



WADHH

Serving Deaf, Deaf-Blind, Hard of Hearing & Hearing Loss Individuals



Spokane Town Hall Minutes for September 18, 2020 via Zoom

I. Meeting: began at 1:00 pm. - Sandra Carr/Terese Rognmo - co-hosts

Attendance: (17)

Bryan Branson, Larry G., Robin Traveller, Twina/Jerry Paulus, Zachary, Caroline Allen, Harriette A. Wyene, Karen Atwood, Genie (VP of WSAD), Dan/Jamie, Stephen Hucke, Terese Rognmo, Don Redford, Jim West, Wanda Forcht, Sandra Carr.

Issues:

1. Follow up on last town hall meeting in fall of 2019. (Terese has this information)
2. Nothing has been done due to virus, fire, protest, etc.
- 3.. It would be ideal to meet together in person, but not feasible due to crisis - Zoom is the best option.

Classes:

1. Zoom advanced training
2. Genie/Karen Atwood of WSAD- took advanced training in Zoom under NAD. These ladies are willing to offer assistance.
3. ASL - many contacts asking for it.

Senior Citizens:

1. Senior Companionships - lost contract due to Coronavirus (Covid 19)
2. To work with Senior Citizens - many do not have technology to use, lack of technical skills: suggestions - to write letters (many enjoys deaf jokes, stories). Make calls, and use e-mails. Suggestion letters to be send out once a month.
3. Zoom - keyword for communication for S.C.

Interviewing process:

15. CA positions are open: have 5 candidates for interviews.
16. For interviewing candidates - local community members like to be involved to assist and able to select for the best fitting for their own centers.

Communication, newsletter, etc.:

1. Advance notice for scheduling the events of any kind
2. Any events, can be passed on to CAs to the Senior Citizens.
3. Jobs - many are working from home - contact them via Zoom, phone, e-mails. For Spokane: Contact Michael Fox.
4. Some suggestion to use Sorenson for group meeting.
5. One individual attended the meetings related to government uses Sorenson.

Loneness:

1. Too many deaf people are alone - lonely, need feedback how to get together involved. It was suggested games could be found online and join in the group games.

Survey:

1. Need to set up survey - gather data via VP, one on one, e-mail, in person.
2. Need Ex Board, with CEO, and CAs, etc. - get together and set up survey question.

Week of Sept. 24 - Deaf Awareness Week.

For Spokane Census: Zoom on September 24 - need to finish the project - to meet the criteria for income.

Advisory Committees:

1. Set up 3 people for the advisory committees and to meet often to discuss their communities' needs and share the information with the board.
2. Advisory Committees are to gather information for newsletter - Acquire approval from CEO before information to be printed.

Meetings: Town Hall, Board Meetings

10. Centers are open for anyone to join in on Zoom.
13. Encourage to use Zoom at WADHH board meetings.
21. Meet 2 times a year via Zoom from each area.
23. Zoom meeting - Friday is not preferable due many people still working.

Donations:

1. People with mental health, homeless - need help with clothing, food - need to be specific as to exact what are needed. Not general "drop-off" stuffs which would have to be sorted and tossed out. General food is not allowed due to liability.
2. Choose specific families that need help - and request specific stuffs to donate due to virus, fire, etc. Get these info from CAs.

Data collecting:

1. Need to collecting data to show the needs of the deaf population - to bring attention to state legislature.
2. Set up data for e-mails

Grants, Revenue, fundraising:

1. Right now we rely 100% on ODHH for grant to provide services in all 3 regions.
2. Looking into for grants to support Senior Citizens. Disappointed to lose contracts from ODHH. Need fund raisings.
3. Grant writer - Plan to hire - for mental health, housing assistance for homeless, etc. (many deaf individuals jump from friend's house to house - not notable out on the street with the other homeless people).

Hard of Hearing:

22. Service is needed for hard of hearing - they do not fit in with the deaf people.

Meeting ended at 3:00 pm.

Wanda Forcht, Secretary of the WADHH Board