

Board Report

HLAA-WA/Let's Loop Seattle

May 2, 2015

Arts and Entertainment

Town Hall Seattle: Town Hall Seattle continues to offer fantastic looped programs, which we promote regularly. I've been working with them to improve the spill issues, and they've been receptive. They also continue to endorse and recommend the loop to other venues.

5th Avenue Theatre:

Seattle Rep: They have secured a bid for looping. I wrote a letter of concern regarding their captions—how captions are not really clearly visible from our season tickets.

Seattle Children's Theatre: They have secured a bid for looping.

Kimberly Parker's *Lost in Sound*: We promoted Kimberly's show via social media and email. Several of us attended. It was again well-received.

Seattle Mariners: The Mariners have installed a Williams Sound hearing loop at Safeco Field's north and south ticket offices. I'm working on developing a story with pictures; I've already interviewed their spokeswoman, Rebecca. Dean Olson at WashCAP has been working with the Mariners on hearing access and these booths, including testing.

Collaboration with WashCAP: I met with Dean Olson to discuss a collaborative effort for improving theater access.

Village Theatre: The new development director, Frank Stilwagner, is interested in looping. I've connected with him.

Everett Performing Arts Center: Spencer Norby is working with this group. They are have bids and are actively working to facilitate the process to install a loop.

Admiral Theatre: The Admiral Theatre has received funds to remodel. I sent an email offering help and encouraging them to consider hearing access in their plans.

Civic Access

Bellevue: Meydenbauer Center is moving forward with plans include a loop in their 2015 remodel project. I've connected with them to offer support and guidance.

City of Seattle: The City of Seattle chamber looping project has not gone well; confusion, incorrect bids, and bureaucracy have delayed and muddled this project. Dr. Myers joined Karen and me for the last meeting.

Social Media Promotions

Accessible events: We continue to promote accessible events as much as possible and thank/tweet/FB our gratitude.

General hearing loss and loop support via social media.

Outreach

HLAA's 35th Birthday: I've been using HLAA's 35th logo on handouts and correspondence.

Accessible events update: Continued to post weekly accessible events updates to encourage attendance. More and more looped events are available.

Alzheimer's Association: Diana Thompson has done research and presented proposals to have hearing loss included in the State Alzheimer's. Karen and I have attended the regional Alzheimer's Association state planning meetings and the Town Hall keynote speech on the Alzheimer's program, and we ran the booth at the Alzheimer's conference. We're encouraging this organization to include hearing loss in their planning.

HSDC: I'm excited to be strengthening our relationships with HSDC.

HLAA Conference: I'm creating a PowerPoint presentation for the conference along with Juliette Sterkens and Joanne Devries.

Hearing Loop training: We've encouraged people, including AV professionals, to attend hearing loop training provided by Contacta and ListenTech.

WSAA and Hearing Health Providers

UW: I've been working with Dr. Kelly Tremblay to present common scenarios on life with hearing loss as it relates to our partners and families. She's developing solutions and strategies to help improve family and partner communication.

Other PR and Communications

Website: Let's Loop Seattle's website continues to get updates and regular blog posts. We've updated our list of looped venues and made it downloadable.

Sound Waves: I wrote an article discussing the State ODHH mobile and office loop program (See below.)

Legislative/Government Advocacy

CSO and mobile van loops: The ODHH has installed seventy-five hearing loops in offices and in their mobile assistance vans. I created a consumer card for these and interviewed Eric. We have a list on the Let's Loop Seattle website.

Senior Lobby: Karen and I have been meeting with the senior lobby, encouraging them to include hearing loss in state planning.

White House Conference on Aging: We wrote a flyer and letter to encourage the White House Conference on Aging to including hearing loss as part of their plan. Via social media we encouraged people to participate and watch the proceedings live via web.

Hearing and Speech Board: We have encouraged HLAA members to apply for this position.

Hearing Aids and Federal Funding: Meeting scheduled with 1st district representative Suzan DelBene on Manday, May 4, 2015

Fundraising

Give Big: I worked on the appeal letter and profile for our GiveBIG 2015 campaign.