

Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: February 4, 2014, 12:00 – 2:00pm, Community Center

Present: Pat Teal, Leesa Monroe, Marion Huxtable, Bonnie Bolster

Absent: Julie Duke, Pat and Nancy Kelly-Patnode, Liz Heffern

Guests: Emily Mandelbaum

Introductions/Presentation

DASH Board members welcomed guest Emily Mandelbaum. Emily spoke of challenges for the hearing impaired when receiving service at Jefferson Healthcare and possible solutions to overcome challenges. Emily discussed (and provided in writing) the availability of assistive listening equipment and her own experience as a patient at Jefferson Healthcare. The Board met with Emily for an hour and thanked her for her input and providing information based on “real-life” experiences.

Suggestions from Emily included:

- Improve acoustics in exam rooms (beeping machinery, hallway noise, etc. intensify hearing difficulty)
- Staff need to remember to offer clients Inductive Loop
- Elevators with a voice that announces the floor instead of beeping sounds
- Hospital could use a code on the patient's paperwork indicating that the patient is deaf alerting all staff to the need to provide assistance

Minutes

Approval of minutes from November 2013 and December 2013

Public Access

Jefferson Health Care Training

Marion and Pat attended an ADA online training January 21, 2014. The training is a three-part series for businesses to learn to evaluate their ADA plan. Marion invited staff from the hospital to attend and asked if they could set up the online conference for attendees. Marion and Pat appreciated the hospital set up the connection for the conference. The staff turnout from the hospital was one person. The first in the three part series was “Getting Started” and it covered what is required by regulations. Part II and III in the series are scheduled at the hospital for February 18 @11:00 in the Puget Room and March 18 @11:00, Computer Room.

Sheridan Street

Nothing new reported

Port of Port Townsend

The WSU and Gathering Place space rented at the Port (discussed at previous DASH meeting) remains an agenda item for DASH. DASH will invite Larry Crockett (Port Director) to a meeting to discuss solutions.

Treasurer's report

No changes from last month. Regular account is \$1176.63. Emergency account is \$533.69

Public Outreach

The county has hired a new emergency planning person who could be invited to a DASH Board meeting

Other Business

Marion heard there may be a new postal substation at the Trading Post on Sims Way. Leesa will check out the cost of mailboxes.

Pat heard from Lynn Gressley's daughter Sabrina. Sabrina may do a presentation about DASH for a school project.

Meeting adjourned 2:00 pm

Next meeting –Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at Community Center 12:00-2:00