



HLA-NC is a non-profit organization of volunteers representing people with hearing loss in North Carolina.

HLA-NC is a State Association of the Hearing Loss Association of America.

*NC Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc.
Annual NC-SHHH Meeting
NC-SHHH Board of Trustee's Meeting
Saturday – May 6, 2006
Heritage Greens – Greensboro, NC*

Voting Trustees (12) present:

Joan Black (At Large), Co-President
Steve Barber (Wake SHHH), Co-President
Janet McGettrick (Wake SHHH), Vice President
Beverly Elwell (Charlotte SHIP/SHHH), Secretary
Pamela Jackson (Lake Norman SHHH), Treasurer
John Black (At Large)
Cynthia Harmon (At-Large)
Ruth Miller (Chapel Hill SHHH)
Myra White (Charlotte SHIP/SHHH)
Dare Carden (Durham SHHH) and husband, Jesse Carden
Bill Crowley (Triad SHHH)
Bill Shugart (Triad SHHH)

Non-voting Members/Guests present:

Vicki Pinson, CAN-CSDHH
Jean Deese, CAN-CSDHH
Jeff Mobley, HOH Program Coordinator-DSDHH
Kay Satterwhite, HHTS-Raleigh RC
Kim Calabretta, Sprint CapTel Account Manager-Relay NC

Voting Members (4) Regrets:

By message:

Wayne Giese (Blue Ridge SHHH), Past President
Dianna Attaway (Hendersonville SHHH), State Coordinator
Lorene Roberson (At Large)
Richard Wilson (Triad SHHH)

No message:

Sandy Burnette (Parent of HI Child)
Hal Van Pelt (Lake Norman SHHH)
Rachael Ragin (Chapel Hill SHHH)

Other regrets:

Judith Pittillo, HHSS-Asheville RC
Susan Wilson, HHSS-Charlotte RC
Karen Caputo, HHSS-Wilson RC

PRINTED MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED:

1. Agenda for May 6, 2006 meeting
2. Copy of portion of minutes from July 29, 1989 meeting on "Formation of SHHH-NC"
3. Minutes of November 19, 2005 meeting
4. Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2005
5. Treasurer's Report as of May 5, 2006
6. Report from Jeff Mobley, HOH Program Coordinator with NC DSDHH to NC SHHH Board of Directors
7. Announcement of Program Planner/Evaluator with the NC DSDHH
8. Suggestions on "More Effective Use of our Web Pages and Yahoo Group"

Call to Order of Board of Trustees Meeting /Meeting Protocol:

Joan Black

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Co-President Joan Black; she asked that members and guests take advantage of the ALDs, and use the **Agenda**. Special thanks were given to Jeff Mobley for bringing the ALDs, and to Vicki Pinson & Jean Deese, with the Communication Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, for providing Computer Assisted Notetaking. Co-President Joan Black asked that we go around the table and tell who we are and which chapter/area we represent.

Joan then began the meeting with ***a walk down memory lane:***

NC-SHHH has a long history for which we are to be proud! Seventeen years ago, the first meeting was held on July 29, 1989 at John & Joan Black's house, to discuss the possibility of developing a state-wide organization. The main reason for developing such an organization was so that SHHH could be represented on the newly formed NC Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, which was created to advise the NC Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The NC Association for the Deaf (NCAD) already had a representative because that organization was recognized as a state-wide organization. The NC DSDHH was heavily focused on deaf issues and not enough on hard of hearing issues; the hard of hearing needed a voice and a vote. NC was the first state to want to establish a state-wide organization within SHHH. There were a lot of roadblocks along the way because it was a first, and there were some rough times because of miscommunication between the 'state-level' and the national level. Over the years, we have had 1 major convention in 1995, and 2 symposiums in 2001. Since 2002, our organization has not been very active or made any changes, especially in its membership. It's time to move forward, accept changes and grow to reach out to ALL people who are hard of hearing in our state. We have created a website so that we can keep current on what's happening in our state --- thanks to Steve Barber.

Minutes of November 19, 2005

Beverly Elwell

Secretary Beverly Elwell presented the **Minutes of the November 19, 2005 meeting**. These minutes had been placed on the listserve for members to read prior to the meeting. Jeff Mobley said that the name of the new Technology Coordinator with NC DSDHH is Shelley Tabaman, and not Tabakan. Also, Jeff pointed out the correction for his title which is Hard of Hearing Program Coordinator and not Hard of Hearing Services Specialist. The minutes were accepted with these corrections as noted.

Treasurer's Report:

Pamela Jackson

Treasurer Pamela Jackson presented the **Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2005**, pointing out the differences from the report presented at our November 19, 2005 meeting. Those were \$95.40 for the website hosting fee and \$110.00 for the printing and postage of the Annual Meeting letter. Also, we received a \$1,000.00 grant from the IBM Community Grant Program, bringing our balance to \$5,252.66. Pamela then presented the **Treasurer's Report as of May 5, 2006**, reporting a balance of \$4,439.75, which included the purchases of assistive technology equipment in the amount of \$1,012.91 for a loaner basis for abused women in shelters. Both Treasurer's Report were accepted as presented. The membership extended our appreciation to Steve Barber for managing our Web Pages as a volunteer.

State Coordinators' Report:

Dianna Attaway

Co-President Joan Black received an email from State Coordinator Dianna Attaway, who was unable to attend today's meeting. She said that she is trying to help re-establish leadership in the Hendersonville and Asheville areas. In April, she visited the Charlotte Chapter and will visit the Wake Chapter in May.

GACPD Conference Report:

Beverly Elwell

In March, Joan Black announced on our listserve the upcoming 2-day conference on "Disability Rights: A Call to Action" sponsored by the NC Governor's Advocacy Council for People with Disabilities (GACPD), to be held in Charlotte on April 21-22, for \$25.00. Being that the Blacks have attended previous conventions and found them to be very informational, she encouraged others to participate because they had a conflict for that weekend. Beverly Elwell volunteered to go as well as to set up a display for Hearing Loss Association. She borrowed the Wake Chapter's display board, set it up in a small room where other agencies exhibited, and set out a lot of brochures about SHHH, many of which were taken! The goal of this conference was actually a working meeting to bring North Carolinians together to develop a disability plan for our state. There were about 150 people in attendance, many with disabilities. This workshop was focused around advocacy. The key buzz phrase was "Nothing about us without us" --- in other words, don't make policies for the disabled if the disabled are not at the table. Beverly came away from this conference with the understanding that if change or affect is to be made at the state level, then our participation with the General Assembly is a necessity.

NC-SHHH used to have representation on the GACPD Board; Nancy McKeel, parent of a HI child, was on the Board for 4 years. The Board has gone through a reorganization and we need to find out if NC-SHHH can again be represented.

Other Boards/Groups to consider for representation by NC-SHHH are:

- NC DAN --- Disability Action Network in NC
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Independent Living
- Council on Aging
- NC Interpreter Licensure Board – Lorene Roberson
- NC Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing – Ruth Miller

Sprint 2007 Conference:

Kim Calabretta

Kim Calabretta, Sprint CapTel Account Manager, stated that Relay NC provides sponsorships to organizations to have conferences. Sprint has set aside money, up to \$7,000 for NC-SHHH to have a conference to educate the public about hearing loss. This conference has to be done in 2007; a lot of planning would be involved.

Jeff Mobley indicated that there are already plans for DSDHH to do a conference in October 2007. Jan Withers, Director of DSDHH, has also suggested a symposium to reach out to those professionals working with the older adults population to expose them to the affects of hearing loss. The plan is that the October 2007 conference was to be held in the Chapel Hill area, with folks like Sam Tychin and Mark Ross as keynote speakers.

It was determined that Relay NC working with DSDHH would be a conflict of interest, so such a conference would have to be done by NC-SHHH with financial support from Relay NC and planning/personnel support from DSDHH.

Licensure Board

Lorene Roberson, member on the Licensure Board, was unable to attend the meeting. She gave Steve a written report, which he has posted on the website at www.nchearingloss.org.

Cochlear Implant Association of America:

Ruth Miller stated that the Cochlear Implant Association of America has now merged with HLAA.

DSDHH Update:

Jeff Mobley

Jeff Mobley gave a state of the union report on DSDHH. Jan Wither became the permanent director on April 1st; she was appointed by Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary of DHHS, after being interim for a year.

Cynthia Harmon is the new HHSS in Morganton; now there are 6 HOH specialist across the state. Plans are in place to get one in the Greensboro Regional Center; the state agency is working on leasing problems (no place to put the new person; hopefully by the end of the summer, the HHSS will be in place).

The hearing aid distribution program is still going strong; DSDHH now has a full time person, Heather Jewell, to assist with this program. In an 8-month period, 1,035 hearing aids were distributed!

The DSDHH is undergoing a huge public relations campaign. For example, in Raleigh there is the central office and a regional resource center; many folks do not realize that the RRCs are part of DSDHH. Now, it is all called the DSDHH, and not the areas' RRC. All of the promotional brochures will be listed as the DSDHH. Also, the branch offices are not RRC, but are now going to be the Regional Centers. Satellite offices set up in the state are being set up in collaboration with the RCs. TANC is still a part of DSDHH, but there will be a lesser focus on TANC and more on DSDHH. Jeff also handed out an announcement of Program Planner/Evaluator with the NC DSDHH. Beginning soon, new public service announcements will be launched in TV ads, radio announcements, billboard signs, ads in local newspapers, and also in movie theaters

DSDHH now has a collaboration agreement with the Division of Aging and Adult Services so that there are more opportunities to reach into senior centers particularly. When DSDHH has issues with older adults they can now contact the DOA for assistance. The DSDHH will train the senior centers staff to understand hearing loss issues, and act as the first call for help for seniors. DOA is located on the Dix campus; DSDHH is located at the Navaho Drive campus.

The DSDHH is trying to promote the emergency alert radio distribution as only 400 folks throughout the state have taken advantage of this program. HOH citizens have to fill out an application, be a resident of NC, have a hearing loss, and there is no income limitation. The radio has a strobe light and is programmed for the consumer's regional area. Steve will put the application on our website at www.ncheatingloss.org.

Jeff requested that we let HOH consumers know to contact Tom Ditt regarding the identification process on cars for communication with drivers who have hearing loss at tom.ditt@ncmail.net.

The divisions' HHSS will be enrolled in the Academy of HL with HLAA; Jeff will be attending the National Convention in Orlando this June where DSDHH is sponsoring the network meeting.

VR Report:

State Coordinator for VR Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Terrye Fish, was not able to attend.

Terrye Fish

Lunch Break:

Break for lunch at 12:42 pm.
Came back from lunch at 1:55 pm

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Old Business:

Chapter Reports

Because of lack of time, this part of the agenda was tabled; Steve asked that we email them to him and he will put them on the website.

Web Page Status

Tabled due to lack of time.

Steve Barber

IBM 2005 Grant

Go to our website at www.ncheatingloss.org to read about the results of the IBM 2005 Grant that Steve managed to get for NC-SHHH. Joan will give a letter of thanks to Steve for arranging for the grant. Steve pointed out that John and Joan Black did a great job with the training aspect.

Joan Black

Support Representative at HLA Convention

Since none of the trustees were planning on going to the convention, no money was set aside to support the registration for someone.

New Business:

Name Change

Motion was made and seconded, and an affirmative vote held that we change our name from NC-SHHH to HLA of NC.

We now need to notify the Secretary of State of NC of name change and give a permanent address and contact agent. Motion was made and seconded that the Black's address be made the designated principal mailing address.

Future Conferences

Motion was made and seconded that we support a conference in 2007. Motion passed. There was discussion on when and where to have it. A vote and the bulk of the work will be done via our listserve.

Future Funding

Tabled due to lack of time.

Purchase Display Boards

Tabled due to lack of time.

Process for Conducting Business on Internet

Steve Barber

Steve passed out a handout on how to use the webpages and have discussion on the internet. The current yahoo group is for voting members (trustees) only and to conduct business. There is a need to invite other chapters to have a representative so that they can at least participate online. The Treasurer can report online about any money coming in; any discussion related to HLA-NC in general can be online. If a vote is needed, then the suggested process is followed. A vote would be determined by a majority of 1/2 of replies. The President can decide on minor issues/decisions for discussion. The Secretary keeps count of the votes and will put them in the minutes.

Motion was made and seconded, and an affirmative vote held that we accept the set of guidelines of doing business on the internet between physical meetings.

Possible Projects for IBM 2006 Grant Request

Steve Barber

Tabled due to lack of time.

Donation to HLAA

Steve asked that we consider making a donation to the national office. Motion was made and seconded, and an affirmative vote held that HLA-NC donate \$100 from the operating account to HLAA.

Final Announcements:

Joan Black

If we're going to do a conference, then we need to meet in August; August 5th is the suggested date. Look for information on the webpage and our listserve.

Call to Order of Email Meeting:

Steve Barber

Steve and Joan called to order the email meeting, permanently as of 05-06-06, 3:20 pm



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Adjournment of BOT Meeting:

Steve Barber

Steve and Joan adjourned the Board of Trustees' meeting at 3:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Elwell
May 10, 2006