're allowed to use people in DOH.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Great question. Usually the grant writers are positioned by program or area. So they don't have just general grant managers out there. Usually the particular area has its own. Does that make sense?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. The other thing I forgot to mention that would help draw people is to connect with different organizations that provide credit for attendance, you know, like CEUs kind of thing. Like, for example, interpreters could get RID CEUs; ASL can get hours; social workers can get, you know... any different professional.

Something we can connect with and we can encourage people to go and they get their hours, they get their credits, whatever, and that would help a lot and make it more professional too.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yeah, this is Sean. We do have an office that provides CEUs. I'll have to check to see if they cover this particular thing. But we can certainly ask.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I do want to make clear that maybe we can talk about educating hearing people, but the first goal is to get everybody together first before we... so, we need to make sure we balance that.

Because it's kind of, like, it's kind of like an in-house thing, hey, we need to work together. We need to get our act together, we need to build ourself up first before we -- the hearing people involved I assume would be professionals or people that have a connection.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina. Glenna, would you consider having a component about deaf abused women? Abuse in the community? Would you have that?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm open to anything.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You know, whatever can be included.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I mean, John Jackson from the Department of Children and Families, that would be an area that he would cover, I would think, so, yeah.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: And this is Gina. Let me know if you want me to continue to look into the woman that writes grants, the Deaf woman. Her focus is Deaf support and she writes grants for Deaf. So just let me know when.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Go ahead and ask. But as far as I know, grants are not normally used for conferences or an Expo. They will be used for very specific workshops. A grant could be used to sponsor somebody, like a keynote speaker or a very specific workshop, and it has to be very, very specific for a grant to work.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Yeah, this is Gina. I was thinking of asking for a grant for support for a person, a Deaf person, that would help with planning, that would help with promotional items, you know, specific jobs, that we could give a stipend to those people. I don't know. No? Sean?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Um... no, no... grants don't tend to be business connected. It has to be educational. But I don't... I don't... we can check, but I don't think that would work.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina. I'm only asking because she said she would write a grant for me to hire this Deaf person. I was looking into abuse among women and I don't have that experience. I met a Deaf woman and she doesn't work and I was asking for a grant and the woman said yes, so...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, okay.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: I was just going to say, this is Sean, and it never hurts to ask. Because there are a lot of grants out there with a lot of different purses, so it never hurts to ask.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I'm going to -- on the chat -- I'm sorry, Lisa, this is Gina -- there is nobody on the chat right now and I'm leaving so somebody needs to monitor it, okay? There's nobody there, but...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Can somebody monitor the chat?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I'm not connected; I'm struggling.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, I can monitor it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, thank you. Safe drive home! I hope you arrive before they close!

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: [Laughs].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Don't rush! Be careful!

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I'm going home I-4, so...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So, we will go back to the agenda now. We will discuss the public comments.

>> CORY PARKER: Please drive safe, Gina. Please drive safe.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I will. A little bit fast, but it will be safe!

[Laughter].

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Cory, I'm going to remember those speed traps, okay?!

[Laughter].

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Bye, Lashay, good to see you again. Bye, interpreters! I love you! Bye!

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Debbe? Debbe? Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [No response].

>> CORY PARKER: She put something in the chat box.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Sean is looking at the chat box.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Also the chat in Zoom.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: There's something in the chat box.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: There's a chat on Zoom, you have to check box. Sometimes they use Zoom, sometimes they use the chat.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Check both chat and Zoom.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: On the bottom of your Zoom, where it says more. It's not lit up, so...

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Bye, Lisa. I love that bling bling! I'm going to steal it next time!

[Laughter].

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Bye.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna? This is Sean. Debbe, can you type it again, please?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [No response].

>> CORY PARKER: It's in the CART chat.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Are we breaking now? What are we doing? Are we breaking now?

[Pause].

>> LISA (CART CAPTIONER): Debbe said in the chat: Have Deaf and hard-of-hearing authors.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, thank you, Debbe. I have that added. Okay. We need to do public comments.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna? Glenna? Can you explain what is meant by have Deaf and hard-of-hearing authors?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. When I mentioned Deaf and hard-of-hearing small business owners, Deaf and hard-of-hearing artists, Deaf and hard-of-hearing people who --

>> SEAN ISAAC: You're saying invite them to --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- it could be an autobiography, or it could be --

>> SEAN ISAAC: I gotcha. Thank you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- poetry. Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: Have you ever heard of... um... it happens -- it happened a couple years ago, maybe 15, 20 years ago, Kentucky had -- I forgot what you call it in Kentucky --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Deaf Festival.

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah, that's it. It's similar. The last time I went was 2005. Now, that is really similar to what you're talking about, the Deaf Festival, yes. I wonder, do they still have it? Do they still have it?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, I think so, yes.

>> CORY PARKER: Do you remember the director's name? Oh, before, it was Bobby Beth, I don't know if that's right, but now I forget who runs the agency. But that's a good person to reach out to say hey, tell me how yours is structured now.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CORY PARKER: Um, yeah, when you were talking about that, I was thinking about the Deaf Festival in Kentucky, yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you. That was fun! That was good. Okay. We need to get to public comment --

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, yes, Deaf Festival, there you go.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CORY PARKER: Kentucky Deaf Festival, yes, yes, it's still going on.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Can Shannon work for the Council?! She's been so helpful already!

[Laughter].

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. She's already working for the Council.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, oh, in charge of the travel?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Well done!

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- and things like that?

>> SEAN ISAAC: In many ways, and growing!

>> CORY PARKER: It's really helpful for all of us who have experienced different things in our professional lives, you know, and I've been, you know, 25 years working in the field. And when we think of new things now, it's good to pull from those things that we've learned. And modernize it and try to currently -- bring it current, the things that we experience.

I know sometimes our different groups may have a backlash on the terms that we use for this.

When you were talking about hearing loss, I was thinking maybe the Deaf community might not like that. Or... but, again, they have to understand that we're not only Deaf-focused. We're not excluding late-deafened, hard of hearing.

We're including people who have vision loss and hearing loss. And those who have vision loss and who are hard of hearing as well, you know.

So, you know, it's a broad spectrum.

And so when we go to each -- when we invite people, we make them -- we make sure that the statement that we put in our invitation letter reflects that.

I think that's important to remember.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, I agree, that we have to really be careful with the wording of everything we do.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And I know when I use the word "spectrum," and I'm thinking maybe that's not a good idea to use that word, because some people would associate it with autism. They use that word already.

>> CORY PARKER: Right, but you're not meaning spectrum in the autism spectrum, you're meaning the spectrum of hearing loss. And it's just another descriptive word of something --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I think maybe we should change it to a "continuum."

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Continuum is another C.

[Laughter].

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So I'm thinking maybe use that. We can keep it very, very plain and not be clever with a word, just call it FCCDHH Continuum Conference and just leave it plain, vanilla, and not be clever in that way, you know. And maybe can't say the name of our council anyway!

>> CORY PARKER: Harmless. I like it!

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah. We need to -- okay. Public comments. Okay. I want to maybe discuss the ones that were different, because the ones that were the same that we've heard before, I don't think we need to discuss that over and over. Many of

them related to the quality of interpreters, the appropriate use of VRI.

I think we can just add that to the pile that we already have related to the quality of interpreters and the use -- the appropriate use of VRI.

So I think we can agree on that. We don't need to discuss that ad nauseam.

So, we'll put that -- what we'll do is discuss the ones that were different.

The first one was from Amy Turner, who presented on the Ft. Myers Deaf Service Center, and she had a very good point, is that there be some kind of regular state or federal funding for interpreting services for people with multiple disabilities, low income, Deaf children, people who don't have easy access to getting -- to fight for their rights to get interpreting services.

Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: When she was talking about that, it made me remember about there was a fund -- I'm not sure if we still have that -- but in Chicago, there is a fund setup, I don't know in Illinois or Chicago, there was a fund, an interpreting fund set up to where... um... they paid for folks who funerals, things of that nature, where they didn't have folks who could afford to pay for an interpreter or, um, agencies that won't pay past the first time. They could draw from that fund, an emergency fund? I'm not sure.

It would be nice if we could draw a structure from that. I don't know other states... I need to research and find out more information

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Where would the money come from?

There is another example is... um... when this woman was running kind of a Deaf Service Center -- not really, though -- it was a program under an organization and they gave her some money where they paid for the interpreter, first time they went to a doctor or the job to do or whatever, and they --

>> CORY PARKER: Wow!

[Pause].

>> INTERPRETER: She's just bringing the water.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Are they getting ready for another meeting? Is that for another meeting?

>> CORY PARKER: She brought us some water? [Laughs].

>> INTERPRETER: Sean, I just asked for some water and she said we'll give you some water. That was not -- that's just something she just gave us. So that's not anything extra.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We could have had that yesterday!

[Laughter].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: But I wanted anyway too.

>> CORY PARKER: Let's fill up, let's fill up!

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah!

[Laughter].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, so what they did was kind of like providing interpreting services, but at the same time educational. For example, you go do a doctor, and she herself would go and interpret the first time, and then when they finished, she would educate them about how ADA requirement applies to interpreters, and how it's their duty to pay for an interpreter.

It's a business write-off, blah, blah, blah, and hopefully they would use interpreters after they see what a difference it made.

So they did not provide interpreting services to be ongoing, office, like, first time exposure and see how the interpreter makes a difference. Now you take over.

So that was done for a few years and then I think it stopped. Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: When she was talking about that yesterday, that made me think, okay, was the consumer a VR consumer or a blind services consumer?

So, if that person had, um, a case with VR or DBS, both agencies have something that, with... um... it's called the dual case.

So, if they were to open a case with both agencies, both agencies can come together and support that consumer in that area.

So, so to speak, if she went to -- for independent living and they didn't have -- they didn't want to pay for the interpreter, DBS can support paying for that interpreter. Vision loss and hearing loss. Or vision loss with an additional disability, regardless of it, both agencies can support communication access.

So, I think that would be my first step to ask, to inspire. Are you a consumer of these agencies? If you're not, become a consumer.

And then that way they can support the communication access for the independent living services.

There's no reason why they can't do that anymore.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, yeah, I'm aware that the Deaf Service Center and CIL, they try to encourage their consumers/clients, whatever, to be supportive of their agency --

>> CORY PARKER: But they also, they also need to support communication access. They can't just put it off to another agency to pay for it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right.

>> CORY PARKER: You're still complying under the ADA. You still have to provide that communication access.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Um... anybody else?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Again, this is tied to my mantra: We need to have a budget-line item built in to provide interpreting services.

Okay. Moving on. Ricky McClain, his only comment was connected to the website up -- updating stuff. And Debbe, you said you already will take care of that

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [Nods head].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And the rest of it goes on to -- if you see anything like that, tell Sean about it so he can tell Debbe about it, anything that we see that needs fixing on the website.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna?

[No response].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you for that. And I appreciate you, Debbe, for checking the website.

We routinely check the website to make sure the links are working and to make sure the information is updated.

We have done that, so if there are any corrections or phone numbers that need to be changed and updated or information that is -- that needs to be updated, please let us know. We'd like to keep that information as up-to-date as possible. So thank you for that.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Next one is the woman that's trying to take care of her elderly father, while she had difficulty herself. And Mary said to contact area Agencies on Aging. So I will take care of that. I will go home and find local information and pass that on to her and see what happens.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hearing aids, VRI, interpreters.

Oh -- oh, thank you!

Professional or state certification or licensing or professional testing. Do we have any discussion on that? On what is possible?

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: If I understand correctly, this person is talking about wishing that there was professional testing and accommodations for people that don't understand?

That person would really need to have somebody -- oh, I don't know... they need to contact the appropriate person that or the disability services of that group and to say -- to go in and say look, I need some accommodations. Maybe if somebody could sign the test to me and I could answer in ASL, that kind of a thing.

I don't know how that they do that, with the driver's license places.

But I don't know, people who need to take that test usually have someone come in, they

fight, fight, fight, they recognize and they say I need this and they allow it to happen. I don't know how that process works. But I've seen it work where the person is supported. Um... I need more details before I can offer some assistance with that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, I notice one thing that you mentioned yesterday, I thought that could be more possible is to provide test preparation.

>> CORY PARKER: Test preparation.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Test preparation. I think that -- they could do all the signing and the interpreting and all of that during the test presentation and study the materials and all of that, that would probably be easier to ask for it than the actual test itself, where they worry about the validity and reliability and blah, blah, blah, you know.

>> CORY PARKER: Right.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. That's it, that's the only ones that were different.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. I'm going to pass on the public comments papers to Sean to file. There's three different dates and three different times they were collected.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you, this is Sean. So, I also have the information regarding the public requests sent to the Florida Department of Health and the questions that were asked. Would you like me to present those now?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Let me see the time....
Yes, you can do that, yes.

>> SEAN ISAAC: How much time do you want to use?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: 20 minutes.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. And you asked about some statistics and we can talk about that as well once I go through this. But the information that I have is that the Department received approximately 20 requests for information, between February 3rd and today's meeting.

Most of those requests were for resources or information regarding hearing and hearing loss.

I have... give me one second...

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: I have about four that are requesting services, school resources. And what I can do is read through each of these or I can give you an overview. How have you done it in the past?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Overview.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Overview? Okay. So I'll give you an example of some of the questions I received.

There was one question regarding are there any schools for the Deaf in Pasco and Hernando County? And so usually what we're doing is providing information regarding the deaf -- or the School for the Blind -- the school in St. Augustine for the deaf-blind.

There was one comment explaining that --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Hold on. Yeah, can you send them -- were they specifically asking about residential schools for the Deaf? Or are they asking about programs? Because if you send them the information about FSDB, you should also send them -- the county that's responsible for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing program in each county, you have to -- every time they do it on a county level to find the person who is in exceptional education and find the person who is responsible for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing program.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And they could find which school had that program and you need to add that information.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Thank you for that. And usually we provide information regarding the IEP programs for each county, but that clarification is helpful for us as well.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well... let's see, IEP could be in all schools and it could be one student alone and a school may get an IEP.

And the IEP program could be a self-contained classroom or it could be a thing with interpreters or it could be a resource room or it could be an itinerant teacher, there are a lot of ways that a Deaf and hard-of-hearing program is done, you know, not all counties offer all of those things.

So that's why you need to find who is the person responsible for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing program and see exactly what they offer.

Some offer full rein, some offer nothing, and FSDB is a tiny county -- some counties may only have one Deaf and hard-of-hearing person and some may have a larger population and so that information needs to be added.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Thank you. Any other comments? Cory?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: I'm trying to think of which appropriate agency, EEES or special exceptional children, um... I would -- I've never heard of a program -- with an IEP.

[Background noise in hallway].

>> CORY PARKER: Well, thinking back to the Florida Educators for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, that group would be able to direct you to --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, um... in DOE, they have a state person responsible for Deaf and hard-of-hearing --

>> CORY PARKER: Right.

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- and there are all those programs and you need to find that contact person --

[Talking over one another].

>> CORY PARKER: But there's nobody in that position. That person has left the position?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, really? Oh, my God.

[Talking over one another].

>> CORY PARKER: That person left at the beginning of the year. And so I was thinking if you connect to... um...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, that --

>> CORY PARKER: DSI --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, if she left, there has to be somebody there doing her job temporarily, temporarily.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay, okay. I don't want the parents to get lost.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right.

>> CORY PARKER: In the shuffle.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes.

>> CORY PARKER: So I would contact that particular county's, the district person or that particular special education and let them guide from there.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right, yeah, you can do both at the state level that -- in the particular program. Even though she left, they would still have the information, a database somewhere of all the programs, they would have that.

And then the county, you tell them, they go to the exceptional education, or whatever they call it, you ask for the person who is in charge of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing program and then they go from there.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay, this is Sean. Thank you for that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Maybe you'd better go through each one.

[Laughter].

>> CORY PARKER: When I find it, I will send it to you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That sounds great. Thank you.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. A couple of questions regarding interpreter training programs. So if you want me to read them, I can read them. I did not provide the responses, but I do have the questions that they are asking us.

>> CORY PARKER: Interpreter training program. Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Just a second... my computer is thinking about opening up here... okay.

The question is: I'm looking for a course with you, you guys. I would like to have more information about it. And it's just -- those are the type of general questions that we received.

But in the subject line, it says: Interpreter training program.

And so what sometimes the Department has to do is request more information and then search for what we have on that.

And then we would refer them to our website that does provide information regarding interpreter training programs. So we get questions like that, okay.

We got a couple responses regarding hearing aids, questions regarding hearing aids.

[Pause].

>> SEAN ISAAC: The first one asks the following: I am inquiring about any assistance available for seniors with problems with hearing. I am 71 and have poor hearing, tinnitus, and sleep apnea which has affected my hearing.

I am near 50-year old -- oh, I am near 50 years as a golf professional and I still rely on my teaching to make a living. Any assistance or information on possible resources to help reduce my cause would be greatly appreciated.

So, again, we provide some websites regarding hearing aids and that information on our website, as well as financial assistance for those, okay. So that's what we shared.

Yes, Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. I just still find it astounding that in this day and age, hearing aids are not covered. I mean, it's... if you want to talk about all the way from the very top of healthcare in this country, throughout all of the health plans, how, um... how insignificant their views are of the morbidity and burden of hearing loss and deafness, that they are asking folks to continually pay out of pocket for necessary hearing aids.

Almost every healthcare plan has a vision plan, right. Almost every one does. So you

can get your glasses covered. But something as critical as communication is not covered.

And I'm... you know, I'm -- I think that was the big push for the over-the-counter hearing aids. But then you're flapping out in the wind with the hearing aids, because you have really minimal professional, individualized professional guidance on how to use them, if they're the right ones for you, and how to tailor them.

I don't know how this is not national... uh... Legislature to mandate that hearing aids are covered. At least in part.

Um... you know, I'm a physician and I need hearing aids. But even, you know, I'm, like, taken aback by the \$6,000 cost for hearing aids. And what if it doesn't really provide what I need down the road? Or if I have a change to another hearing aid, that's another 6,000.

I mean, that's just... it blows me away.

That in our country, the richest country for healthcare, that we don't prioritize hearing and communication access, to the extent that it's needed.

So I just thought I would hop on a soapbox [chuckles].

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. My hearing aids are my first adult purchase [laughs]. I had to pay for them. And I found a way to do it.

Now, they do have, what do you call it... FFAST, the Florida... assistive technology and... I forget what it's called... FFAST

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Assistive whatever...

>> CORY PARKER: Technology.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, I know what you're talking about.

>> CORY PARKER: They have the New Horizons loan and that you can -- they will help you with funding, and along with trying to pay for adaptive equipment.

And through that program, I was able to get help for my hearing aids.

And one of the things that they do, they talked about hearing aids not being covered by insurance is because they break often. And they're not durable past five years, no matter what it is.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mine is, mine is. You take care of your hearing aids properly, they last!

The kids, of course...

>> CORY PARKER: Well, insurance companies will pay for cochlears.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, my -- I paid for -- one time, VR had a one-time lifetime where they would pay for the hearing aids for working people. And I took advantage of that, that one time.

But before and after that, growing up, my parents paid for it, I paid for it, and then finally, for the first time, my insurance covered the hearing aids, up to -- if you are in network, they would have paid 2,000 for two hearing aids. Out of network, 1,000 for two hearing aids.

At that time, my -- the person I get my hearing aids from, she was trying to get into the network, but they were so overwhelmed with applications, and she was still out of network.

So I was stuck with paying -- getting only \$1,000.

Of course, that was a fraction of the total cost.

But, it's changing, it's changing, and more and more insurance companies are offering

to pay for hearing aids.

I don't think any of them are yet, as to where they cover the total cost of the hearing aids.

But it's changing.

The state has passed bills to have --

>> CORY PARKER: It never will be.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The state Medicare system to cover hearing aids for children, so that opens the door for us to push it, to continue it.

Because, you know, what happens to children everyday, you know, they become 18, and --

>> CORY PARKER: And children.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: So think about the people who are financially limited and being told hey, you know, buck up, you can do this, just pay for it, find a way.

I think they're underserved. And if you say well, the insurance companies will pay for cochlear implants, I want you to think about the message that is to people who are deaf or significantly hard of hearing, we will cut into your head and we'll cover a good bit of that, but we're not going to let you have a hearing aid, which is, um, really a lower-level of care. It's actually more economical for the insurance companies to cover that in part than just to say you're on your own or we'll cut into your brain or cut into your skull kind of thing

>> CORY PARKER: Well, Karen, let's be careful. We need to be neutral --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Wait. We only have six minutes left until break, so I would like to have Sean finish reporting about the statistics, please.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. I will skip some of the other ones that we've already discussed.

There was a couple of e-mails asking how they could volunteer and what opportunities were there to provide volunteerism.

And so we have some information on our website. We're still looking for more. So that's always an area we can improve on our website, in my opinion.

There was an accessibility question from a company regarding the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in particular. So I'd like to read that one to you.

If you'll give me just a second to find that one.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This was sent April 28th and the question was: I am wondering who I can talk to in regards to accessibility at the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing HOH, which I'm not sure what that is.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Hard of hearing.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Oh, hard of hearing? Okay. We are an accessibility agency that

works with agencies and other organizations to assist in making content, videos, new-hire employment, training, emergency, public broadcast, forms, documents, educational, health information, webinars, audio content, and etc.

Accessible to -- accessible in ASL to Deaf people or people who are Deaf.

And then they sent a couple of links as an example. They said this will be an invaluable for Deaf and hard-of-hearing residents in Florida. Who is the best person to contact?

And, of course, we gave them my information. They have not yet contacted me. But I will submit out to the group, this may be a resource for us here at the Council.

Any questions about that?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. It sounds like a company looking for business. It sounds like a company looking for business, not looking to help you with your work. I think they're just looking for --

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, yes, yes, yes. That's just business. Advertisement.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is a business, that is confirmed, it is the -- the address is from Utah. So they may be --

>> CORY PARKER: I've gone the same before.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Ignore it.

>> SEAN ISAAC: [Laughs]. Okay.

Um... I can send the others to you all for you to see. They exist as e-mails and I can send it out to the group, if you guys have anything else you want me to share?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No need to, no. Just keep it, you don't need to forward the e-mails to us. Just keep it for the record, that's all.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. And then that's all I have to offer right now.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We have two minutes until break. You said you wanted to add something more about the handbook?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Um... this is Sean. Maybe --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yesterday you were asking to have time this morning to --

>> SEAN ISAAC: No, I just wanted to make sure you all had an opportunity to let me know of any additions or suggestions that you had for this. Um...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's homework, that's homework.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yes, yes. Gina provided me some suggestions and I can read hers real quick, just so you all have an understanding of what she was thinking.

She wanted me to look at the DOH website link and try to shorten that link.

It is sort of a long link to a number. You can just look at the link itself.

So one of the things that we've done in the Department with other programs is shorten up the links to make it something that people can remember easily, maybe just one or two words. So I'll have our IT folks take a look at that, okay.

And then she wants us to kind of re-write the meeting section, to provide some additional qualifications and descriptions.

And then create a flow chart for the travel. Which we have a timeline, but the flow chart is something that we will try to add.

And then I had a question regarding the travel timeframe.

Were those reasonable, the ones that I put out there for this particular? Or do you need more time, in general?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: What do you mean? The time?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Well, do you need more time to submit the TAR or... 'cause it was pretty much a week or so. So do you need more than that or is that sufficient?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I got it smoothing... [chuckles].

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. Who specifically?

>> SEAN ISAAC: You all, as far as -- this is Sean -- travelers for the Council, or the council members, your TARs, your travel authorization, do you have enough time to submit your information?

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yeah? Okay. I would suggest the timeline --

>> CORY PARKER: I will give you mine as soon as I get back home.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That sounds good. Yeah, I will adjust the timeframe a little bit. But please provide input if you have more. That's all I have to say about that. And that's all I have.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Perfect, it's 10:30, break at 10:30. Be back at 10:45. And what we have left is to discuss the bylaws and then planning for the next meeting in August.

Okay. Break. Be back at 10:45. Thank you.

Oh, and anybody who wants a clear mask, take some home

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Okay, let me take some.

[Break].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It is 10:45.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Welcome back to the Florida Coordinating Council for

the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The last break before we break for the day!

The new business was moved up to discuss the FCCDHH Continuum Conference. So that was switched with discussing the bylaws changes and suggestions.

However, we only have an hour and 15 minutes left, and that makes me a little nervous, because I know there's a lot of discussions with the bylaws.

Again, I'm going to push it down to go ahead and discuss the August meeting, because we need to get that discussed now. And then whatever time is left, we'll discuss the bylaws, which I know can't be completed today; it's just too much.

So, Sean, I will ask you to go ahead with the August meeting planning and the other things you had listed underneath there, okay?

Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Thank you. Before we move there, I just want to mention a couple things, or one thing that was in the chat before we left to break. And I'm not -- I can't remember if it was stated before, but Debbe mentioned Florida Blue Cross/Blue Shield pays up to \$500 per hearing aid for most hearing aids. And that place -- most hearing aids place allow you to make payment, evidently on those, so I just wanted to mention that, okay?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The particular plan, the Florida Blue, which is under Blue Cross/Blue Shield, they allow up to 2,000 if it was in network, and up to 1,000 if it was out of network, so I guess it depends on which insurance plan you pick.

Okay. Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. Regarding the August 2022 meeting, again, the plans are to meet in Hollywood, I believe you said August 12-13, if I'm not mistaken?

And if there are any additional requests regarding that meeting, please let me know.

There was a comment from the public that we need to try to promote our meetings better to get better attendance. And what I was stating is that it would be better for us to plan ahead of time a little bit more.

So I have created a schedule for the locations of our future meetings, in which we talked about yesterday, but I would also like to go ahead and let you know that the public notice has been provided for that meeting already.

However, I will have to amend it to include some Zoom information and other information that becomes necessary.

But, it would be nice for us to be able to go ahead and plan the agenda now, if we can do so.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Um... about drawing people in, I would be involved with that, because that's my area.

Are we allowed to pay for food?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. The State is not allowed to pay for food. The thing that you perhaps could do, and I would have to get clarification just to make sure, maybe you could get a sponsor somehow to pay for food. But the State itself is not allowed to pay for food.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Because if we offer free food [chuckles], then the people will come!

[Laughter].

>> SEAN ISAAC: Yeah, again, that might be something that some of our partners can help us with. Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. I was thinking, um... maybe we could tap different organizations in the area. Not necessarily about food, but more about pulling people to the meeting, like I reached out to Lisa to pull people for this meeting, as you asked me to. But no one's here.

Maybe we could do that earlier this year, maybe to say, to contact people in the Hollywood area, to say hey, Florida Coordinating Council is coming to your area, please come.

Um... [Sighs]... I'm trying to think of organizations in the area

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, I'll do it, because I know different organizations. Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach, they all can come --

>> CORY PARKER: You're more --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- that's a good location with that, but I'll take care of that.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: But the most important thing we always are waiting for is where is the hotel? I can do it all in one, save the date and let the organizations and people know to save the date, and then the information -- one of the critical things is the hotel, we need to know that as soon as possible.

And it's always been last minute. And that's always caused problems. You know, by that time, people have other plans, so that's really important

>> SEAN ISAAC: And this is Sean. And we're going to be working on that as soon as we get back to the office, so hopefully that you'll have that in plenty of time and that won't be a barrier.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Chat. Is something in chat?

>> SEAN ISAAC: There is a comment in chat. It says is the next meeting August 4-5 or 12-13?

What has been done in the past? Is it the first week or --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We always have it the second week, Thursday-Friday, and it's... the 4-6.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Is there any conflict with the second week?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: November is the only month there's a conflict because it's Veterans' Day, that's the only month we put it the first week. But the other times we do it

the second week, Thursday and Friday.

>> CORY PARKER: So which is it?

>> INTERPRETER: That's the 11-12.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: August 12-13 -- no, August doesn't have any holidays, that I know of.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Okay. Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I will be out of the state during that time and in the mountains and I don't know if I'll have cell service, or just to let you know, the week of the 11th?

>> SEAN ISAAC: The dates are the 11th and the 12th, excuse me.

>> CORY PARKER: Debbe has a comment.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: The agenda says August 4-5.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right, yes, right, but that's the first week. We normally hold our meetings the second week, so we're correcting Sean that it's only November we do it the first week, because that's Veterans' Day.

So, you mean that if we left it the first week, you would be able to come?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Mmm-hmm.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, okay....

Would everybody that's here be able to come the 4-5 or 12-13?

>> CORY PARKER: Either one is good for me. Either one's good for me.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Both are fine for me.

>> CORY PARKER: So which one can you come to, Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: The first week.

>> CORY PARKER: Let's do the first week. We need as many people as we can and do it the right way.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, and it's probable that some of the people from Tallahassee would not come because it's so far. Like Mary and John Jackson.

>> CORY PARKER: I'm just going to fly.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, yeah, it's very easy to fly, because the Hollywood Airport is --

>> CORY PARKER: Or Fort Lauderdale.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The full name is Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood Airport, but yeah, that's very easy.

>> CORY PARKER: Now, my next question for those people who are going to fly, is it possible to purchase the flight, like, early, keeping in mind those flight costs are really expensive.

So, I would invest in buying mine now, if possible. Is that possible, Sean?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. So the benefits of us determining a time, location early is so that we can get some of these things done earlier.

I would not purchase your ticket until it is approved. We have to route that for approval.

But now that we have a location and a date, we can go ahead and submit that pretty quickly. We're just waiting on the hotel agreement.

So, I would hold off until we get that

>> CORY PARKER: Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: And you get your TAR. And once you get your TAR and get it back and signed and date it, and yes, it's approved, then you can move forward.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CORY PARKER: Thank you, Sean.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So we're leaving it 4-5, Thursday, Friday? And you better come.

[Laughter].

>> INTERPRETER: There's another comment in the chat.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Sorry, this is Sean. There's a comment from Mary Hodges. The first week is also fine for me -- I'm sorry, she said the first week is fine for me.

>> CORY PARKER: Great, wonderful.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, great. Thanks, Mary. Amazon? Next?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Oh, I'm sorry. We did receive a phone call and an e-mail from Amazon, stating that they wanted to present to us regarding appointment in the state of Florida.

I've spoken with our leadership and they thought that would be fine, because it does speak to some of the issues that are affecting the public in general, as well as the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

So, we mentioned that that would be okay. We talked to the Chair, she seems supportive as well.

And so we reached back out to Amazon and stated that would be fine.

We need to give them, I guess, some directions and guidance as to how long the

presentation may want to -- we wanted to allow

>> CORY PARKER: Oh, they want to present at the next meeting?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you, Cory.

This is Glenna. Traditionally, presentations have been an hour. There's only one time we had an hour and a half and that's because part of it was a hands-on activity. That was with Jenny Locy, okay.

What is the point of their presentation?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The specific topic?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Again, they wanted to mention what accommodations they provide for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community. And I did not get anymore details other than that.

So, it just seemed like they reached out and they knew that this was a tough time for everyone, but they've had some experiences that they wanted to share and some accommodations that they wanted to share. That's what I gathered from our conversation.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So do they want to explain how they accommodate their Deaf and hard-of-hearing workers?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Mmm-hmm.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: There seems to be more and more Deaf people getting jobs at Amazon and also some of them quitting quickly, because it's really difficult working conditions. We'll have to ask them about that!

Yes?

>> CORY PARKER: I wanted to make a comment about that, it's really, really, really good thing that a company like Amazon is providing accommodations for folks who are disabled, namely the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

We have seen that as a positive thing as far as folks getting jobs.

Now, the job itself, okay, there's a variety of positions, you know, just like the post office, you know

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah.

>> CORY PARKER: Just, you know, no different than any other job, you know, that you work at.

But I really need to commend and recognize Amazon for their accessibility. And I think that is wonderful that someone like us provide them with that platform to say hey, look what we're doing in the community, you know?

So I think that is a great, great opportunity to recognize and say thank you, thank you for thinking -- I know Disney does that as well. Is it Disney or...

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, Mark... Mark...

>> CORY PARKER: See, you know the person --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I forget the last name.

[Talking over one another].

>> CORY PARKER: You know the person.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, I know his brother.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes. That's just amazing.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Mark Jones and his brother is Paul Jones, yes.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes. And it's just amazing how these companies are recognizing the value of having a Deaf and hard-of-hearing person at -- and their productivity as workers.

So, of course, VR, we're always in the business to make sure that folks get and maintain a job. And I think that's just wonderful to recognize that in Florida.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Maybe we can have Amazon present and we can ask Mark Jones to come present.

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah, and split the time, and split the time.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, one can do it Thursday, one can do it Friday morning, or Thursday morning and Thursday afternoon. And Mark Jones is in Orlando, it would be three hours, maybe three and a half hours he can come.

>> CORY PARKER: Wonderful.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I have his e-mail address; I'll send it to you.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I thank you for your comments.

I want to mention this as well, because the Department did not make this decision lightly. Typically, from my understanding, the history is that businesses that focus on the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community or agencies that focus on the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community are typically the ones that are provided a platform to discuss what they're doing.

We didn't want this to be a free infomercial platform [chuckles], but because of the current climate we're in, because of jobs and employment and because of what we're coming out of, when it comes to the pandemic and the challenges that we've seen in employment, that this was for a public good and that it was something that would be valuable to the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

Please give me the opportunity to reach back out to Leadership to ask about Disney and others who may also be able to help provide some input for this important topic, okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I wonder, again, you have to ask the higher ups about allowing Amazon and Disney, they can each do a one-hour presentation and they have to be very,

very, very, very focused on exactly how they provide accommodations in different ways, you know, and that's it.

And then... maybe allow to have a table, like a little expert table with material, because that maybe would help draw more Deaf and hard-of-hearing people looking for jobs or looking for opportunities to come in here and see what they provide. Oh, you provide that? Okay, maybe I'll apply and... I don't know how DOH would feel about that, but, hey, we're trying to help people, so we can help them get jobs, get access, and if they connect with the right person that's interested in providing accommodations.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I think that's an excellent comment.

My question is, do we have some stats on which companies and industries are making those accommodations? Amazon is one. I don't know of others.

But it seems like there's kind of a lot of interest now in accommodating in business places. You know, since the Super Bowl and then I think Amazon advertised by -- advertised in the Super Bowl and there was sign language interpretation in that act

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I don't know if the Department is gathering that type of data. I don't know if you all know how to find that data or how to post and find that data?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: I was thinking in terms of a biennial report and showing how post-COVID that we're getting back to work for the Deaf and hard of hearing.

And I think this was -- I'm looking forward to that. I'm looking to include that into my report about the companies now appearing that are hiring our Deaf and hard-of-hearing community to work by providing accommodations, somewhere along the lines of -- I didn't say it right -- but that's the point that I think would be good information to include in our report.

So, that's another thing how it can benefit us as a group, as a --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. And it's a small way of showing that we're doing something.

>> CORY PARKER: Yes.

[Laughter].

>> CORY PARKER: We're on the map now.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I like -- it makes sense that they, Amazon, is enthusiastic to do that and Disney has done that all along. But it shows that after COVID and so many businesses and companies are desperate for workers, that they're finding outstanding workers who are disabled people to best in the whole range, and I'm just hoping that they're also changing, not just the accommodations, but they're changing the hiring requirements to be more flexible in what they require, instead of the same ol' traditional requirements, that you must have college... you know, person can have a lot of experience without college.

But anyway... we need to move on. It's time we need to move on.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. The TASA laws that you mentioned yesterday that we need to discuss what we want in that TASA law and so we really need to hear more from Cecil what he wants in that TASA law, so that means you have to contact Cecil when he's ready to come and speak about that.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I was just going to state that Cecil Bradley did reach out to me personally and asked if he could provide some information regarding the TASA law to the Council, and he wanted to come to the August meeting, that that would be a convenient time for him as well.

So, if that's agreeable with the Council, I'll add that to the agenda also.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, yes, yes.

>> CORY PARKER: So we're going to have -- so we're going to have Amazon, so we're going to have Disney, and then we're going to have Cecil present? Three? In Hollywood?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We can do Thursday morning, Thursday afternoon, Friday morning.

>> CORY PARKER: Will we have time to do our business?

[Laughter].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's when we'll go from 9:00 to 6:00!

[Laughter].

>> CORY PARKER: Okay! Oh, wow... okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, the other thing that he mentioned, the biennial report deadline, we already discussed that. We already have a plan in place, we have Cory organizing that.

But, again, you know, at most we might have three presentations. We might not get them all anyway.

>> CORY PARKER: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Anything more about the meeting for the August meeting?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. The only other thing on the agenda is the biennial report deadlines. We were talking about creating some deadlines then. I know we talked about some deadlines yesterday.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, we talked about that yesterday.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Correct. I just wanted to mention it because it was on the report, that's all -- I mean on the agenda. Okay.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. I think that, you know, we're going to do our first meeting June-ish, I don't remember.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Right, June 27th?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Yeah, I think we had said the 16th and we moved it out.

>> CORY PARKER: June 27th -- no, the 17th?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I thought we said the 16th and then we moved it. But by then, I think we'll have a better idea --

>> CORY PARKER: The 16th.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Okay. I just want to be really, um, clear that it will be a team effort.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's the 16th, yeah.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: We said the 16th and then I thought we moved it. We did not? Maybe we moved it from the 9th to the 16th, maybe that's what it was. And 4:00-ish, 4:30? What did we say?

>> CORY PARKER: 4:00 p.m.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, 4:00 p.m.

>> CORY PARKER: Are we going to do a Zoom meeting?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Yeah, I'll set that up.

We don't already have a meeting on June 16th, do we? Because as soon as I started to put it in, it said Bylaws Committee. But maybe that's just my thing? I don't know why that's --

>> CORY PARKER: Bylaws Committee? No.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I don't know why that popped up. Maybe it just decided an old meeting I had in there or something. Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I appreciate the clarification. I don't have any other meetings scheduled except for June 16th that would discuss --

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: The biennial report, right?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Right, that was discussed during this meeting, yesterday and today. Am I forgetting one?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: No, I think it just -- it saw me type in FCCDHH and then

immediately went to bylaws and it said 3:00 o'clock which I think is presumptuous.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. No, we haven't discussed the bylaws. We have two committee meetings, June 16th for the report and July 21 for the letter.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: July what?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: July 21st for the letter, 4:00-5:30, for the letter, the EMOT Committee. We don't have a meeting yet for the bylaws.

>> SEAN ISAAC: So June 16th, I'm sorry, this is Sean. June 16th is for the biennial report.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes.

>> SEAN ISAAC: And July 21st is for the letter writing committee.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes. And we have the time, July 21st, 4:00-5:30. We don't have a time for June 16th, so if you want to set that up to be 4:00 o'clock?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Yeah, yeah.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. 4:00 o'clock. 4:00-5:30.

Okay. Anything more for the August meeting?

Sean, since you're starting to process today -- thank you thank you -- when do you think we would know about the hotel?

>> SEAN ISAAC: That's a great question. What that process involves is us initiating that discussion in the area, gathering quotes, um... once we've decided on a vendor, then proceeding to negotiate the terms with that vendor, and that involves our attorneys basically talking to their attorneys or to that end, so that could take two to three weeks, it could take a little longer. It's unpredictable.

My prediction, though, is in bottom up, we should know at least some of the specifics. One, if the venue is available; and two, if it looks like we'll be able to get a contract in place.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So because the meeting -- this is Glenna -- so this meeting is early August, that means hopefully we can have something set up by early July, have a one-month lead time to promote.

Because in the past, we only had two weeks, which was -- that didn't help with promotion.

>> SEAN ISAAC: And this is Sean. I would hope that we could consider how we can promote without knowing the exact location of the meeting location, even though we know the location of the community and the city and the dates and times, at least we can at least start with those.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, the first part would be save the date. You can say it's Hollywood, this is the date, and that's it.

We could work on the agenda earlier and to have that set up earlier, while waiting for

the hotel information, so that one way it could be -- once we know what time public comments are and what time the presenters are, that would help. We can dribble out the information

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. We could have a draft agenda in a couple weeks, okay.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I have a quick question about that. Does the Department have rules about distance and driving versus renting a car versus flying? I remember that there was previously some rules.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. The Department does have rules regarding driving and flying. I would have to find out what those rules are in specificity [chuckles].

But, generally speaking, you can do either.

The issue is what you get reimbursed for. And if you travel overnight and you stay overnight, typically that's what you can get reimbursed for.

If you travel during the day and you come back that same day, you're not eligible for reimbursement, typically.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: For driving?

>> SEAN ISAAC: That's my understanding.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: So, like, if I drove from Tampa to Hollywood and came back that same day, I wouldn't get reimbursed. But if I spent the night, I would.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That's my understanding.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: That would be four hours, eight hours --

>> CORY PARKER: I thought that had to do with meals.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Again, that's my understanding regarding reimbursement. If you drive a length of -- any length of... uh... any length... uh... is there any requirement that you get reimbursed for that, Shannon? Are you.

>> SHANNON HARP: [Off mic].

>> LISA (CART CAPTIONER): I'm sorry, I can't hear you.

>> SHANNON HARP: Sorry. This is Shannon. There's meals and per diem and then there's reimbursement for rental car, gas, mileage.

>> SEAN ISAAC: So there may be the ability to get reimbursed for mileage even if you don't stay overnight. Let me clarify that.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I'm not suggesting I would drive eight hours a day. I do have a question. I thought there had been this rule for a while that if it's more than a certain amount of miles, you have to rent a car, because I never understood, I feel safer driving my own other than a car I'm unfamiliar with. So if we can just clarify that. Because if I travel to Hollywood, I would want to bring my own car.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean, I'll check that.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. I live near Hollywood and there's also a rule that you have to be so many miles away to be able to stay at a hotel or get reimbursed. And if you live too close, you get nothing.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. There is a rule that states that. I believe, if I'm not mistaken, there's also allowances in the travel rule for those that may have some type of condition that would cause them to need to stay on location for a meeting, and so I think that all council members would qualify for that.

Does that make sense?

It's my understanding if you're Deaf or hard of hearing, you don't have to abide by that particular rule. That may be a change, but I will get clarification just to make sure.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah. I would want to drive there and stay at the hotel, because -- but I don't think it's more than 50 miles. But whatever miles it is, it's awful to drive from there to Hollywood and traffic is really bad.

Um... so, I mean... I can understand, like, maybe not get paid for the travel part, but still get paid for food and hotel.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Again, let me clarify. I do not believe that that's something that the Council has to be concerned about regarding that rule, restricting the travel plans at all, but let me clarify just to be sure and I'll send something out after the meeting.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Check on that. Okay.

Okay. All right. So it's 11:18. The remaining time will be on the bylaws. Um... I feel like there needs to be another committee meeting! [Chuckles]

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Has anyone else been looking at the bylaws at all to see -- any changes that need to be made?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No one has looked at it other than me? Okay...

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. You recall when I was serving as Chair, I was motivated [chuckles] for us to do this, and so I have taken a look at them.

Can you go over some of your suggestions?

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: I think that would be helpful, because I'm too new to see what is needed to change.

But to follow Karen's suggestion, can you identify things that we can consider?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay, okay. To set it up, the legal authority in the statute was involving 204, and the wording in there needs to be fixed, because there's a list of who it includes, it did not mention deaf-blind in there. But deaf-blind was mentioned in other parts of the bylaws. So we need to fix that.

Cochlear implant was not mentioned.

We need to find out why or change it.

And the phrasing, when it talks about listening devices, including hearing aids, I think it's really important we include the hearing aids, because we get a lot of public comments about hearing aids.

And we need to add a phrase, like something to be able to cover for the future, like and other evolving technology.

That would be in the statute part.

And then, um... consider whether we need to have 17 members on the Council. Do we need representation of all 17 of them?

Because the -- because the organizations have changed, folded, organizations change, so we need to look at that. Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: On that --

>> CORY PARKER: Good point.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: -- note, if you look at the Legislature, it still says two representatives from Self-help For the Hard of Hearing, whatever it used to be called, SHHH, and that has changed to HLAA. But it has never changed in the Legislature.

I don't know if we have any ability to say that or --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, yes, we can update it, we can do that in the bylaws part, we can.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Okay. So we just want to make sure we reference what the Legislature actually says and that we change it in our bylaws where we, you know... that's already in there or it's not? I think it's already in there. In the bylaws.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, well, that's something that we have to look at to make sure it matches up.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And also in the definition part, they have definitions of different groups, but they left out a definition for interpreter.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: We did talk about that before, yeah, we did talk about that before, I remember, while you're looking at it.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, and who are the 17 council members. Again, changing it from SHHH to HLAA. And with the deaf-blind, it could be a person who is deaf-blind or somebody that represents the Association of the Deaf-blind. We do have an association. It's very small, but we have it.

And it says a parent of a child with a hearing loss. And I'm thinking Hands & Voices is not represented. Hands & Voices is a Florida group that -- probably the only other one that kind of represents the whole range.

They are not specifically one way only. That's why they're called Hands & Voices.

The parents have the option to choose what is best for their child, whether it be emphasize voicing or emphasizing sign language or both.

So we need to check to see if that organization is still active and see about a representative from them.

The Deaf Service Center Association I think had folded. And instead of that name or organization, it should say a representative from a Deaf Service Center. If we have one or two left. Or a center for -- a Center For Independent Living that has a Deaf and hard-of-hearing program.

The Center For Independent Living Deaf and hard-of-hearing program, there's about, um... I want to say about eight or ten of them, around the state, and we definitely should include them. And they're a young bunch of people who are very motivated, so it would be good to include them.

And the other group we have to look at to see if it's -- and then another group I was wondering about including is FTRI. FTRI. It's a state agency that directly serves the Deaf and hard of hearing, which means we would get Cecil back!

[Laughter].

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Can I ask a question about that? How can that, um... that agency be represented if it's not listed in the Legislature? Would they fit under another category?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's what we have to address, the question about how much can we change in the statutes and how much we can change in the bylaws. All we can do is make suggestions. And we have to go through the whole thing and emphasize that its own outreach be updated and then making some suggestions and changes and write up a bill and go find a champion for us to move the bill through.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Mmm-hmm.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: But first we have to fix it all up what we want.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Right, I agree.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And we have to talk about what gets changed according to what the Legislature requires.

>> CORY PARKER: Debbe has a comment.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: [On mute].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: We need to find out if the legislation has changed first and then we can change the bylaws. Or is it the other way around?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I don't know. That's something that we have to work on, to find out. But I want to work on making the changes we want to see and then go find out the right way to do it. Which one is first or second or whatever. But we need to be ready with what we want. And we just ask them and we'll say here, this is it...

But we're ready with what changes we want to see, then they can start working, okay, well, you have to do this, you have to do that, and then we can go.

Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. Do we need to have a Legislature sponsor, somebody that would --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, yes.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: -- promote, maybe, what is it, promoting a bill to --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: You have to be a sponsor, what we need is appoint somebody to be a sponsor and co-sponsor and other people to sign on.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Do we have somebody that has obviously --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I have a few people that I have met over the years in the Legislature -- no --

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Star.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, yeah, Stark.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Stark.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Stark or Furman or something, that's another thing we have to work on.

Moving on. It says, again, just a word change, it says assistant to the Council, and we have a different name for that that Sean says, the new person, we have to put in the proper name for that position

>> CORY PARKER: Someone is in the chat.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Section 6, number three.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Article 2, Section 6, number three. Where it says assistant.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Glenna?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: There is another section, and Article 3, where it talks

about -- what? What? Chat.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Mary Hodges says: The statute says 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.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right. Yes, right. We can put that in, yes. Thank you, Mary.

And then Article 3, meeting, Section 4, quorum, it says that a quorum of the Council consists of a simple majority, and in parenthesis, it says nine members of the council members.

Well, okay, we've never had a full 17, let alone nine members -- well, right now we have nine. And I want to change it to maybe active or appointed or something where we could be covered, if we don't have a full Council.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And then the Article 6, Section 2, about standing committees. We set up a Legislative Committee and it's not there.

And I would like to add the sixth, and it would be the Bylaws Committee

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Oh, right. And we also combined EMO and T Committee. I'm not sure, do we still like that combined approach?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, EMOT, right, yes.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: But do we still like that approach? I mean, it seems to me a lot under one committee, in my opinion.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Well, again, that can be part of the discussion. And that's all I found so far, but I think probably... what?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I'm sorry, one more thing. The Executive Committee, is that just the two of you now?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's three: Chair, Vice Chair, and Sean's position.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Y'all better get on that!

>> CORY PARKER: What is Sean's position?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: So, I think -- I don't think we would have a hard time making changes into what we want. I'm guessing maybe the hardest part might be to get hearing aids included, because I don't know who would block that.

It seems like I'm guessing that the hearing aid part was blocked before, is what I'm guessing.

Or Cindy might know more about that.

And the numbers of members and making sure they're active organizations.

So you can see there's not a lot of changes, but we just need to cover -- being able to cover everything, because there's so much that happens with technology. And so much

that happens with the changing organizations, and we want to make sure we're covered and we're not stuck "It must be this old way because it says so in the statute," and I want to make sure it's more flexible for that so that it can change with time. So...

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Just as a -- I'm sitting here reading some things. If we can go to Article -- well, one, two, three... page five, top of page five for vacancies, Article 2, Section 3, vacancies.

I think we need to expand that, because, um... we have so many vacancies, maybe we need to have it in the bylaws how we can support getting the positions filled.

Because right now all it says is any vacancy on the Council shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. Which I'm not quite sure I understand that whole statement.

And any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring because of death, resignation, or ineligibility for membership shall serve only for the unexpired term of the member's predecessor.

So that does not say anything about us staying on, you know... let's say, for instance, Cory steps in and represents an agency in filling somebody who needed to step out. How exactly is that person appointed? Because it says they may... the Council shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. So would that person be able to step in without a formal appointment? I don't think so.

And then they're only to stay on until that original appointment ended, which means it becomes vacant again.

So, we have an issue that this one little paragraph encourages vacancies to remain vacant.

And I think maybe we need to expand it so that --

>> CORY PARKER: Yeah.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: -- so that we can --

>> CORY PARKER: We need to rewrite that whole section.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Yeah. And in the bylaws, can we reach out to member organizations to inform of that or do we need that in the bylaws? I don't know. But I think we need to have permission to reach out to members or member agencies, community members, not -- you know, some of them are --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I think we're already allowed to do that.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Are we?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We can do that, we haven't done that yet.

I remember, I think Chris is on a board or a council or something and he was appointed and that board or council, whatever it was, we'll have to ask Chris, they had it in their bylaws that all positions on the, whatever it was, MUST be filled, MUST be represented, and it was required, so the Appointments Office HAD to appoint somebody because it's in the bylaws, and they need to define that thing that forces them to do the appointment and put it in there, so maybe that would help.

>> CORY PARKER: Is Chris Littlewood still on the Council?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, he's still on the Council, but he's getting really busy. But we need to ask Chris. Remember somebody somewhere, and I think it was Chris, the bylaws required MUST have -- they cannot allow any vacancy or something like that... so if we can find that, involve that, put that in, that would help us a lot, and then the Appointments Office just can't keep putting us off.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: That's a very good point. I know that a few years back, we were discussing that same kind of determination for HLAA; that they must have representation for this Council. And I don't know if we actually adjusted those bylaws. Debbe maybe can remember. I know we had discussed it. Debbe, what do you remember about that? Do the current HLAA bylaws have such wording?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: There was... something that said that you had to be on the board... and then... somehow it didn't go through. And now it's just a representative of an organization.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. So you're saying that the organizations don't -- they have to make sure that the organizations don't -- are the ones to appoint the people, not some Joe Blow off the street, not part of our -- who has no connection.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Right.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And applies it -- okay.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: And this is Karen. That makes sense, because we would like the HLAA representative to have knowledge of HLAA and what they're doing. But I think where it got hung up in the discussions was I think some people on the board level for HLAA Florida wanted the representative to be from the Board to this Council and other people thought look, we have people who are not on the Board but are very active in HLAA Florida and National who would be suitable to represent HLAA on this Council. So I think it kind of went back and forth and there were some changes with leadership with HLAA Florida.

So I think that it got put to the back. But, in general, HLAA does have a sense that it wants to be represented in the manner that has been set up by the Legislature. And I would wonder if there's other organizations besides -- I think FAD has that too?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Two, two members.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah, FAD has two representatives and...

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: But what is FAD's take on that? That they want to be involved in the appointment of that or the nomination of who's going to represent NAD?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes, yes, yes.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: So maybe we want to make that suggestion of also to the

Association of deaf-blind in Florida. How many organizations are there for the Association for deaf-blind in Florida?

>> CORY PARKER: Two.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Helen Keller?

>> CORY PARKER: There is Cory, there's the FSDB and then there's the NFB, the National Federation of the Blind, the deaf-blind division.
So there's two organizations here in Florida for deaf-blind too.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: So the Legislature states that we need to have a member who is deaf-blind. It doesn't specifically say what organization that they must be from.

>> CORY PARKER: Right.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: So perhaps we can reach out to the different organizations and see if they have somebody who would like to apply for, I don't know, appointment? And then we do --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: This is Glenna. I'm already aware of --

>> CORY PARKER: Debbe has a comment.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: -- the Association of the Deaf-blind and I reached out to people that I knew but nobody was interested, because it's a lot more of a challenge for a deaf-blind person to attend a meeting, because they have to have somebody to drive them there, we need to provide not only a service provider or SSP, at the hotel, and we need to budget for that.

But the organization list and the agency list, we need to update it and find out who's active in Florida and which agency really has a vested interest in serving the Deaf and hard of hearing.

For example, John Jackson was on this Council because the Department of Family and Children because of a case that happened many years ago and there was this whole big mess, okay, the DFC failed to serve the Deaf and hard of hearing and that's how he ended up on the Council. Do we still need him or not? I don't know.

We have to look over all of the organizations and agencies to see who is really active and who is really connected.

Like, for example, Mary is on aging and that's so good, because senior citizens and hearing loss goes together. Cory?

>> CORY PARKER: While --

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe --

[Talking over one another].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: -- I think this is confusing.

We don't want to be confused with national organizations versus state organizations. I think it's important that we look at the state level and what the state says for our states'

representatives for this --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Right, it has to be a state level, right, it has to be a state level, not national, right.

>> CORY PARKER: This is Cory. While we're doing all of this and recognizing the formality of what we're supposed to do in the bylaws, we also need to get connected to, and I said this yesterday, we need to make sure our connections with the Governor's Office are connected, and connected. We have opened that up and so we can move through with our applications and we are requesting all of our people, while we're doing that, before we can -- I mean while we fix the bylaws and reflect who is supposed to do what and invite who to fill the particular positions on the Council, we need to strengthen that connection with the Governor's Office to make sure that when we do have everything set and we do do those invitations, we're not delayed with our paperwork.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Right.

>> CORY PARKER: I think paperwork is a nice assembly of -- meaning applications and so on and so forth.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I agree.

>> CORY PARKER: That's the thing to keep in mind.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: At this point, does the Appointments Office have a stack of applications that are just sitting there right now for us? Because we are getting dangerously low in the number of members.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I know!

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: And we can't bring somebody on who's never been on. We can keep people on who haven't been reappointed, but we can't bring people to sit in as members until they're formally appointed as members.

So, um... Sean, is there a way we can check and see, what's the Appointments Office have right now in the way of requests for appointments for our Council?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I can definitely check and see where they're at.

From my recollection, they have two complete applications that they're still considering, or at least going through the process --

>> CORY PARKER: I know two personally.

>> SEAN ISAAC: -- and so I would definitely get a status on those.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: That would be great. We also need to be more squeaky. I think that squeaky wheel kind of thing.

And I don't mean you, Sean, because I think you're -- I don't want to say squeaky

[Laughter].

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: But you're doing what you're supposed to do, it has to be, like, members stepping up and calling and saying we need to move on this. Do we have somebody who's interested from deaf-blind, hopefully, once we reach out? We need to start filling these slots, because we're getting dangerously close to that quorum. Am I correct? We're getting close to that line.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yeah. The two, of the two that I got, one from the hearing aid specialist and one from a parent of a deaf child, those two applied and re-applied again, and they still are enthusiastic, bless them, but I told both of them, you need to call the office and do something, yeah.

>> CORY PARKER: And mine. Don't forget my application, I haven't completed mine yet.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Do it! Do it!

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Hold on, hold on, hold on, we need to dial back on this. Um... have you formally been appointed to be on the Council?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Can I speak to this?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Please.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Again, this is Sean, and this is an area that the Department is clarifying. Again, I've worked with Cory, because he asked that particular question when he was first introduced to the Council.

As you may recall, I was introduced to the Council and started working with the Council just about a year ago, May 2021, and at that time, I was informed shortly thereafter starting, that Cecil was stepping down from his position, and I reached out to the contact information that I had for his office and I didn't get anybody.

And so I reached out for several times. I probably had a wrong number? But there was no organized transition from our -- my standpoint.

So, that was part of the issue. And I think that's something that we need to discuss as well, and the Department needs to make sure that there's backup documentation, who do we contact if a person steps down, so that we don't have that kind of gap.

Number two, as Cory and I discovered, that there is no standardized process for appointments other than the fact that we received those applications and résumés, and then at some point, that appointment is made.

Maybe I just haven't been around to see it happen and maybe that's why I don't know, but one of the things that we are all working on internally within the Department is to make sure there is a standardized process to follow.

I do recognize Cory as a member of this group. We are working on the paperwork. But he is a -- he is a member who's agreed to participate. He's been recognized by his own organization and the Department of Health. He is a member.

We just need to finalize our process and make sure our paperwork is in order when it comes to that process, okay.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. So he's legal!

>> SEAN ISAAC: He's legal!

[Laughter].

>> SEAN ISAAC: And I will say one more thing. The Department is hiring --

>> CORY PARKER: [Laughs].

>> SEAN ISAAC: -- for this particular position, the liaison position. Once that has been completed, then the Department would also be able to name another person to the Council, okay.

So the Department will also have another member --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: We get two people?

>> SEAN ISAAC: Well, Shay's position.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: The old outreach position, we can have? [Clapping].

>> SEAN ISAAC: That position will be filled.
And in addition to that... what was I going to say....
I guess that's it. I just wanted to give you that heads up

>> CORY PARKER: Sean --

>> SEAN ISAAC: Oh, and we have currently nine members, including Cory, nine council members. We have eight vacancies. One of those includes the DOH position. And also what I can do is send out a list of all those council members and who's representing those different organizations, so at least we have a current --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's in the folder already.

>> SEAN ISAAC: It is, it is.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's in the folder. So, yeah, you put it in the folder.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I did. But as a quick reference, I can send that out, okay, so everybody understands.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Quick question. Debbe's been waiting. Quick question: The new person that soon will be hired, when will she start? August or November? Or if she starts August, will you come too, by training her?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. You're not getting rid of me that easily, I will be around.

[Laughter].

>> SEAN ISAAC: She will be reporting to me at the Department, so I will definitely be training her and assisting her with that process and the onboarding process. I will be around [laughs].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: I expect her to be --

[Talking over one another].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Would she show up in August or in November?

>> SEAN ISAAC: I'm sorry, this is Sean again. I expect her to start within the month. And I expect her to be at the August meeting.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: And I want to meet her, via Zoom or whatever.

>> SEAN ISAAC: Understood.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Debbe?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. I was wondering, because Cory, since his paperwork hasn't quite been formalized, but now is he still allowed to be the new Co-Chair or Vice Chair?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Co-Chair? What? For what?

>> CORY PARKER: Vice Chair.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: This is Debbe. Well, typically, legally, you're not officially part of the Council yet.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Cory? No --

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Therefore he can't really be the Co-Chair yet.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: No, Cory is legal, Cory is legal. I asked Sean. He is allowed to be on the Council. They're just finishing the paperwork. And so I asked if he was legal, kosher. It's okay for Cory.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Sean? You have...

>> SEAN ISAAC: I just want to say a quick --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Nine minutes left.

>> SEAN ISAAC: There is no question that Cory is legal. Please don't take that as some misunderstanding that you don't have to submit your financial disclosure. You certainly have to submit it, okay? [Laughs].

>> CORY PARKER: Yes, I'll do that next week.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Yes. And a reminder to all council members, to do your financial disclosure asap, please! We don't want to lose anybody!

Okay. So, how do you want to work on making changes to the bylaws? Should I just go ahead and type up what changes I think should be made, send it to Sean, and then he shares it through e-mail to everybody?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: That's a good idea, yes.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Or do you want to set up a committee?

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Having read through it, I realize that it's not that bad, the changes, so...

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: My recommendation is type it, send it to Sean, have him send it out to everyone.

And I thought we already had an Ad Hoc Committee? Didn't we just have a meeting? Or did I just miss it?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: That's for the biennial -- or ad hoc or biennial report.

>> CORY PARKER: Nobody showed up to the last meeting that we had.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Oh, right, right, right, right, right, we had that committee meeting.

All right. I'll just type up the changes and... I copied the bylaws from the website, but I'm going to need a Word document so I can go in and make changes; I can't do it from the website copy.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. I'll send that to you.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I'm not smart enough to know how to do that.

>> SEAN ISAAC: That is Sean, I'll send that to you.

>> CORY PARKER: Maybe if you put it in a Word document and track changes, so we can see and make comments on it, on the changes that you've made.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: I don't know how to do that... I will learn.

[Pause].

>> CORY PARKER: Um...

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. Maybe if you could, um, just put your changes in red so we'll know where you made the change. And then we can track it and

set it up that way.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: It's time for me to learn something new!

[Laughter].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. It is 11:54. Does anyone have any announcements or any last thing to share? Thoughts or anything?

[No response].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Please take some clear masks.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Oh, yes, I want to take some.

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Just as a reminder --

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Take as much as you want.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Can I take the box?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Does anybody want a clear mask? Or Karen will take the whole thing.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Yeah, I'll put it in my office.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Give me a couple. Let me take a couple.

>> SEAN ISAAC: So this is Sean. Just as a reminder for you all that travel to the meeting, as soon as you return home, please submit your time and date that you return home, so that I can complete your travel, okay?

And then once I get that, I will immediately enter that into a form, send that to you for your signature, and date it.

And I have to have that form to submit; otherwise you will not be reimbursed or it will be delayed. Okay?

Also, don't forget your receipts. Sign and date each receipt, hotel receipt, rental car receipt, gas, if appropriate if you rented a car.

If you did not rent a car and you drove your own car, you do not need to submit gas receipts, you just need to submit your mileage.

And if you have any questions about that, please give me a call.

>> CORY PARKER: Do you want a paper copy officially mailed to you? Of the receipts?

>> SEAN ISAAC: This is Sean. Please scan and send it to me via e-mail.

>> CORY PARKER: Scan it?

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

[Pause].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay.

>> CORY PARKER: I move to close this meeting.

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. We can? There's only three minutes left. We can? Okay. This meeting is adjourned. And thank you very much for all of your input and discussion and coming in person. And hopefully in August, we'll have more people in person and pick a fun hotel to make them want to come!

[Laughter].

>> GLENNA ASHTON: Okay. Thank you all! The meeting is adjourned at 11:58.

[Concludes at 11:58 a.m.]

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