December 12, 2020

Welcome to all VAD members and Board. Thank you all for coming to our Virtual Zoom meeting!

Before we start the meeting, we need to agree on the rules as set forth in our Resolution which was shared with you before the meeting.
Thank you.

Governor Northam announced on November 15, 2020
1.25- person limit on indoor and outdoor gatherings, down from 250
2. expanded mask requirement, including children 5+
3. 10 pm on-site alcohol curfew
4. increased enforcement

As Governor Northam said: “I know everyone is tired of this pandemic-I am tired too. But as We saw earlier this year, these measures work. And I am confident that we can come together as one commonwealth to get this virus under control and save lives.”

September 21, 2019.

Virginia Association of the Deaf Conference was held at Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind in Staunton, Va. I ran for President and you elected me, thank you. I was ready to do my duty for the next two years. This is my first year.

November 12, 2019

We had our first Board meeting at the Disabilities Resource Center in Fredericksburg, VA. We discussed our goals and vision of the VAD. We really want to see VAD to partner with other organizations, such as Virginia’s Deaf/Blind Association, and be more involved in fundraising.

We were supposed to have a Retreat in February 2020; however, despite all our plans this did not happen due to a snowstorm in some parts of the Commonwealth which would have made
it hard to travel. We were planning to reschedule then had to cancel that too due to the pandemic.

March 7, 2020
The whole world began to change as Covid19 began spreading rapidly, and places shut down. We now wear masks, pay more attention to washing hands and follow social distancing to help to lower risks.

In this past spring and summer with the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement, the VAD Board took a good look at ourselves and the Association and agreed we really do need more education on this and we are bringing in an educator or two to help deepen awareness among our membership.

The Board has been holding Zoom meetings once a month or as needed. Would VAD members support a Virtual social every two months? VAD has a zoom account. We can use it. Offer Zoom practice, discuss ideas, and how we can work together.

October 1-5 2020
Kim Taylor and I were delegates from VAD on National Association of the Deaf Council of Representatives via Zoom. Time ran out before the COR finished its business, so we attended for another day Oct 21, 2020.

The Delegates at NAD voted for the following priorities for 2020-2022:

NAD’s Top Five Priorities for 2020-2022
1. Achieving Equity in Deaf Education
2. Campaign to Spotlight the Adverse Impacts of language Deprivation
3. Dismantling Racism in the Deaf Community
4. Eliminating Barriers to Quality Care for Deaf Seniors
5. Foster Care Bill of Rights

September 2020. VAD was invited to collaborate in Deaf Awareness activities by Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Instead of meeting in person, we produced a video for up to three minutes. It was a neat idea.

Steve Gordon, an Attorney with DOJ invited several organizations to support ADA. He contacted me for VAD’s support. There were speakers and it was on NBC news. I went to support this.

We hope to have the VAD conference in person next year. We shall have to wait and see.