

MINUTES

Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (FCCDHH)

Courtyard by Marriott

Daytona Beach Speedway/Airport

1605 Richard Petty Blvd.

Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Thursday, August 8 – Friday, August 9, 2019 | Meeting called to order by Karen Goldberg

Call to Order – Thursday, August 8, 2019, 9:00 a.m.

Karen Goldberg, Council Chair, called the meeting to order, and asked each person to introduce themselves for the benefit of the public and new Coordinator. In Eugenia's Halliburton's absence, Debbe Hagner was asked to act as Co-Chair for this meeting.

Council Members Present: Karen Goldberg, Chris Littlewood, Darlene Laibl-Crow, Debra Knox, Mary Hodges, Glenna Ashton, Debbe Hagner.

Council Members on Phone & Chat: Cindy Simon

Council Members Absent: John Johnson, Cecil Bradley, Eugenia Halliburton

Staff Present: Tiffany Baylor, FCCDHH Coordinator, Shayla Kelly, DOH Liaison, Monica Pitts, DOH Liaison,

Introduction of Service Providers:

Karen Goldberg introduced the providers for the day: Lashay, Vanguard Audio Visual, Lisa Johnson, CART Provider, Rebecca Barkowitz, Roger Home, Andrea Crosson, and Chris Costa, Interpreters-Absolute Quality Interpreting Services

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

The minutes were read from the May 9 – 10, 2019 Meeting and approved with the following correction:

Mary Hodges was added to Council Members Present section for the May minutes.

Debbe Hagner motioned to the accept the minutes with corrections. Debra Knox seconded the motion.

Karen Goldberg requested that all Council Members take time to review the agenda and note any needed corrections or additions.

Chris Littlewood suggested that future agendas include the address of the meeting location in the heading.

Debbe Hagner recommended that the agenda's date referring to the May meeting's minutes listed February and needed to be corrected to May.

Karen Goldberg suggest that the future agendas provide a morning "Public Comments" section on the first day of the meeting, to allow the public to not wait until the end of the day to address the council or voice concerns/comments. It was discussed and decided that the future agendas be modified to include a morning "Public Comments" section. For future agendas, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, in the mornings on both mornings, will be set for public comments. Also, the evening of the first day of the Council Meeting from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. will be set for public comments.

Debbe Hagner made a motion that the agenda be approved. Darlene Laibl-Crowe seconded the motion.

Staff Reports

Tiffany Baylor, FCCDHH Coordinator, gave the DOH Update and Task List Report. The points reported were as follows:

- Sending Council letter to FDOH Legal for feedback

- Securement of vendor space for It's a Deaf Thing
- Location and date of next FCCDHH Council meeting
- FCCDHH Council Review of Bylaws
- Council to send links to Shay for Bright Expectations Website
- Completion of the hiring process for new Coordinator
- Council Business Cards
- Website analytics
- PSA follow-up
- Council vacancy follow-up

The Council Vacancy report prompted a question from the Council Chair, Karen Goldberg. A request to know how many, and which seats were still vacant was presented to the Coordinator. Five representative seats were reported to Chair, (Hearing aid Specialist, CART, Parent of a Child with Hearing Loss, FAD, and DSCA). (A break was called to address public access to conference calling to the meeting, and the meeting resumed at 10:00 a.m.)

The discussion continued regarding the appointment and renewal of Council Member seats. Karen Goldberg offered the drafting of a letter to the Governor's office requesting their help in filling our empty seats so that we can have more voices and more representation from all 17 agencies to make up this Council.

Monica Pitts reminded the Chair that, based on the Sunshine Law, the letter could not be drafted as a group effort unless it is drafted during the public meeting.

Karen Goldberg stated that she would draft the letter independently, then provide it to the Council for review during the Friday, August 8, 2019 portion of the Council meeting.

[Bylaws Discussion for Update](#)

The Chair requested that the discussion of the Bylaws be completed by each Council Member reading aloud an assigned portion of the Bylaws.

Tiffany Baylor was requested to report the submissions by Council Members regarding suggested updates to the Bylaw's wording and content. The document was displayed on the screen. Glenna Ashton requested that the submitted suggestions be discussed as they appear on the document. Chris Littlewood request that reading the entire 10-page bylaws aloud was not an efficient use of the allotted meeting time and CART services, and therefore should be brought to a vote. Debra Knox voiced agreement, stating that the Council would be better stewards of meeting time by discussing the submissions by Council Members. It was called to a vote, and addressing the submissions was voted. The main discussions involved:

- Hard of hearing definition – Avoid adding numeric specifications for degrees of hearing loss
- Contradicting the verbiage from the Florida Statutes
- Adding Technology to the EMO committee, thus making it EMOT
- Executive Committee term length, from one year to two years
- Section 5 re-arranging of sentences to be more clear
- Updates in Article II, Membership and Composition, Section 1, Composition
- Spelling error in Article VI, Section 4
- The phrase "Tactile Communication"
- Listing other forms of communication for the deaf, not solely ASL
- Cindy Simon added via phone definition of deaf based on audiologist perspective.

[Break - 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.](#)

Vanguard Audio prepared for the first presenter's PowerPoint projection. Due to technical difficulties, the PowerPoint was displayed from the Coordinator's computer. The presentation began on time as scheduled.

[Presenter – Scott Walsh, Deaf education and Training Specialist](#)

Scott Walsh presented on the Current and Upcoming Events for the Resource, Materials, and Technology Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RMTCD/HH)

The main points included information regarding the Finger Spelling Our Way Program, Trainings for families and professionals, Newsletters, Self Determination Celebrations, Calendar, and Introducing the RMTCD/HH Staff.

Following the presentation, Scott Walsh addressed questions from the Council Members.

Lunch - 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 1:17 p.m. when Karen Goldberg called the meeting back to order.

Introduction of Council Members

The introduction of Council Members was an opportunity for Council Members to share their experience with hearing loss, and how their professional and advocacy efforts work to enhance the lives of people with hearing loss. Each Council Member shared their name, cause and onset of deafness, and advocacy affiliations which they are involved. The order of presentation was as follows:

Glenna Ashton, FAD/Debbe Hagner, HLAA-FL/Chris Littlewood, ALDA/Darlene Laibl-Crowe, FDBA/Tiffany Baylor, FCCDHH/Mary Hodges, Elder Affairs

Council Members and the members of the community were offered the opportunity to ask questions of the Council Members related to their introductions.

At 1:59 p.m., Karen Goldberg requested that due to the upcoming scheduled agenda item “Public Comments,” the Introduction of Council Members agenda item will be ended and resumed if there is available time later in the Agenda.

Public Comments

The Public Comments agenda item was opened to the members of the public, either in the room, on the phone, or joining us on the internet chat at 2:00 p.m. by Karen Goldberg. All persons interested in speaking during the Public Comment were asked to complete a public comment card and submit to the FCCDHH Coordinator.

There were no community members present in person nor on the phone/chat.

Cindy Simon, Council Member identified herself and asked to share.

At that time, Cindy Simon, Audiologist, Debra Knox, AG Florida, and Karen Goldberg completed the “Introduction of Council Members” agenda item, which included a question and answer opportunity for the Council and Community.

Questions were opened to the Council Members and members of the public by Karen Goldberg.

This portion of the agenda was completed at 2:00 p.m. to prepare for the second presenter, Disability Rights Florida.

Presenter – Ann Seigel, Director of Advocacy, Barb Page, Senior Advocate/Investigator

Presenters Ann Seigel, and Barb Page from Disability Rights Florida Presented on Advocacy for Effective Communication; Discussion of Service Delivery for Individuals Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The presentation’s topic focus areas were:

- Disability Rights Florida; staff, mission, and their process
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); Effective Communication & Interpreters
- Medical Access; Medical Professionals & Hospitals
- Court and Settlement Decisions; DCF & Lifemark Hospitals

- Collaboration with FCCDHH; Advocacy, Education, Medical Accessibility Task Force
- Resources

Questions and comments were asked by Council Members.

- Karen Goldberg – Collaboration with Disability Rights Florida in 30 Year Anniversary of ADA
- Glenna Ashton – The need for Hospitals to include the cost of interpreters in their budget
- Debbe Hagner – Positive accommodation experiences in medical arena
- Tiffany Baylor – The criteria for a medical professional claiming “Undue Burden”
- Mary Hodges – Effective Communication
- Cindy Simon – Licensing Board awareness of ADA requirements regarding the Deaf
- Debra Knox – Asked to add Disability Rights Florida as a resource on the FCCDHH Website

Break - 3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Karen Goldberg called the Council back to order at 4:00 p.m. for Committee Updates

Committee Updates

Karen Goldberg requested that the committees provide an oral report to the Council and community. The committee’s reports are summarized as follows:

- Web Committee: Darlene Laibl-Crowe reported that she had nothing to report at this time. It was stated that the FCCDHH Facebook page had gotten more responses recently. There have been over 800 likes. Generally, the comments have been looking for jobs, looking for interpreters, and making homes safe for the deaf and hard of hearing. There was also discussion regarding protocol for dealing with negative comments on the Facebook Page.
- Education, Medical Outreach, Technology Committee: Cindy Simon, EMOT Co-Chair, reported that the committee plans to begin re-addressing the creation of a PSA. A tentative date for the GoToMeeting is Friday, October 11, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. The CART provider, Lisa Johnson, was informed of the meeting plan.
- Legislative Committee: Glenna Ashton, Legislative Committee Chair, reported that the committee will be meeting in the fall to prepare for the February 2020 Council Meeting. She stated that the Fall would be a good time for Council Members to have their representative agencies to start contacting the Legislators and let them know that they will be seeing them in February. Glenna Ashton asked if there were any committee members who would be willing to go visit legislators the day before the Legislative Committee’s business meeting in February? Karen Goldberg, Debbe Hagner, Debra Knox and Glenna responded in the affirmative. Chris Littlewood and Cindy Simon stated the need to check their schedule.
- Budget Committee: Cecil Bradley, Budget Committee Chair, was provided with a copy of the budget to approve prior to the meeting. The budget was approved. Tiffany Baylor was asked to provide the report to the Council in his absence. The July 2019 – June 2020 Budget report was read by Tiffany Baylor. Council Members Karen, Debra Hagner, Mary Hodges, and Cindy Simon noticed an error in the budget. Tiffany informed the Council that she would discuss the error with DOH and inform them of the outcome.

Monica Pitts reminded the Chair and Council that the time was 4:53 p.m.

Public Comments

Karen Goldberg opened Public Comments at 5:01 p.m. and inquired whether there were any community members on the phone line or on the chat that had joined the Council Meeting and wished to make public comments. There were no responses. Karen Goldberg continued to offer a welcome for Public Comments for

four (4) opportunities throughout the Public Comments scheduled agenda time. There were no respondents during the Public Comments during the 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. hour.

The Council resumed the discussion regarding the Rally to Tally 30th Year Celebration of the ADA.

The Council discussed options for Having a Rally to Tally 30th Year Anniversary of the ADA. The possibility of Co-organizing the event with another agency, such as APD, was discussed. APD was called on the morning of Friday, August 9th, however there was no answer.

The Council discussed budget allocations for “Special Projects,” and whether the Rally to Tally constituted a “Special Project.”

The Council discussed possible dates for the February Council meeting, suggesting that the date be changed from the second week in February, to the 6th & 7th of February. Karen Goldberg suggested that the Rally to Tally can be done in conjunction with those dates on Wednesday, February 5, 2019.

The possibility the provision of hearing screenings for attendees of Rally to Tally was discussed.

The event flyer from APD’s 25th Year Celebration of the ADA was provided to the Council Members as a reference.

Darlene Laibl-Crow suggested that the DOH Develop an outreach program in which they collaborate with individual counties, health departments, and develop an outreach program. Ms. Laibl-Crow stated that doing his could address the Patient Advocacy departments to educate about the needs of people who are deaf or hard of hearing when they visit a medical facility/hospital.

Tiffany Baylor provided the Council with draft FCCDHH business cards and requested input on revisions. The Council provided their input.

A previous presenter, and audience member, Scott Walsh offered the suggestion of including a QR Code to the back of the FCCDHH business card to allow ease of access to the FCCDHH website. The Council experimented with the QR Code that he provided from RMTCD/HH and agreed that it could be beneficial for FCCDHH business cards.

Karen Goldberg requested that Tiffany Baylor work on the following action items related to Rally to Tally.

- Availability for rotunda.
- Procedure to have a Rally to Tally
- Is permission from the Legislature required to bring in a group
- What is the procedure for gaining permission to bring in a group?
- What permissions are required? (DOH, Legislature, etc.)

Darlene Laibl-Crow Requested information about the next two FCCDHH Council Meeting dates and locations, in order to put the information on the FCCDHH Facebook page.

Debbe Hagner discussed the need to disseminate medical information to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. The need was evident with the recent Hepatitis A concerns in South Florida. Karen Goldberg stated that Deafhealth.org as an organization gives clear and concise information, promoting overall wellness of the deaf and hard of hearing community. They also provide signed information about different disorders and give up to date information. A list of deaf friendly doctors is also available through Deafhealth.org.

Debbe Hagner discussed providing better notice to the community regarding the FCCDHH upcoming meetings through assistance from DOH staff, and FCCDHH Coordinator. Chris Littlewood added that the dissemination of the public announcement to independent living centers, any deaf and hard of hearing organizations, schools that serve children that are deaf or hard of hearing, and any groups that may be of interest to this meeting, to really pack the house.

Glenna Ashton requested about whether Tiffany Baylor, Coordinator, is allowed to be added as Website Administrator in order for her to monitor, and post to the website. Chris Littlewood shared that the social media website was to be independently maintained by the council members, rather than DOH staff, because it’s not an official DOH website. It was suggested that further verification from the DOE be done on that subject.

Karen Goldberg adjourned the meeting for the day at 6:01 p.m. and informed all Council Members of the Call to Order time the following day.

Call to Order – Friday, August 9, 2019

The FCCDHH Council Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m., by Karen Goldberg, Chair. The Chair called for introductions.

Council Members present were: Mary Hodges - Elder Affairs, Glenna Aston – FAD, Debbe Hagner – HLAA, Karen Goldberg – HLAA, Chris Littlewood – ALDA, Darlene Laibl-Crowe – Deaf/Blind Rep., Cindy Simon – Audiologists Rep. (via phone)

Debra Knox, who is representing A.G. Bell, is unable to be here for day two of our meeting. Eugenia Halliburton, Vice Chair, attempted repeatedly to access the meeting, yet has been unsuccessful.

The staff present were: Monica Pitts – DOH, Shayla Kelly – DOH, Tiffany Baylor – Coordinator.

Committee Updates Wrap-Up/Updates & Sharing

Karen Goldberg posed a question to the council, “How do we make a difference?” and opened the floor for responses from the council.

Chris Littlewood offered the drafting of a letter to be sent to Governor's Offices, legislators, and organizations, and specific departments that have been identified as having Access to Communication/Advocacy issues, such as hospitals.

Karen Goldberg stated that a letter was sent to DOH legal department for legal advice on the parameters on addressing legislators and hospitals based on community reported information.

Mary Hodges shared the option of a quarterly newsletter that would serve as a summary of the Council Meetings, which would be distributed both electronically and in hard copy.

The Council Members discussed options for drafting, input, and the components to be included in the newsletter. The components would be Public Emergency & Access, Health Care, Education, Disability Rights, Agency Highlights, Available Seats to Council, Caption 911 Updates, and meeting presenter summaries. The input would be taken from a combination of the CART Draft and the Minutes. Chris Littlewood suggested an E-Blast format for the newsletter. Sample newsletters (the FRID-Day Flash, and the Champion) were shared by Karen Goldberg and Glenna Ashton as an example.

Tiffany Baylor was tasked with securing APD to present at the November FCCDHH Council Meeting.

Mary Hodges suggested the Minutes format and detail be modified to include more detail.

Cindy Simon agreed to send a list of various departments in Tallahassee which FCCDHH could communicate and offer our services and assistance to the FCCDHH Coordinator to be disseminated to the entire council.

Chris Littlewood provided a Text to 911 status update and asked that Tiffany Baylor provide monthly update emails to the Council with the FCC link.

Debbe Hagner stated the need to update the FCCDHH Council photo on the FCCDHH Website and Facebook. Karen Goldberg noted that that should be completed by the Website Committee.

Karen Goldberg introduced a letter that she wrote to the Governor's office regarding the appointment of Council Member seats. The Council worked together to complete the review/proofreading/and formatting of the letter. It was decided that the Chair would respond to the email received from the Appointments using the formatted letter along with any information provided by the Appointments office regarding what has been received. The letter will be 'cc'd to DOH for Tiffany Baylor to disseminate to the Council.

Karen Goldberg contacted Jacqueline Feltgen at the Appointments Office confirmed there are two active applications in the office right now for appointments to the FCCDHH Council. Karen Goldberg received a

second email stating that Seat 12 & Seat 2 had applications on file. The appointment application for Cindy Simon, and This email was to be sent to Shay Chapman and Tiffany Baylor.

Karen Goldberg took a poll of the Council Members who have reapplied to add the information to share with the Appointments office. Chris Littlewood, Debbe Hagner, and Cindy Simon were identified as having reapplied.

Karen Goldberg, with the assistance of Council Members drafted a response to the email received from the Appointments Office to inform them that several Council Members had reapplied and were not listed. Debbe Hagner, Chris Littlewood, and Cindy Simon, (term renewal), James Scott for FAD; June Ann LeFors for a parent; and Elissa Lejuene for hearing aid specialist, Margaret Brown (Peggy) for DSCA. (new applicants).

Review of Upcoming Meeting Dates and Locations

The upcoming FCCDHH Meeting dates are:
Thursday, November 7th – Friday, November 8th, 2019.

The meeting times are:
Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The location for the meeting will be:
Hyatt Regency Coconut Point
5001 Coconut Road
Bonita Springs, FL 34134
Blue Heron Meeting Room
Room reservation information, including booking window, will be provided shortly.

Review of Public Comments

Karen Goldberg opened the Review of Public Comments and asked if any had been received from the community via email that needed review. Tiffany Baylor reported that there were none.

Karen Goldberg requested that a sheet containing public comments/phone calls/emails received by the Coordinator be included in the Council Member's binders for discussion.

In response to the Web Committee's request to add Tiffany Baylor as a FCCDHH Facebook Page Administrator, Monica Pitts reminded the Chair that we will need to verify with DOH regarding adding Tiffany Baylor as an administrator for the Facebook page.

Tiffany Baylor distributed the analytics regarding the FCCDHH Website for Council Member discussion.

Break

There was no break observed. Discussion continued from the Review of Public Comments.

Public Comments

Karen Goldberg inquired if there were any community members who wished to provide public comments via phone or chat. There was no response.

Karen Goldberg requested that the Council be assigned each a section of the bylaws to review and provide comments at GoToMeeting on October 11, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. The Chair also requested that 90 minutes be allotted for Bylaws review in the November agenda.

Karen Goldberg requested that the Bylaws, once updated, be provided to the Council in cardstock.

Debbe Hagner requested that the webmaster update the website with the date of the November FCCDHH Meeting and the location.

Chris Littlewood stated that he would need to leave early, however, reminded the Council that the ALDA meeting next Tuesday, will be discussing the Text to 911 and emergency management and can be accessed through StreamText. He was excused by the Chair.

Darlene Laibl-Crowe reported that she needed to leave due to a family emergency. She was excused by the Chair.

Karen Goldberg paused to inquire about any public comments on five opportunities throughout the Public Comments agenda item. There were no responses.

Mary Hodges reported that she had identified the official National ADA 30th Year Celebration date is July 26, 2020. And suggested that our Rally in Tally celebration be in conjunction with that. Mary Hodges reported that the ADA website provides fact sheets, publications, resources, and several other useful resources which FCCDHH could use to promote their celebration.

Adjournment

Karen Goldberg adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

August 9, 2019, 12:00 p.m.

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