

**Volunteers Assisting the Disabled**  
**ZOOM Board Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**January 26, 2022**

**VAD Board Members:** Present- Todd Nuppnau, Linda Johnson, Keith Moss, Ronita "Peach" Ptaszek, Carina Grennan, Sue Harris, Brad Ross, Jake Wedlick

**VAD Members Present (by first name):** Barb Stein, Carol Calvert, Christina Noelle, Cindy Danner, Ian McIlhargey, Jeremy Head, Jessica Parrish, Jillian LaMothe, Kathy D'Angelo, Kelly McIlhargey, Kenny Haran, Lorraine Haran, Lynn Navarro, Mark Catanzaro, Melissa Ross, Michelle Haran, Rosie Whitcher-Appel, Zachary Powell

**Visitors Present:** Brandie Hinson, Marie Clavenna

**I. Opening-** The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Linda Johnson

**II. Financial Reports (Treasurer):** Keith presented the November and December 2021 financials. Once reviewed Peach made a motion to approve. Seconded by Todd. All ayes. Approved.

**III. Meeting Minutes (Secretary):** The November meeting minutes were pulled up on the screen for review. No changes needed. Linda made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections. Seconded by Carina. All ayes. Approved.

**IV. Communications (Kathy D'Angelo):**

- A. Sunshine Cards (Kathy)- Kathy reported the cards that she sent out since the last meeting. Todd reminded those in attendance to let Kathy know if a sympathy, get well, encouragement, etc. card needs to be sent.
- B. Thank You Cards/Emails (Peach)- Let Peach know if any Thank You correspondence needs to be sent.

**V. Old Business:**

A. Meeting Requirements

1. Increasing Attendance- The Board had a closed meeting and made a change to the bylaws requiring all VAD members to:
  - attend two or more meetings (instead of just one) to be able to vote for the Board at the annual meeting
  - attend the majority of the year's meetings (instead of just two) to be considered (on the ballot) for the Board at the annual board meeting. Those who are already board members are also required to attend the majority of the year's meetings to remain on the board.The reasoning for this change is to encourage more involvement by VAD members and to hold board members accountable for their commitment. The more meetings a person attends the more informed they are on what is going on with VAD. Now that we have ZOOM meetings people are able to attend meetings much more easily than in person and we have been able to have more meetings scheduled than we used to. These changes in the bylaws, which we plan to approve at the next board meeting, will not go into effect until the first regular meeting of the year (October 2022).
2. Reminder: VAD members must be in attendance within the first 15 minutes after the meeting has started and must be present for at least half of the meeting for their attendance to count for that meeting.
3. Future Meetings:

- Depending on what happens with covid we may continue with only ZOOM meetings, only in-person meetings or possibly a combination of both.
- Kelly McIlhargey asked why we do not have more meetings. Todd explained that we do not have a meeting in July due to camp or December due to the holidays so including the annual meeting we have 10 meetings a year which is more than we have had in any of our previous years.

B. Comedy Show Recap- This event took place on New Year's Eve and \$1,000 was raised for VAD. Thank you, Jaycee Dankert, for making this happen.

## VI. New Business:

### A. Fundraisers

1. Gala 2023- The next gala is being planned for March 11, 2023. The price per plate went up by \$2 which is the first increase in three years. San Marino is allowing us to roll over our deposit.
2. Golf Outing- Kathy D'Angelo contacted Doug Kish who did this event several times for VAD in past. Todd reached out with an email to him. Doug has agreed to make arrangements for us and guide us for this fundraiser. A date has still to be established. July is probably too close to camp. Maybe a date in June or early in the fall would work.
3. Superbowl Squares- Todd and Rohit will be doing this fundraiser again. Todd explained that there are 100 squares per sheet and that they are \$20 a square. There are several ways to purchase squares including Venmo and PayPal. This fundrasier is an automatic \$1,000 for VAD. A link will be shared and there is a possibility that a second sheet will be available.

B. Consultant- As mentioned at the last meeting Kendra Kroll, who used to work for MDA, agreed to be a consultant for VAD. She knows fundraisers, grants and has other knowledge that VAD could use to further our organization. She is going to set up a contract, for the board to review for approval, that will likely be an agreement that she receives 15% of what she brings in. This is money that we would not have if it wasn't for her generating it on our behalf. This consulting fee would NOT be from moneys that we get from other donations or fundraisers (only for the money that SHE brings in). Kendra is not eligible to be a VAD member and she is not on a payroll. This is considered an administrative cost.

### C. Database/Contact List/Emails-

1. Database- Chris West is working with Todd and Peach to get the database/contact list solidified and a new email application in place to send out messages. MailChimp should allow for people to update their own information on the database and should prevent emails from going into spam folders. It should allow us to sort (volunteers, campers or supporters) and has the capability to stage emails and format newsletters.
2. Email- An email was sent from secretary@vadcares.org on January 12<sup>th</sup>. If you did not get it please check your spam/junk and deleted folders. Before the next board meeting an email from MailChimp will be deployed.

### D. Camp 2023-

1. Dates: Sunday, July 24 to Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>
2. Applications and Vaccinations- The online camp applications should be available some time in February. Current, full vaccination/booster information will be required as part of the application process (no exceptions). The deadline to get this paperwork completed online is June 1<sup>st</sup> which will allow for the board to process the information in time for camp. The only exception might be a delay in campers getting their camp physical form in.
3. Medical Safety/Covid Precautions- There will be several safety protocols to keep everyone as safe as we can such as proper spacing in all buildings, no outside visitors (which probably eliminates casino night) and limited activities. If you have any questions/comments regarding these safety precautions please contact Linda by email or Facebook messenger.
4. Camp Management- As explained in the holiday email the board will be managing camp for 2022. The board discussed in a closed meeting that due to covid precautions, communication between

the camp manager, medical staff and the Board is key for camp's success this year. Also we have not had camp for two years. Several VAD members expressed concerns over this change including the assumption that Michael Powell has been "terminated" as the camp director, why make this "big change" now, and why didn't the VAD membership take part in this decision. In response, it was explained by Linda, that the board makes the decision every year as to who will manage camp. It is not something that the general membership votes on as stated in our bylaws. The eight members of the board collectively made the decision that this would be the best course of action regarding camp for this year. This decision can be revisited by next year's Board. This is not necessarily a permanent change. Todd reached out to Michael via email multiple times between Nov 23 and Dec 23 offering to meet and discuss without his response. Michael was invited to meet with the board privately on Jan 5, 2022 and he did not respond to this either. It was assumed that clearly Michael did not want to work with us which makes us think that our decision was sound. It is important to have "all hands on deck", excellent communication, and people willing to work together in order to make this particular camp happen as safely and as smoothly as possible. After repeating these reasons several times it was then mentioned that it was brought to the attention of the board that Michael, as camp manager, has made others uncomfortable and put the Board in several unfortunate situations in the last few years. And due to recent actions on his behalf once again clearly validated that the decision was the right call. Due to the length of the meeting this discussion was ended and it was stated that those who still have questions or comments can email the board.

5. Camp Planning Meeting- In order to make it easier for those who want to help with camp we are going to have our first camp planning meeting right after the February 16<sup>th</sup> board meeting. For those of you who are willing to physically get things done for camp or at camp (by running an activity, getting donations, cabin assignments, menu planning, etc.) please stay for this meeting or at least let a board member know that you are interested. Ideas for camp are always welcome but the planning meeting itself is more for those who are willing to be physically involved.
6. Camp attendees- Is there a way to send out a postcard or something to get a feel for who, campers and volunteers, are planning to attend? Maybe a sort of save-the-date kind of message on-line might do the trick.
7. Todd reiterated that we are all in this together and we want to make camp a great experience for the campers as always. Hopefully we all stay supportive even with changes that had to be made. Every one of us is helpful in making camp happen.

**VII. Closing:** A motion was made at 8:53pm by Carina to close the meeting. Seconded by Linda.

The next ZOOM board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronita "Peach" Ptaszek  
VAD Recording/Correspondence Secretary