

**HLAA-WA Annual Meeting
November 5, 2016, 10:00 a.m.
Burlington Library, Burlington WA**



Board Members Present:

Karen Utter, President
Sandy Bunning
Judi Carr
Bill Collison
Don Gischer
Devin Myers
Kimberly Parker
Cheri Perazzoli
Glenda Philio
Jayesh Unadkat
Warren Weissman

Other Members Present:

Charlie Pilkey
Joanna Olmstead
Jerry Olmstead
Erlene Little
Diana Thompson
Patti Maisch
Cynthia Stewart
Annette Johnson
Joe Parker
David Hart, Captioner
Deborah O'Willow, Director, WA State ODHH
Kathy, Interpreter
Lori, Interpreter

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. by Karen Utter, President. She presented David Hart, who provided CART services, and she explained that the meeting room was looped. Following introductions of participants and presentation of meeting communication rules, Ms. Utter introduced Deborah O'Willow, Director, Washington State Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH).

Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Deborah O'Willow, Director, ODHH, explained that she started in her position as Director in January 2016. She described the functions of the Office and its goals. The office is a division under the Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA) organization within the Department of Social and Health Services.

ODHH Goals

- Visibility
- Access
- Partnerships
- Quality Services

ODHH Services

- 7 Regional Service Centers around the state.
- Assistive communication technology (Di Cinney) - loops, training, how to use the loop systems.
- Service providers, the agencies around the state that are under AL TSA that can be accessed.
- Communication access services for providers (Catherine Pierce) - training to service providers in how to work with clients who have hearing loss.
- TED (Telecommunication Equipment Distribution) (Kelly Robinson) - access communication equipment, including TTY's, iPads, amplified telephones, etc.
- Tele-communication relay service (Steve Peck).

- Sign language interpreter management (Beryl Ross). New emphasis on mental health hospital needs.
- Community outreach (Suzanne Manella) - information referral, go and do presentations about ODHH, emailing, calling, liaison with the tribal communities, deaf senior citizen communities, hard of hearing communities, and youth, teens, the teen community as well. There is an emphasis on the large systems, such as Dept. of Motor Vehicles, Dept. of Licensing, larger hospitals, etc.

ODHH staff primarily manage the contracts for people who provide the direct service. ODHH staff does not provide direct service. In response to a question about the number of hearing staff, Ms. O'Willow indicated that there are five hearing staff and her intention is to not ignore people with hearing loss.

After her presentation, Ms. O'Willow led the group in a facilitated brainstorm discussion of how ODHH could better assist people with hearing loss and HLAA-WA in particular. Three brainstorm groups identified the following points, which Ms. O'Willow agreed to take back to the office and consider.

Group 1: Partnering between ODHH and HLAA-WA
<p><u>Issues:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with hearing loss don't use interpreters. How to better communicate with all in ODHH? • How do we know what ODHH is doing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Newsletters? ○ Email? ○ Blog? ○ Coordinate Website Info? • How do we get our ideas to ODHH? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can we connect directly with you? What is best ○ You can submit articles to Sound Waves! <p><u>Projects:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HLAA will include info to ODHH on projects, Bills, Access work, etc. <p><u>Ideas:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaf and hard of hearing is now • Hard of hearing people would like Deaf or Hard of Hearing to help with identity

Group 2: How Can We Communicate Better?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistive Listening and Nursing Homes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Checklist/inspections/inventory ○ What is available and where? (amplification) • Personal amplifiers such as Pocket Talkers for all case managers • Audiologist training for hearing success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Profound loss ○ Require them to discuss telecoils and how to use public ADA mandated listening systems with clients • ODHH/HLAA online resources and collaboration platform

Group 3: How HLAA-WA Can Partner with ODHH

- Connecting with and educating legislators
- Obtaining personal amplifiers such as Pocket Talkers for hospitals, case managers
- Recommend Training Curriculum
- Built in Access- Building Code
- Convention Centers – Pay for access
- HALL/Everywhere build chapters
- Providing Peer Mentoring opportunities
- Increase Visibility and awareness
- Focus group strategy
- Publicity

Following the session with Ms. O’Willow, there was a break.

Nominations Report & Election of Officers

Judi Carr, as Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of proposed new officers. After introductions, the slate was elected as proposed and the officers took the oath of office. Certificates of election were presented. The list of officers as elected is attached.

Certificates of participation were given to the most recent past Board members. Cheri Perazzoli presented a plaque of appreciation to Karen Utter for her service as President. Specific recognition for achievements in the past year was given to Diana Thompson, for legislative work; and Don Gischer, outgoing Secretary.

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes were not available, so this item was deferred.

Treasurer’s Report

Bill Collison, Treasurer, handed out copies of the Treasurer’s report and discussed the bank account balance, which is approximately \$63,000.

The proposed budget for the upcoming year was also distributed and discussed. There was discussion of fundraising issues, newsletter advertising, and anticipated income. GiveBIG estimates were lowered for the coming year.

An issue for further development is how to get HLAA visibility increased, get newsletters into libraries, and work with audiologists to get information into their offices without seeming in competition with them, and the potential budget needs for these activities.

Advocacy Report

Cheri Perazzoli distributed a written report of activities in the past year and discussed advocacy plans for the upcoming year. She described work with the Alzheimer’s study group and

potential legislation to restore hearing aid coverage for adults on Medicaid, the top priority for this year. HLAA will continue to be represented at the Washington State Senior Lobby.

Training Day with Oregon

Kimberly Parker described an upcoming Board training planned in conjunction with the Oregon association of HLAA. This will be held in Vancouver WA in March.

Communications/Sound Waves

Warren Weissman noted that Sound Waves was recognized at the national HLAA convention as the best state newsletter. Advertising is going well. He is considering electronic versions and whether more work should be done by email and less by hard copy. Advertising generates about \$4000 per year, and printing costs about \$8000 per year. He also noted that much of the world is moving away from paper. A number of people expressed a preference for hard copy. An advantage of the hard copy is the ability to distribute it to a variety of sites for promotion and outreach.

The website was discussed, including the need to update it a bit. Warren will form a committee that includes Jayesh Unadkat to develop a communication plan. Warren also discussed the relationship of chapters to the overall HLAA-WA mission and how that relates to communications. He expressed the expectation that members will join more because of the HLAA role in improving care for people with hearing loss and disseminating information; the chapter approach is not as in demand as it once was. This means that our methods of communication should be examined in that light. How to work with audiologists to get the word out was again discussed.

Nominating Committee for Next Year

Glenda Philio, Judi Carr and Devin Myers were appointed to be the Nominating Committee for 2017 elections.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Stewart, Secretary

2017 HLAA-WA BOARD					
Name	Title(s)	Email	Home Phone	Cell Phone	Address
Wes Brosman	2018 Trustee	wesbro@techline.com	360-537-0456	360-580-8961	21 Meander Way Aberdeen, WA 98520
Sandra Bunning	2017 Trustee <i>Correspondence</i>	smb39@comcast.net	425-255-2992 Emergency Only	n/a	12820 Patriot Way SE Renton, WA 98059
Judi Carr	2017 Trustee	judi.carr@comcast.net	206-535-8824	206-817-7212 Text	9230 2nd Avenue SW, #107C Seattle, WA 98106
Bill Collison*	2019 Trustee Treasurer	bill@thecollisons.com	(206) 527-0667	206-601-6986	3043 NE 100th St Seattle, WA 98125
Don Gischer	2018 Trustee	DonGischer@comcast.net	360-647-6728	360-220-2926 Text OK	3425 Alabama St. Bellingham, WA 98226
Devin Myers	2018 Trustee	devinmyers@hotmail.com	n/a	425-374-9310 Text OK	615 N "L" Street, Apt. 4 Tacoma, WA 98403-1708
Kimberly Parker	2017 Trustee Outreach	kimberlyparker@yahoo.com	360-620-9866	360-620-9866 Text OK	540 NW Carolyn Lane Poulsbo, WA 98370
Cheri Perazzoli*	2017 Trustee <i>Dir. of Advocacy Loop Washington</i>	cheripz@gmail.com access@hearingloss-wa.org	425 785-4904	425-785-4904 Text OK	11810 209th Av NE Redmond, WA. 98053
Steve Pettijohn	2018 Trustee	spettijohn@msn.com	360-668-3180	425-359-6548	9606 Woods Pl. Snohomish, WA 98296-7128
Glenda Philio	2019 Trustee	philiofam@gmail.com	253-631-2345	253-740-5907 Text OK	19846 140th Ave SE Renton, WA 98058-7722
Cynthia Stewart*	2019 Trustee Secretary	stewdahl@comcast.net admin@hearingloss-wa.org	n/a	206-310-8965 Text OK	2809 Yelm Hwy SE Olympia, WA 98501-4829
Karen Utter	2017 Trustee Past President	SeattleHLA@gmail.com	425-742-3228	206-817-3213 Text OK	4820 156th Place SW Edmonds, WA 98026-4846
Jayesh Unadkat	2019 Trustee Webmaster	junadkat@gmail.com	n/a	425-922-8139 Text OK	3135 222nd Ct SE Sammamish WA 98075-7215
Warren Weissman*	2018 Trustee President & Editor	warrenweissman@hotmail.com HLA-WA@hearingloss-wa.org	n/a	914-774-4016 Text OK	2607 Western Ave. Apt 704 Seattle, WA 98121-1379
<i>Kelly Tremblay, PhD</i>	<i>HLAA Board Member</i>	tremblay@UW.edu			Seattle, WA

- Executive Committee