

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING**
Quarterly Meeting
Ocala, Florida
Friday, May 11, 2018
9:00 a.m.

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

** This is a text file that was produced by a CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) Captioner to ensure effective communication for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. This file is not a certified, verbatim record, and it should not be quoted as such; nor should this file be distributed without appropriate authorization. **

* * * * *

>> DEBBE HAGNER: It's 9:00 o'clock, but we'll wait a few minutes; not everybody is here.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: And you need to announce for anybody on the phone.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Should I go ahead, Megan?

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: You can.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Good morning, everyone. Today is Friday, May 11, and this is the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Good morning, everybody! Okay.

>> ALL: Good morning.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. We have housekeeping; bathroom is over there, emergency, go out there. I want to thank the interpreters, Diane, Tam, Rebekah, and Adam, for doing a wonderful job for interpreting. The AV guy. LaShay Lewis, and Megan and the staff, and of course we have our wonderful CART Provider.

I would like to do a roll call and we'll start with myself. I'm Debbe Hagner, Port Richey, Florida, representing HLAA.

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

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: John?

>> JOHN JACKSON: Oh, sorry. Good morning, this is John Jackson, I represent the Department of Children and Families.

>> DONNA DRAKE: I am Donna Drake from St. Augustine and I represent Florida Association of the Deaf.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Good morning, this is Chris Littlewood representing the Association of Late-Deafened Adults.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Good morning, this is Gina Halliburton from Jacksonville representing the Florida Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: Good morning, this is Megan Callahan from Jacksonville, Florida, representing the Florida Department of Health.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Do we have anybody on the phone?

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: Hi, this is Shay Chapman, Florida Department of Health.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Good morning, Shay.
Anybody else?

[No response].

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: And this is Darlene. Can you hear me?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes, we can hear you, Darlene.

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: Okay. Thank you.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Great. Okay. I understand that Megan has a few -- oh, I'm sorry, in chat, I'm not seeing it on mine.
Oh, Cecil is on chat.

>> CINDY SIMON: Good morning, everyone, this is Cindy.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Anybody else on chat?

[No response].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Julie? Julie is on chat? Okay, good morning.
Anyone else?

Okay. It looks like we have a full house today, so I will turn it over to Megan.

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: Hey, guys, this is Megan. Real quick, I received an answer from Joyce regarding the budgets and the questions that you guys had. So I will read this to you now.

She says the miscellaneous phone section on the budget is for the local and long distance phone charges for my work phone and the 1-800 number for the Council.

And the credit balance for February 2018, that negative balance that you all saw is generated by credits received from the phone company for an overcharge by January 2018.

The credit that we received was larger than the monthly billing, so it generated the 336 credit balance, so that's what that negative is.

And any items that you all want to purchase for use at Family Café will be charged to the miscellaneous expense portion of the budget.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay, great. Thank you, Megan. Okay. Any other comments about yesterday or anything? Chris?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Two things real fast. One on the budget expense expenditures for the Family Café.

Is it permissible, probably, to expedite it if Debra or Karen wants to make purchases of, like, those squeeze balls or whatever and get reimbursed from the miscellaneous account? Or how would -- because, again, my concern is if you have to wait for the process, you know, but if it's a, you know, a \$50 credit card charge, maybe you guys would be willing to do that. That might be work out easier.

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: Megan, this is Shay. I can check with Joyce and see if that's something we can do. I'm not sure.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. It's fine with me either way how we handle that. I don't mind purchasing it first and then getting reimbursed. I think time is of the essence in making sure we can get these ordered and get them in a timely fashion.

So, Shay, if I went ahead and did that, would that be okay to get reimbursed?

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: I need to check, Karen. We typically don't do things that way, but they may allow it. So I just need to check with my budget person to see if there is a mechanism for reimbursing you that way.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Okay. So today I can send to Megan, I think that we all talked about getting something, like a squishy ball to give out as well, is that something that we want to vote on as a committee or a council that would have our logo on it? I think we all agreed the ear was creepy looking, because it only came in the one color,

which look like you took it from a living human being head.

[Laughter].

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: So I think maybe just be simple, get the ball, stress release, or we have the option of getting, like, ear protection ear plugs with our logo on the cover.

So, whatever anybody wants to do is fine with me. I'll send the information over today to Megan.

I just don't have access to the logo, getting it printed.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Chris?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris. And thank you, Shay. My thought was also that any reimbursable purchases usually through my organization, anyway, has to be a purchase less than \$100, so they may give you a dollar amount for something like that.

And, again, based on Karen's or Debra's willingness to do that, we appreciate that. And I'm sure something has been worked out with Megan already as far as getting the tablecloth and everything to them before they go to the meeting.

I can't stress enough how wonderful it was when we went to the Family Café a couple years ago. We got a lot of contacts from that and I think it would be great for us to go again.

So, good luck to you guys and I look forward to that happening.

The other thing that I wanted to ask about before I forget is if we do not hear anything about reappointment, Shay, while you're on the line, we still should plan on coming to the August meeting, correct?

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: Correct. If you're still representing your agency and you haven't heard for reappointment, in the past, it's been the procedure that you still come to the August meeting.

What we will do is have our person here at the Department who is a liaison to the Governor's Office for appointment put in a call and just a reminder that we have, you know, a couple sitting out there and maybe we can nudge them a little to get that done.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Okay. I just wanted to check on that. I know they like to do several all at once and I understand that. Just for travel reimbursement procedures, I wanted to make sure that it was okay to still attend. Thank you.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Gina?

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Okay. I have three things. You tell me which is the right place to put it, okay? I have an update on the interpreters, the EMO meeting, and a question about the Family Café. Are we going to have that wheel that we talked about to give away, you know, a prize?

And then my last comment, I have a comment about yesterday's elections. So you tell

me where to put it.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Go ahead.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Go ahead? Okay. All of them?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yeah.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Oh, okay. Well, for -- [laughs] -- for the registry of interpreters for the deaf, I didn't give this yesterday, I couldn't pronounce her last name, we have a new vice president, Nicole Bihlmayer, did I say that right? She is transitioning and we have a new VP and the May 22 meeting with the Zoom, you guys let me know, we're talking about the CART, we need the CART, we need to approve if it's going to be a video meeting or not.

And then the last thing, everybody, if I've hurt anybody's feelings or if I say something out of order, charge it to my head and not my heart, because Cindy, who fusses at me everyday every time we're here because I have bilateral hearing loss and do not have hearing aids because I do not consider myself deaf, okay [laughs].

So, that brings me to my point of how can two hearing people represent the committee, the Council?

And it's only from my experience as an interpreter. I just don't believe that hearing people should be in charge of deaf stuff.

And I would be more comfortable if we had a deaf person, whether it be Donna or Chris or Debbe or Glenna or someone involved in the leadership of the Council. They have a different perspective. They have a different life. This involves them.

And so I'm not saying I would not do a good job, I'm not saying I don't accept it, I wouldn't add value, because that's what I do.

[Laughter].

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: But in all fairness, it just seems like I just want that for discussion. Does anybody else feel like I do?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: John?

>> JOHN JACKSON: I kind of know where you're coming from, but remember, it's the Council for deaf and hard of hearing. So let's keep that in mind as well.

And I have a similar feelings about the -- if anyone who represented one of the four state agencies should never, I don't believe, be a Chair or a Vice Chair, because those positions are different and those are public servants and you also have conflict issues as well there.

The Council statutorily is made up of certain groups that are almost guaranteed to bring someone here who isn't deaf or hard of hearing, yet they're supposed to have an equal

seat on the Council.

So, I know -- I kind of agree with your feelings, but I think that we need to be a little bit more open to that, because it's kind of what I think that the statute was designed for.

But that being said, I think -- I talk about sticking a foot in your mouth -- I don't think we should hold deaf above hard of hearing as far as the importance to this Council. Because especially because given it's Florida and the numbers, and so that's.... I hope I didn't stick my foot in my mouth; yeah.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Wait a minute. Cindy has her hand up first and then I'll turn it over to Chris and then Donna.
Go ahead, Cindy.

>> CINDY SIMON: Can you hear me?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes, we can hear you.

>> CINDY SIMON: Okay. Um.... just to reassure Gina, as a person outside who takes care of all areas of hearing loss, I agree with what John said; that hard of hearing is not less than deaf. Deaf is not less than hard of hearing.

I think the concept a while ago with two people who are hearing, again, this goes to, and I always say, we have a constituency that are part of the group and they are part of the group, Gina, and the bylaws were changed so that the -- if we had two people who did not have hearing loss, someone with hearing loss would be added for an executive group meeting.
So, I feel that's taken care of.

And then sometimes you have where everyone sees the constituency and someone from outside can look and see that everyone is represented equally and fairly, because sometimes we get so involved with their own things, we don't realize that someone else is outside looking in.

>> JOHN JACKSON: You're not the first person to think like that.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Donna, go ahead.

>> DONNA DRAKE: This is Donna. And talking about the state statutes, for example, we have a representative for audiologists who obviously has to be a hearing person, so we can't do anything about that.

And second, historically for perspective, the way the Council is set up, obviously there's two definitions of deaf and then hard of hearing.

Currently, you know, however, we have many discussions about deaf-blind and other co-issues and challenges related to people on the Council, so now it's time to change. And as long as the statute's there, that's what we have to accept and follow.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Chris?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: Well, I think I agree with what others were saying. I will say first that I'm very comfortable with the Chair and the Vice Chair that we've elected. Additionally, both of you have expressed that you have some degree of hearing loss. We do not do an audiogram test for everybody as a requirement to be on the Council.

[Laughter].

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: But as a late-deafened person, I identify myself in most cases as very hard of hearing. On an audiogram, I am severely to profoundly deaf. But I think it's a fair representation. And I think you guys will do a great job.

When the bylaws were changed, it was only because somebody in the past was considering the fact that they wanted to make sure that somebody with hearing loss was on the Executive Committee, and I think Cindy already said that; that we can always add somebody into the discussion or next time. I don't even think that's necessary.

And we're very proud to have you guys represent us as the Chair and Vice Chair and we look forward to the job you're going to do in the future. So thank you for representing.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Hold on a second. We have who?

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: Darlene has her hand up in chat.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay, go ahead. Darlene, go ahead.

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: This is Darlene. Did you say Darlene?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes, yes, Darlene, go ahead and talk.

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: I want to make sure that I understand. You're talking about the representatives of the deaf and deaf-blind, hard of hearing in our bylaws? And on the website?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: No, we're not talking about the website, we're talking about the chairperson and the Co-Chair, whether they're hearing or not.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Darlene? Are you there?

[No response].

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: Yes, I'm here.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Do you understand what I said?

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: Yes. It just seems like when I was reading, you were talking about the label of deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind. But that's okay. Thank you

for the clarification.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Anybody else want to elaborate or explain? Karen, go ahead.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. You know, I wanted to first address -- I wanted to address a couple things.

First, I want to thank everyone for voting. And I'm honored that I was voted as the Chair. I will do my best to be an excellent representative for this Council in that role.

I also want to bring up that the bylaws say that it's a one-year term and if you're worried it's going to go on indefinitely, you know, we have bylaws that protect that. So you have a choice in one year from now of how you want to go. That's the first thing.

The second thing is that I want to also be a representative of hearing loss, people who struggle with being hard of hearing.

I was diagnosed when I was in second grade and I was told at that time, I don't know if any of you know my back story, but I was told at that time to keep it to myself, okay, and that might have been a sign of the times.

And so I had to spend my life "blending and pretending."

And that was either, I think, out of the positive -- I mean the good intentions of my parents, who were misinformed about hearing loss, deafness, and what it means. But they didn't -- they were worried about discrimination, that I would be labeled somehow, I wouldn't have opportunities.

And so I was reminded again and again to not share it.

And I didn't share it. And I sat in the front row of every single class and I worked hard and did well.

But we de-emphasized that part of my life. And it wasn't until I got into medical school that I realized I may have a bigger issue than I want to acknowledge, because it was time to pick out stethoscopes and I was terrified I would not be able to hear.

And, you know, you can sit in the front of every class and make an A on an exam if you study hard, but how do you pretend you heard an murmur when you're not sure you heard it and how could I do that as a physician?

So that was really the first time I revealed my hearing loss. And I got updated testing and got a specialized stethoscope, which the technology is amazing, I have an electronic stethoscope.

But I think what it emphasized for me is that there's oftentimes judgments about people based on what people see and what they expect.

So, people do not know what the struggles are of somebody who is hard of hearing and what that means.

We talk a lot about being advocates for deaf and Deaf culture, we talk a lot about a number of different things, but we don't talk about what it's like to have an assumption

that somebody can hear perfectly and what they're really struggling with.

And I have to tell you, there are times in crowded situations where I still just smile and act like I understood because -- maybe because it's been years and years and years of doing that, but it's also been that some people do get annoyed when you ask them to repeat, okay.

So there's some realities to that, so I guess once I started sharing about my hearing loss and developing my sense of identity and that's -- you know, with that, I've grown a lot as an individual. And my passion for working with deaf and hard of hearing has grown. And I think all of you know that that's what I subspecialize in as a physician. So, that's one thing I want to say.

I know you make an assumption because you see a person who communicates orally, but you don't know what the back story is, so we have to be careful about making those assumptions.

The other thing is that the bylaws state very clearly that there are 17 members of this Council and that each of us are equal voting members and that each of us are equal representatives.

And I think that we need to respect that without making anyone qualify that they are "Deaf enough" or "Hard of hearing enough" or whatever the "enough" is, that we are all here because we have a passion for representing deaf and hard of hearing in the state of Florida and making life better for all of us who deal with these issues.

So, having said that, I just wanted to say thank you again for permitting me the opportunity to represent as the Chair for the next year.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I would like to read what Julie said: The vote should stand as is. If it's going to mandate the deaf or hard of hearing of the Chair or Co-Chair, it discriminates against the hearing professional on the Council. And Darlene said: I agree with you, Julie. Darlene, you have your hand up again. Go ahead. You may speak, Darlene.

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: I want to say that one of the things that I have found out in my journey is I grew up hard of hearing and it began with mild to moderate, and slowly as I aged, it got worse.

But when I lost my vision, it was even more challenging, because I didn't realize how much I didn't -- I relied on my vision to read lips. And the comprehension of understanding what the words are that they are saying can bring many, many misunderstood conversations.

My family, when they try to -- my youngest son has a very low voice and when he talks, I only pick up just a little bit. And sometimes I get it wrong and he ends up bursting out laughing all the time.

But we should not eliminate the deaf, the hard of hearing, and deaf-blind. We should be allowing them to experience this, allowing them to empower themselves with it.

There should be no limitations. If they feel that they can do it, they by all means, support them.
I'm done.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Thank you, Darlene.
Okay, Julie wrote: Deaf and hard of hearing members are equally advanced in the objectives of the FCCDHH.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Anything else, Julie?

[No response].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Cindy?

[No response].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Any other comments?

>> CINDY SIMON: I think we would all take time to say that everyone is equal, to have equal chance, and we're really happy with that.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Any other comments about yesterday or the presentations or..... One of the things that came to my mind about the morning presentation is how did she get the money from the Department of Health?

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: Hi, this is Shay. She didn't get the money from the Department of Health, per se. The Legislature gave them the money as a project in the General Appropriations Act, that was a line item.

The Department of Health was tasked with creating the contract and contracting with that agency.

We get hundreds of those a year that get our line items in the budget. So it wasn't specifically money from the Department of Health, it wasn't money the Department of Health requested for them, it was money that they were able to request through probably their representative or senator and get into the budget.
The Department of Health just handled the contracting portion.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Oh. Sorry for the misunderstanding. Okay. Thank you for the clarification.
Go ahead, Karen.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. I wanted to ask, a couple of questions that I wanted to ask.
One is are council members able to request a line based on any projects?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: John?

[Pause].

>> JOHN JACKSON: Request of who?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Shay was saying of the Legislature.

>> JOHN JACKSON: Not as council members.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Not as council members. But if I were representing myself as a physician at a university? Like, for instance, I'm interested in coordinating health services throughout the state of Florida.... um.... to coordinate services for help for the deaf and hard of hearing and I'm also interested in telemedicine to reach these people so that they have access to services for people who specialize in treating deaf and hard of hearing.

So that would be something I would do, pursue in a different role, not as a council member, so it would be in a different role.

>> JOHN JACKSON: It would need to be -- this is John -- it would need to be in a different role, but also if you were in a different role but requesting funds for the Council, I think we would be in a way too close to the line, if not crossing the line.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: Okay. Thank you. That clarifies. Because I'm looking at some grants right now at the national level for telemedicine for deaf and just that's me, as a physician, I wanted to do that and to coordinate services. Okay. So that's not my role here on the Council.

Before we go today, I'd like to get an update on everyone who's serving on committees and what meetings are going to be happening, just so I can have that organized for me.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I'm sure Megan can provide that for you in probably....

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: This is Megan. So far the only committee meeting that we've arranged is the EMO Committee meeting happening May 22nd. I can e-mail you a list of the committees and the members that are in each of them.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Any other comments? Go ahead, Gina.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I have a question. In transitioning, is there an opportunity, I don't know if this is a Megan question or a Debbe/Glenna question, but is there times we can get together what the duties and responsibilities and expectations are of Chair and Vice Chair and what worked and didn't work from those that are leaving, you know, or get input from the current group to find out --

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: Hi, this is Shay. What I would suggest is in the next week to two weeks, we set up a meeting with Glenna, Debbe, myself, Megan, Gina, and Karen, and kind of go over those exact things that Gina just brought up.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Thank you.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Chris, go ahead.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris. Shay, that's a good idea. That's the Executive Committee exiting and the Executive Committee coming in, and then the Executive Committee can communicate about the agenda any time they want to with Megan. So, like, you guys can have a conference call, just the Chair, Vice Chair, and Megan, about planning for the future meetings and things like that.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Thank you.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: And that's allowed; that's not a problem, if it's for agenda planning, right? That's what we've always done.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Go ahead, John.

>> JOHN JACKSON: In fact, I think you guys can ask anyone outside of one of our organized and -- in one of our meetings about their experiences as a Chair and you would not be violating Sunshine Law, because you're not talking about the business of the Council coming up that there might be a vote on, you're just talking about history, history that's public record that everybody knows about.

So if you want to talk to anybody at any time outside of this meeting, as long as you don't talk about future things coming up, if you want to say hey, what did you learn, what can I do better, that's not a problem.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Okay. Thank you.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Chris, go ahead; sorry.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: I can also tell you, when I was Chair, I was on the phone weekly with the office, so I would recommend that you share and contact with Megan about anything that may have come up.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Any other comments or suggestions or anything?

[No response].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Anybody on the CART? I mean chat?

Cindy wrote: No, I stated my case.

Julie said: I stated my case.

Cindy said: Be ready for the report.

>> CINDY SIMON: Since this is a report year coming up, I would just suggest that you guys be very organized and ready to go. That's probably the hardest thing there to do.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Cecil said: I have no comment on my part.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Any other comments? Any other business or anything?

>> DONNA DRAKE: This is Donna, any other business we need to discuss?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: We have It's A Deaf Thing and that's another event that's going to happen in October, I believe. I encourage everybody to go to that. That's in Lakeland. They had over 1,000 deaf people there with different vendors, interpreters. It's an interesting thing to attend.

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: Do you have the dates? This is Gina.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I believe it's October 21st?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: October 6th.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Oh, yeah, October 6th, yeah. Yes, Chris?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: That the new name for DeafNation?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes, similar, yes. Karen?

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: That also the new name for Deaf Expo or are they different?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I don't know all the history of it, but the DeafNation was sold by a hearing person and.... I don't know. And then another person formed It's A Deaf Thing. I don't know the whole story, but something....

>> DONNA DRAKE: This is Donna. It's very similar to Deaf Expo or DeafNation.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes, Megan?

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: Julie submitted a comment in the chat. She said I'm not able to enter the conference call, but I went to -- but I went to a workshop on incorporating stories into reports and that was interesting. They said if you use personal stories rather than just facts and figures, it is more compelling to readers. Maybe the report this year should be revamped to make it more interesting and tell real stories.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes, Gina?

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: This is Gina. I don't know if this is appropriate now, and I always raise my hand, but I didn't hear Julie say she was going to reapply. I just wanted to know if she was going to be here with us next go-around?

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Julie, do you care to answer that question?

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: She just did.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Oh. Julie said no, I'm not going to reapply. Time for new blood.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Go ahead, Karen.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. You know, I notice that when it's time to cycle off and there may be some seats that become available, I wonder how we, as a Council, can help support keeping seats filled? And is there anything we can do to keep them filled?

Because I would hate to see things dwindle. I'm very appreciative of people's service. This is four times a year that we take out of our work. I use my vacation time to come here, very valuable vacation time. This is a valuable thing that I'm willing to use it on. So, I do know that it takes time out of people's schedules. But I would like to see the seats are filled so that we have a robust Council.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Go ahead, Megan.

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: Darlene said that her term expires in 2020. And Julie said there is someone else from the Deaf Service Centers who is applying.

And Cindy said many times there are applications in the Governor's Office and we have to wait for them to appoint someone. Until then, the current council member continues to attend.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Any other comments or suggestions? Anything you want to share about what's happening in your community or your organization again? Remind everybody?
Yes, Megan?

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: Julie said in the chat: I will attend the next meeting is no one is appointed.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Go ahead, Karen.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. A couple of things. With this It's A Deaf Thing, is this another opportunity to have the Council represented? And should we look into a vendor package?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Sure.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: The most important thing is to let people know, we're here, we want to hear what people need and how we can best serve them.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Megan?

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: Darlene has her hand up.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. Go ahead, Darlene.

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: This is Darlene. Are we in the announcements in the community? Is that what you said?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes, correct.

>> DARLENE LAIBL-CROWE: Yes. Okay. In Palatka, we usually have a blue craft festival Memorial Day weekend. It has been canceled due to lack of funds, but the community is coming together to have an event, so if anybody wants to visit, we would be happy to have you.

And I will be graduating with my master's degree in about seven weeks.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Good luck! Congratulations, Darlene!

[Applause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Great job!

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: Cindy says congratulations.

>> DONNA DRAKE: Karen, I have a question for you -- this is Donna -- It's A Deaf Thing, Deaf Expo, DeafNation, whatever you want to call it, it's mostly vendors, I believe, but they also have an informational booth, so I definitely think we could set up something there and share information with people that attend.

It tends to be more like a business-driven expo, so there's no Board of the event or anything like that, it's all business related, but I think we could have a booth for sure.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Gina?

>> GINA HALLIBURTON: I would suggest if that's what we're going to do, that the items be purchased for Family Café, you purchase to use for the Deaf Café -- or whatever that is, the deaf thing, because the more you buy at the same time, the less it costs. So if we're going to do that and that's the decision we've made, it's probably a good time to do it now so we don't have to go through picking something else for next time.

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: Hi, this is Shay. When is the event you're talking about, the deaf thing, the Deaf Expo, DeafNation?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: October 6th.

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: Okay. It's just -- we need -- because we need some lead time to give now the Department or the Department of Financial Services consider registration to attend an event or to have a table at an event in advance, and so we have to do that ahead of time and go through a bunch of hoops and jumps and stuff, that we can't just do stuff at the last minute.
But October would be fine if people wanted to attend and represent the Council.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Chris, go ahead.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris. An issue that's come up in the past is for expos like DeafNation or It's A Deaf Thing, even if it's a non-profit organization, they charge a significant amount of money for a booth. And I believe our experience has been the State does not allow us to pay to attend expos. Is that still correct, Shay?

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: Well.... I mean, they've been okay about the Family Café, so I don't know if there's a differentiation; if that's something, you know, that you consider that different than an expo.

But there is just a lot of justification and the paperwork gets heavier and the burden gets heavier as everyday it seems like there's a new rule.
I mean, we're certainly willing to try within the budget limitations that we have.

You know, if we get a full Council on and everyone's appointed, then we're going to have less money than we do now because of raffle, and if we have enough money and that's something the Council wants to do, we can try to get that done.
Like I said, the rules are changing rapidly.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Cindy said: Congratulations.
Cecil said: Congratulations, Darlene.
Shay asked: When is the deaf thing? We already answered that question.
Cindy asked: Is there a cost to be there with a table?
No, it's free. But you have to register online.
If there is a cost --

>> DONNA DRAKE: This is Donna, it's not free.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Karen, go ahead.

>> DONNA DRAKE: We need to go on the website to get the information, because it is not free.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. Is it okay?

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Yes.

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: This is Karen. I wanted to clarify. It's free to attend, so I've already registered myself to attend. It's on Saturday, October 6th.

To have a table, there is a cost. So for a very basic table is \$200. We can -- it's a single standard booth, 10x10, we can have whatever the banners, the little tablecloth on it.

We get information -- they'll promote us, they'll put our name in whatever advertising they're doing.

Okay. That's your basic package.

For \$100 more, at 300, you get a more preferable site; I don't think we really care [laughs].

I guess that means we're not outside in the parking lot, we get to come inside.

[Laughter].

>> KAREN GOLDBERG: I'm kidding.

So I think there's a little more things that you get for the extra \$100.

But the premier package is 600 and I don't know if our budget would allow that.

I think we would do fine at anything the 600 and below package.

But that one gives us an option to do a 30-minute workshop on if we wanted to, if we do the 600.

So, that's something to think about that, okay?

And then it jumps from 600 to 1200, which I don't think we need to jump that high, because then you get FCCDHH on the back of all the T-shirts that people buy, but I don't think we really need that; I think we're gonna -- we're really interested in informing people rather than -- we're not trying to sell a product.

So, I think we could do it for 600 and below, even if you guys just wanted to do the basic package.

What I liked about the 600 is that our option to do a workshop, but it's also not necessary; I mean we're going to be pretty much standing by the booth all day giving a workshop on what the Council does and informing people.

So I think we could do either the 300 or the 200 and be fine.

And I would be willing to go, it's a Saturday, it's not going to be -- it's in Lakeland. My travel expense, I'm not going to be sleeping there, so I think it would be a pretty low travel expense, for me, anyway, because I live 30 minutes from Lakeland.

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: This is Shay, then I think it's definitely doable. We'll just get started early. Megan can get the information and we can get started, you know, after the first of June, so it will be for the next fiscal year and we'll go ahead and get that in place.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Donna?

>> DONNA DRAKE: You're right, Karen, it's free to register. But you do have to register when you arrive. You have to make sure that you're on that list, because people who are not registered, they have to wait through a very long line, until they make sure that they don't meet the max number who are allowed in the room, because,

you know, if there's only, say, 2,000 people who are allowed in the room, people who have not purchased tickets and who have not registered beforehand can't get in until everybody else has gone in.
So definitely register beforehand so you can have easy access to the event.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Cindy wrote: Remember, there are many set meetings so we really need to evaluate which we want to attend.

Darlene wrote: BRB, be right back.

Cecil said: I don't think we can pay for the table until after July 1st, the new state fiscal year, correct?

>> SHAY CHAPMAN: That's correct, but we could go ahead and get all the purchasing documents done so it would be ready to go for July 1st. That was Shay.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Cindy has her hand up. Go ahead, Cindy.

>> CINDY SIMON: If I may make a suggestion. Perhaps everyone should go back and look at what the events are coming up for the next fiscal period. Bring back, the information back, and then the Council can decide what events they want to attend and that are responsible within our budget.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Thank you, Cindy.

>> CINDY SIMON: And that amount is reasonable, like, \$200.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Any other comments? Suggestions? Megan?

>> MEGAN CALLAHAN: This is Megan. If we were wanting to attend the It's A Deaf Thing, I just need to know who all would attend. I know Karen already said that she would. I just need to know that, so whenever we do start doing the advance purchasing and all of that, I can give them the names and then I know who to reach out to for additional information if we need it.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: I had signed up for it, but then I realized I had another commitment, so I'm not -- I will not be going.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Chris?

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris. Just on that, I'm sure we can discuss it at the August meeting when it gets a little closer and everybody has better prepared fall schedules.

[Pause].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Do we have a motion to adjourn the meeting?
Before we adjourn, I would like to thank everybody for the opportunity of serving on the Council. I wish you all good luck.
Go ahead, Chris.

>> CHRIS LITTLEWOOD: This is Chris. I make a motion that we adjourn the meeting.

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Second?

>> JOHN JACKSON: [Raises hand].

>> DEBBE HAGNER: Okay. The meeting's adjourned.

[Concludes at 9:52 a.m.]

** This is a text file that was produced by a CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) Caption er to ensure effective communication for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. This file is not a certified, verbatim record, and it should not be quoted as such; nor should this file be distributed without appropriate authorization. **