

## **SDAD Board special meeting**

Held at the SDAD Center Thursday December 3rd, 2009

The SDAD Board meeting came to order at 5:45 PM with the following Board members present:

President Tom Kober; Vice President Nikki Soukup-Darland; Secretary David Dahle; Treasurer Arlin Devish; At-large members Tim Jackson, Pat Anderson-O'Neill, Patty Kuglitsch, and Jimmy Mitchell. Mark Johnson was present but excused.

There were several items for which Tom called the special meeting -

Board member resignations:

Tom Kober informed the Board that two at-large members have submitted resignations and which will have to be ratified at the next regular Board meeting in January – he is seeking replacements.

Jimmy Mitchell – when he was elected to the Board at the conference, he thought it would be fun to return to the Board after stepping down a number of years ago, but has come to realize he no longer has the passion to serve and would prefer to step down now and let someone younger take his place. Larry Puthoff has been suggested as a possible replacement.

Mark Johnson – has decided to step down due to the previously identified conflict of interest as a paid employee of SDAD and his desire to remain the SDAD Center Coordinator. Because this position is for four years, Tom admitted it has been a little more of a challenge to find possible replacements.

Snack Bar changes:

The SDAD/CSD agreement was reviewed and it was determined that in the best interests of all involved, the members of the SDAD House committee would all become part-time CSD employees so that all would be covered under CSD's liability policy. All the House Committee members would continue to report to Mark Johnson and Mark (and LaDonna Haake-Johnson) in turn would report directly to Tom.

Holiday (Christmas) Dinner:

In the past, this dinner has been held by SDAD as a perk for its members, with non-members paying for their share. A recent event put on by an outside company drew a surprising number of deaf people who were not members of SDAD. Therefore, this year, CSD and SDAD are going to share expenses and open the dinner to the deaf community at large (and which would be a fine opportunity to recruit new members for SDAD). We will be using the same caterer (Tony's) that we have used for the dinner the past few years. Nikki has agreed to lead the efforts to collect updated address information. Arlin agreed to be Santa Claus, and it was agreed that we would buy 60 candy-filled canes for Santa to give out to kids attending. Augustana College interpreting program students will provide the entertainment. The dinner will be held at 11AM to 3PM, but the Board is to be present at 10AM.

#### Interpreter issues:

An Interpreting Work Group meeting was recently held with Grady Kickul and Janet Ball from the SD DHS, Tom, and several local interpreters (all of whom held level 4 or 5 certificates). Tom shared that for him, the meeting was oppressive for two reasons. First, the interpreter provided by Janet and Grady did not do a very good job. Second (and which angered Tom), none of the other interpreters present made any attempt to correct the numerous errors made by the state interpreter. He suggested that SDAD take the lead in convening an interpreting forum to bring as many interpreters as possible together and also to include as many deaf consumers as possible to help the interpreters understand the issues deaf people face with the interpreters' current mentality. He also suggested that SDAD will need to take an active role in the upcoming legislative session regarding interpreting issues and seek to have it clearly defined the environments where interpreters holding provisional certificates may be and shall not be used.

#### New Years' Eve:

Over the last few years, SDAD and/or CSD had hosted a New Years' Eve party at the SDAD Center, and although enjoyed by those who attended, the number of attendees has been shrinking over the past few years as members chose to attend private parties instead. It has been decided that this year, the center will just be open and normal closing procedures will be followed. For those that choose to come, BYOB is allowed with the stipulation that the center will NOT provide any means to keep members' beverages cool. The 'BYOB' will also only be advertised by word of mouth. Mark Johnson mentioned that there may be a rental on December 30, and if it comes to pass, then it may not be a good idea to proceed to open on New Years' Eve.

The meeting was dismissed around 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

David Dahle