

Volunteers Assisting the Disabled
In-Person & ZOOM Board Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2022

VAD Board Members: All Present (in person)- Todd Nuppnau, Brad Ross, Keith Moss, Ronita "Peach" Ptaszek, Carina Grennan, Sue Harris, Mary Barry-Bodine, Barb Stein, Rohit Kapur

VAD Members Present (first name order):

in person- Carol Calvert, Erin Bodine, Kathy D'Angelo, Mark Catanzaro, Melissa Ross

virtual- Jacquelyn Bodine, Jay Lamky, Jeremy Head, Kenny Haran, Lorraine Haran, Michelle Haran, Pam Shroat, Rosie Whitcher-Appel

virtual (not on camera): Jake Wedlick, Scott Lehman

I. Opening- The meeting was called to order at 7:12pm by Todd Nuppnau.

II. Financial Reports (Treasurer): Keith distributed and read aloud a summary of the July, August and September financial statements. Carina made a motion to accept the financial, Brad seconded it all ayes, financials approved.

III. Meeting Minutes (Secretary): The August 22nd meeting minutes were presented and reviewed by those present. We were not able to share the document with those who were on ZOOM due to technical difficulties. Anyone wanting the minutes sent to them were asked to request them in the ZOOM chat. Two people requested them. Peach will not post to the VAD website right away in case either of the two people on ZOOM see any errors. Barb made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Rohit. All ayes. Approved.

IV. Communications: Cindy Danner's dad had a fall and had to have surgery with rehab following. Todd was sad to announce the Kevin Dimock, a long-time volunteer for the Wheelchair Hockey League, MDA and VAD camp passed away.

V. Old Business:

A. Meeting Requirements, Bylaw Additions/Amendments, Voting, Meeting Minutes

1. As a reminder, Todd gave a synopsis of the rules/requirements about attending board meetings:

a. VAD members must attend two or more board meetings from October to August in order to vote at the annual meeting

b. For a VAD member to run for election he or she must have attended 51% or more of said board meetings.

c. Those who attend the board meetings virtually must be visible on camera for their attendance for that meeting to count.

d. Those who attending meetings virtually must attend at least 50% of each meeting for attendance to count.

2. Virtual Meetings- The January, February and March meetings will be virtual only meetings.

3. Voting Question- Scott Lehman asked why VAD does not allow voting on-line. He said that he knows that some people don't want to attend meetings if they can't vote. Jake added that having to attend in person for the annual meeting is a "needless obstruction". VAD runs like other non-profit organizations and the bylaws do not support this idea. Can the bylaws be changed? There was much discussion as to how much work this would entail: snail mailing or emailing ballots, receiving completed ballots, anonymity, maybe use a software program, the legality of it, timing, etc. Todd mentioned that some people show up for two meetings just to be able to vote but then do nothing else with or for VAD otherwise which is why the board increased the requirements for voting and running for election. Rosie said that attending meetings isn't the only way for members to show commitment. Peach asserted that if Scott wants members to be able to vote without being present for the annual meeting, then he should research how to do this including giving examples of other non-profits who have done it and then present it to the board. Todd said he will do some research on the board's end.
 4. Meeting Minutes- Jake asked that the meeting minutes be available before the next meeting. It was explained to him that minutes cannot be distributed until they are reviewed and approved which is done at the following board meeting.
- B. Chili Cook-off
1. Chili Cook-off 2022- This year's chili cook-off went well although, as expected, there was a lower turn-out than previous cook-offs before the pandemic. \$5,200 was raised. Appreciation to Melissa Ross for chairing this event. Thanks also goes out to everyone who prepared for, volunteered at, participated in and attended the chili cook-off.
 2. Chili Cook-off 2023-
 - a. location- We are not likely to use the Eagle's Club as our venue next year. Mary Barry might be able to get the Roseville Mason's, which we have used before, as our venue for 2023.
 - b. date- The Saturdays being considered for 2023 are the last two in September and the first two in October.
- C. Special Needs Committee
1. Members- Barb, Mary, Linda, Carina and Brad (the vice president is an automatic member of this committee). Linda and Mary will take turns depending on who is available at the time.
 2. Guidelines- Barb is working on guidelines for special needs including referrals to other support options for those looking for assistance.

VI. New Business:

- A. New ZOOM Account- We are currently using ZOOM for those who prefer to attend virtually. Rohit was able to get the cost half off due to VAD being non-profit.
- B. MailChimp updates- Todd explained that we are still working with MailChimp and that Cardi DeMonaco offered to help. Some of the help we need is to activate the links at the bottom of the emails, to stamp our email address and other information in the email and find out how to update the mailing database (add to, make changes, delete, etc.) Todd and Peach to meet with Cardi soon to get these things ironed out.

C. Fundraisers

1. VAD Gala 2023 – Coming soon is an event in which we could use a lot of participation. Those of you who have offered help or asked about volunteering for VAD events, here is your chance! We need help preparing for the gala and helping the night of the event.
 - a. Date and location- The gala is scheduled for March 11th, 2023, at the San Marino Club in Troy which is where we have had it for the last several galas.
 - b. Ticket price- The Club has let us roll over our down payment from before covid. However, the dinner price did go up a few dollars so a decision will have to be made about the gala's ticket price.
 - c. Chairperson- We still need a chair for the gala. Please let Todd know if you are willing to take on this event as soon as possible. We really need to get this event organized starting no later than December. March is not that far away.
 - d. Committees- Once we have a chairperson a gala committee, with possible sub committees, will need to be created so that people can sign up to help with the different duties such as:
 1. Raffle baskets. Melissa mentioned that her mother-in-law, Eileen, who did the baskets for the chili cook-off may be interested in this.
 2. Printing of tickets, flyers/posters, etc.- Melissa has offered to do this.
 3. Raffle tickets- We will need people to sell tickets at the event for 50/50 and the raffle baskets.
 4. Check-in- Volunteers needed to check in guests at the door
 5. Set-up and breakdown at the club.
 - e. Sponsors- Sponsors are great to have so please check with your employers or your friends and family with businesses or resources to sponsor something for this event. Melissa Ross has a sponsor letter already and shared that she already has a sponsor for this event. Todd will see if Kendra Kroll could help with this also.
 - f. Donations- As always, for our fundraisers, we are open to accept gift items, raffle baskets, gift certificates, cash/checks, etc.
 - g. Selling gala tickets- We ask that everyone do their best to sell tickets for this event. Family, friends, co-workers, etc. Please also advertise for this event by email, on Facebook, on a flyer, or however else you can. Sue suggested giving tickets as Christmas gifts!
 - h. Attendance- Please also be an attendee of the event. It's a nice night out and an opportunity to see your VAD friends again. Besides the more the merrier.
2. LCA 50/50- Little Caesar's Arena has a program in which volunteers sell 50/50 tickets during games and get part of the profit for their organization. We would get 10% (up to \$3,000). Todd explained that last year all of their slots were full and somehow we were not put on the list for this year either. He needs to find out where we are on the list. Once we get a date set, we will need 20 people there to sell 50/50 tickets. We will need to arrive two hours before the game. Ticket sales will be done by the 3rd period in which volunteers can then stay to enjoy the game.
3. Superbowl squares- Rohit is going to do the Superbowl squares fundraiser again this year. The winner will get 50% which is \$1,000. The squares are \$20 each.

4. Euchre Game- Also Rohit will be hosting a charity euchre night at his parent's house the first weekend in December. There will be a cover charge to play. This is a private event, invitation only, due to limited space.
 5. Comedy Show Benefit on NYE- Jaycee Dankert has offered to set VAD up again to be one of the organizations to receive profits from her friend's comedy show. This time it will be on New Year's Eve. Jaycee will get back to us regarding details.
- D. Consultant – Kendra Kroll is contracted as a consultant with VAD until the end of the year. She and the board will have to decide at the beginning of the year to end or continue our relationship. And if so to keep the same agreement or renegotiate. This year Kendra has submitted many requests for funding. We hope that she will be able to attend our next board meeting to report on any progress that she has made for us.
- E. Storage/Organization- New totes have been purchased (and sponsored) to help improve our storage unit which mostly houses our supplies for camp such as medical supplies, arts and crafts, decorations, games, sidewalk lights and Bingo prizes. In the spring we will ask for volunteers to meet at the storage unit to pull out the old boxes of supplies and transfer them to the new totes.
- F. Camp 2023-
1. Next year's camp is penciled in for same week next year (Sun to Friday, July 23-28). Todd still needs to nail down the actual time we can arrive at camp so that Cavell does not overbook again. He will also see if some of us can get to camp early to set up. Once we lock in the times/dates for camp we will make a motion to get a deposit to Cavell.
 2. Sue Harris said that she knows groups from the Renaissance Festival that may be willing to offer entertainment such as a comedic stage act.

VII. Closing: A motion was made at 8:20pm by Mary to close the meeting. Seconded by Barb.

The next board meeting will be December 7, 2022, at 7:00pm available both in-person and on-line.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronita "Peach" Ptaszek
VAD Secretary