



Loudoun Association for
Children with Hearing Loss

February 10, 2006

*****Meeting Minutes*****

Agenda

- Business Meeting 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm
 - Old Business
 - New Business
 - Brainstorming Activity
 - Action Items and Points of Contact
 - Wrap Up

- Guest Speakers 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
 - Sharon Tropf & Sabrina Long, Educational Advocates
 - “Advocating for Your Child: Before, During, and After the IEP Meeting”



Old Business

Old Business

- Rachel Silien presented “School-Based Speech and Language Services” at our January meeting
- Annual Membership Drive has Begun!
 - Membership forms are located in the back of the room and on our web site
- LACHL participated in “Adventures in Hearing”
 - Jan. 14th at the Eastern Loudoun Regional Library
 - Local D/HOH related vendors and service providers attended
 - Sponsored by H.E.A.R. (Hearing Education Advocacy Resources) of NVRC (Northern VA Resource Center for D/HOH Persons)

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New Business

New Business

President – Mary Photinakis

- Written answers to questions posed to the D/HOH Supervisor, Dr. Liz Martinez, have been emailed and will be posted to the web site.
- LACHL Bowling Night!
 - For all family members
 - Tentatively set for March 5th at 4pm
 - Scouting out locations
 - Mary will email LACHL distribution with an invitation when plans are solidified

New Business (con't)

President – Mary Photinakis (con't)

- Upcoming speakers and meeting topics:
 - March 10th
 - Dr. Lauri Rush from Gallaudet will discuss “How to Raise a Psychologically Healthy D/HOH Child”
 - April 21st
 - Gallaudet Panel
 - “What it was like growing up with hearing loss. What worked and what didn’t?”
 - May 12th
 - End of the year celebration!
 - Party at a Leesburg area elementary school from 6:30pm – 9pm for the whole family
 - Pizza, face painting, games and prizes for the children
 - To volunteer, please contact Mary Photinakis (mphotinakis@netzero.com)

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New Business (con't)

- Treasurer – Lisa Smith
- Webmaster – Brian Leitner
- Fundraising Chairperson – Maureen Larsen
 - Herndon Festival
 - 50 volunteer hours are needed to help with the festival from June 1st – 4th
 - Volunteers needed to “man” the LACHL booth on Sat., June 3rd and Sun., June 4th
 - Please sign up to volunteer
- Marketing Chairperson - Ronna Rosenberg
 - Leesburg Today article
 - Newspaper advertisements of meetings
 - Web links
- Open positions
 - Secretary
 - Membership Chairperson
 - Activities Chairperson
 - To volunteer, contact Mary Photinakis

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Brainstorming Content for D/HOH Web Site

The following list was drafted “live” during the meeting. It contains a list of potential items that the meeting attendees would like to see on the D/HOH pages of the LCPS web site:

1. Names of D/HOH team members (i.e., teachers, interpreters, administrators, etc.) and contact information
2. Mission and vision statements
3. A guide to the IEP process (what to expect at an IEP meeting, how to prepare for an IEP meeting, agenda for the IEP meeting, blank IEP forms, etc.)
4. Links to resources (school, community, related to parents and children)
5. Names and contact information for specialists, audiologists, people who work with deaf children, other professionals, doctors, etc.
6. Information for deaf parents who have deaf or hearing children (services, resources, etc.)

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Brainstorming Content for D/HOH Web Site (con't)

1. Write up of different programs (total communication, oral program, etc.)
2. Background of different teachers and counselors in the D/HOH program
3. Listing of an open house to meet D/HOH team to encourage community involvement
4. Sign language resources and how sign language is used in the school system (high school requirements for sign language as a second language, where can you take sign language courses for children and adults, etc.)
5. Create a feeling of community and advocacy system...a feeling of empowerment
6. Information about magnet school programs (what they're about, where they are located, etc.)
7. A listing of available technology to help children access their education
8. A list of annual goals for the D/HOH program
9. A link to the LACHL website
10. A listing of the different evaluations, assessments, and diagnostic tools that are available to children through the school system. It is also helpful to know what they measure and when they are usually done.

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Action Items

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- Mail out membership renewal forms to the 2005 members (Mary)
- Email LACHL distribution with an invitation to the Bowling Night (Mary)



Wrap-Up

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- Next Meeting
 - Dr. Lauri Rush, from Gallaudet, will discuss “How to Raise a Psychologically Healthy D/HOH Child” on March 10th, 7pm, Leesburg Airport



Welcome Sharon Tropf and Sabrina Long!

Educational Advocates



**Advocating for Your Child:
Before, During, and After the IEP Meeting**