

Volunteers Assisting the Disabled

Board Meeting Minutes (virtual only)

March 27, 2024

VAD Board Members: Todd Nupnau, Brad Ross, Keith Moss, Ronita "Peach" Ptaszek, Carina Grennan, Barb Stein, Mary Barry-Bodine; **Not on camera:** Sue Harris; **Absent:** Rohit Kapur

VAD Members: Chris West, Cindy Danner, Debbie Schuster, Erica McGow, Jacquelyn Elwell (Bodine), Kelly McIlhargey

I. Opening- The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Todd Nupnau.

II. Financial Report (Treasurer): Financials for February 2024 were distributed and displayed for review. Keith read through them. Carina made a motion to accept the financials, supported by Mary. All ayes, financials approved.

III. Meeting Minutes (Secretary): The February 28, 2024 meeting minutes were distributed and displayed for review. After reviewing Keith made a motion to accept the minutes, supported by Carina. All ayes. Minutes approved.

IV. Communications: No updates.

V. New Business: 2024 Chili Cookoff- Mark your calendars for October 12 for this event.

VI. Old Business:

- A. Survey for Former Volunteers- This survey was posted on Sue's Facebook page, VAD Family Cozy Corner, in mid-February. There have been eight responses so far and Sue obviously knows who they are. Due to confidentiality the surveys need to go through the MailChimp VAD email group which will allow the responses to come back to the VAD address. Sue mentioned that some respondents prefer to remain anonymous allowing them to provide feedback candidly without concern about their identity being disclosed to anyone at VAD. It was suggested that those who take the survey are asked if they'd like to also update their contact information. The goal is to have the survey ready for MailChimp by the end of April.
- B. VAD Camp 2024
 1. Applications- The camp application does not need to be changed from last year's besides the dates. It should be available April 1st.
 2. Food/Meals- This year Camp Cavell has a new catering company. Todd assured everyone that he will be taking care of things so that there are no problems with vegetarian/vegan meals and other issues with the food like we had last year. We are expecting Woody's Knights of Columbus to come out to make us their steak and chicken dinner one of the nights.
 3. Planning meetings- Our first camp planning meeting will be after our April board meeting. Then it can be decided when to have the rest of the camp planning meetings.
- C. 2024 VAD Gala Recap
 1. Overall positive results/comments- The gala went very smoothly and successfully. Some of the positive comments were about the facility (including the employees), upgrades

(including the hors d'oeuvre and cocktail hour), food (except maybe the hard rolls), and top notch baskets and prizes.

2. Displaying ticket numbers- Having the winning ticket numbers for the raffle baskets and gift cards displayed on the movie screen, instead of calling them all off, worked out well.
3. Ticket tables- Having two stationary locations with two volunteers at them to sell tickets worked out well but next time we might want to have a seller or two going table to table in the dining room as well.
4. Display tables- People seemed to like how the prize tables were laid out giving space to walk around and see everything displayed easily.
5. Music/speaker system- The music was good but the announcing was a bit hard to hear. Maybe next year the house system, instead of the DJ's speakers, can be used for announcements instead.
6. Decorations- The decorations were awesome. The photos on the tables were especially complimented.
7. Gratitude- Many thanks for those who stepped up above and beyond what they initially volunteered to do and/or donate.
8. Profit- So far we are showing a profit of over \$8,000 although we have more funds/donations that still need to be allocated.
9. On-line ticket sales- Our on-line ticket sales still needs to be streamlined for ease of use for both the buyer and at our end. Chris shared that there are other ways for purchasing tickets that give the buyer virtual tickets and/or QR codes and also that will instruct people to put in complete information for table seating, dietary information, email address, etc. Chris will look into this for us for next year.
10. Attendees - There were approximately 200 gala attendees. A special thank you to Chris West and to Brad and Melissa for getting so many guest tickets sold. Our goal, of course, is to increase our ticket sales each year to yield more of a profit for VAD. The more people, the more fun!

VII. Closing: A motion was made to close the meeting by Carina, supported by Brad. Meeting closed at 8:29pm.

The next two board meeting will be in person (First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak) and virtual tentatively planned for April 24 and May 22 at 7pm. It is not known yet about the June meeting since several board members will be at MDA camp during that week.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronita "Peach" Ptaszek
VAD Secretary