



Greater Richmond Chapter

Minutes

February 14, 2015

The February 14, 2015, Hearing Loss Association of America-Greater Richmond Chapter (HLAA-GR) meeting was called to order at 10:50 am at Beulah United Methodist Church, North Chesterfield, Virginia. Those in attendance included: Alan Brown, HLAA-GR Vice President Emeritus; Thom Casey, HLAA-GR Professional Advisor; Brenda Eggleston, HLAA-GR Secretary; Matt Eggleston, HLAA-GR Vice President; Norman Eva; Kent Hudson; Dottie Klammer; Manny Klammer; Kathi Mestayer; Kevin Mowen; Liz Mowen; Audrey Sitten; and Linda Wallace, HLAA-GR President.

The motion to accept the January 10, 2015, minutes as distributed was made, seconded and passed.

Attendees were reminded that in the event of wintry weather in the Greater Richmond area, the meeting would be cancelled. Notification would be provided by email and/or phone.

Attendees were encouraged to check out the HLAA webinars at <http://HearingLoss.org>. Those planning to view webinars must register at least 48 hours prior to airing. Once you have registered (a one-time procedure), you can view the webinars at any time.

Linda Wallace presented the following equipment that was loaned to the HLAA-GR Chapter by the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH): Comfort Audio Contego FM System, Chair Pad Personal Loop System, and a Portable Induction Loop System. The pros and cons of each were discussed. Those interested in the equipment demonstrated should contact Christine Ruderson at VDDHH (Christine.Ruderson@vddhh.virginia.gov).

Matt Eggleston discussed portable room loop systems and the costs associated with each system. Following discussion, the motion to purchase a portable room loop system was made, seconded and passed. Matt Eggleston and Brenda Eggleston agreed to purchase the portable room loop system immediately and have the Chapter reimburse them so that the loop system would be available for use at the March HLAA-GR Chapter meeting.

In celebration of Valentine's Day, raffle drawings were held for door prizes. The following attendees won a package of wonderful chocolates: Thom Casey, Brenda Eggleston, Liz Mowen, and Audrey Sitten.

Group discussion ensued regarding various phone apps that meeting attendees had found useful.

There was also discussion regarding House Bill 1956, which deals with the needs of the hearing impaired during hospital stays, and what needs to be done by the hospitals to be ADA compliant. For those interested, a workshop on this topic was to be held on February 23, 2015, at the John F. Fink Center on the Mary Washington University campus in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Discussion ensued regarding the 2015 Consumers Guide for Hearing Aids which is available from the Hearing Loss Association of America for approximately \$8.00. Brenda Eggleston agreed to purchase four copies of the 2015 Consumers Guide for Hearing Aids for Chapter use and member purchase.

Linda Wallace discussed the hospital kits that the San Antonio HLAA Chapter has created and how patients at hospitals in the Richmond Tri-Cities Area could benefit from having kits provided by the HLAA-GR Chapter. A motion was made, seconded and passed for the HLAA-GR Chapter to begin a Hospital Kit Project in the near future.

The motion was made, seconded and passed to table further discussion on the formation of a Community Outreach Committee.

Alan Brown brought up the topic of having the Chapter serve as a drop off location for used hearing aids and eyeglasses. Such motion was made, seconded and passed.

Alan Brown and Kevin Mowen continue to look for a storage cabinet which the HLAA-GR can use for storing Chapter materials and supplies at the Beulah United Methodist Church meeting location.

Discussion ensued regarding possible grant funding for the Chapter.

The Chapter will not meet on April 11, 2015. Instead, members were encouraged to participate in either the Technology Blitz event being held on April 18, 2015, at VDDHH or to help man the HLAA-GR Chapter table at the Unity Christ Church Health Fair also being held on April 18 in Bon Air.

The motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Eggleston
Secretary, HLAA-GR Chapter