

RECAP: MDSC Annual Business Meeting and Election
Secretary Janet S. Weinstock
Thursday, June 16, 2022

After 43 people (37 members, 2 guests, and 4 volunteers) arrived at the Schweinhaut Senior Center in Silver Spring, MD, President Leslie Zinza called the annual business meeting and election of Vice President and Treasurer for 2022-2024 to order. She started the morning with a heartfelt moment of silence for our past and recent members who passed away.



Barbara Marie Kannapell...September 14, 1937 ~ August 11, 2021
Guy Richard Bateman...June 5, 1936 ~ September 13, 2021
Francis J. Bourne...February 22, 1943 ~ October 15, 2021
Thomas Patrick Higdon...December 3, 1935 ~ November 3, 2021
Adele Kronick Shuart...January 31, 1930 ~ December 15, 2021
Thomas Elliott...October 20, 1940 ~ December 21, 2021
Bruce David Herzig...August 17, 1944 ~ February 17, 2022
Lenore Golden...1927 ~ March 9, 2022
Jack R. Gannon...November 23, 1936 ~ March 14, 2022
Steven Kevin Chough...July 15, 1931 ~ March 30, 2022
Nancy Evans Kensicki...March 17, 1939 ~ April 16, 2022
Lillian Marie Buffalo Tompkin...June 24, 1946 ~ May 15, 2022
Elizabeth Wimer Marsh...March 4, 1938 ~ May 26, 2022
George Franklin Dyess...October 18, 1934 ~ June 9, 2022

A draft minutes in PPTs was sent to the members the previous day to review ahead of time. President Leslie announced that the board members and committee members will come to the stage and answer questions from the members based on their reports. Check the final draft of the minutes that was shared with the members.

- **President Leslie Zinza's report** included recognizing and thanking individuals for their contributions to MDSC this year. She shared that an Ad Hoc committee to review and update 2016 guidelines for accommodations for DeafBlind members which is expected to be complete by early fall. The Board is now exploring ways to put all MDSC items in one

storage place and the goal is to complete it this summer.

- **Vice President Thelma Schroeder** listed presentations and activities that she was responsible for this past year. She provided tremendous support to board members and presenters which made our life much easier by assisting, developing, drafting, formatting documents & training materials.
- **Secretary Janet Weinstock** informed the members that sharing an obituary of 14 members who passed away in August 2021 to this month was the hardest part as secretary while it was fun to share what's so special about each month and a list of members' birth dates. The recap that she sends out every month is in lieu of the quarterly MDSC Messenger edited by the past MDSC Secretary Nancy Kensicki.
- **Treasurer Cathy Thompson** thanked Katie Todd for paying from her own pocket for the birthday, get well, and sympathy cards that were sent to the members even though MDSC sent her a specific amount of money to spend on the cards and stamps. She looks forward to sharing the new membership form online next month. Keep an eye on an announcement sometime next month. After sharing projected expenses for the 2022-2023 membership year, she strongly recommended that the members make a motion to approve dues of at least \$50.00 due to the unfortunate inflation that we have been facing recently. The members got into a heated yet lively discussion. Ultimately, the members voted on \$50.00 membership dues for 2022-2023 that will cover expenses on food and beverage, speaker honorarium fees, trip expenses, website and zoom fees, and so forth.
- **Morgan Stanley Investment IMC Chair Cathy Thompson** recognized Mike Moore for serving as chair of the IMC the past several years. He is now a member of the IMC along with Kathy Jones, Roy White, and Leslie Zinza who is the ex-officio of the committee. She reported that the total assets are \$414,586.47 as of June 7, 2022. As expected, the information about our investment got members to ask good questions and comments on what MDSC could use the money for. One member recommended that the board take a look at the big picture. Revisit the amount set by the AdHoc committee (\$310,000) for the IMC Committee to work on for expenses and spending. Ruth Ann Schorenstein briefed us on the history: the amount was raised for housing for Deaf Seniors but it fell through.
- **Parliamentarian Mike Moore** was unable to grace us with his presence; however, he shared in his report that the MDSC Board proposed an amendment to the MDSC By-laws to create a new membership classification, "Honorary Membership" for us to vote on at the next MDSC event on Thursday, August 16, 2022.
- **Volunteer Chair Bev Boateng** would like to show appreciation to a group of college students, Gallaudet University, U of Connecticut, and mostly from Community College of Baltimore County who volunteered at MDSC events throughout the year. For the next membership year, she is in touch with various area colleges that offer ASL classes along with Deaf agencies and organizations to recruit volunteers to join us at our monthly events. She would like to expand the community volunteer program to provide support to MDSC members at their home.

- **Media/Photo Chair Andriana Canning** maintained MDSC equipment and took pictures when MDSC hosted events. She saved the photos in a folder in the laptop.
- **The MDSC Website Team consisting of Yael Agriss, Webmaster Eric Hamlow, Cathay Thompson, Janet Weinstock (POC), and Mike Weinstock** teamed up to update the MDSC logos and website which is currently under construction MDSC is committed to supporting the Deaf ecosystem so we contracted with Eric Hamlow, Deaf owner of Blue Spot Designs. Mike Weinstock informed us that the launch date for the new and improved website is set for July 2022.

We took a break for lunch that we brought ourselves. MDSC provided yummy gourmet assorted cookies (lemon sugar, double chocolate caramel, coconut pecan, peanut butter cup, and cake batter) from Sam's Club and water bottles that our **Food and Beverage Chair Jeff Dunefsky** brought.

After lunch, President Leslie returned to the stage to start with a new business and we had an open discussion on the 2022-2023 membership dues and we agreed that \$50.00 is reasonable due to the alarming cost of living increase this year. Keep in mind, MDSC expenses include food and beverage, paper goods, banner, media equipment, screen, center and park rentals, entertainment and speaker fees, trip expenses, website fees, and zoom cost.

President Leslie opened the floor for the nomination and election of Vice President and Treasurer for 2022-2024. Congratulations to **Mike Weinstock** who is elected Vice President and to **Cathy Thompson** is re-elected Treasurer by acclamation! Many thanks to the current Vice President **Thelma Schroeder** for a job well done this past year. We hope we can still count on her in other ways.

We are grateful that there are so many people to thank for their time serving on the committees and as volunteers throughout the year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **June Freeman** strongly recommended that we check into Deaf Wellness and Recreation Center-Conn (DWRC) of Connecticut at <https://dwrconn.com> that Marina Fanshtan (MF on shoulder) from NYC is involved with. Contact Program Director Sandy Inzinga at sandy@dwrconn.com or (202) 427-8009 for more information. Check (203) 677-0564 (phone/VP) or info@dwrconn.com.
- **Mary Lynn Lally** shared that Maryland Deaf Community Center (MDCC) serves all Deaf people living in Maryland. She thanked MDSC for donating \$5,000.00 that will benefit Deaf Seniors of Maryland. She had the members sign up on a sheet of paper to receive the newsletters from MDCC. If you have not, do not fret! Sign up via <https://www.deafmdcc.org>.
- **Ruth Ann Schornstein** did not fail us as she entertained us with her famous "Happy Birthday to You" sign-song to our June birthday folks!

BANK DAY: The winner of today's Bank Day is a no show so it will go up from \$75.00 to \$100.00 on Thursday, August 18, 2022. Be sure to come to future events so that you don't lose out on the lucky draw!

SECOND CHANCE WINNERS: Mildred Redmond - \$15.00, Christine Sorkin - \$20.00, and Pauline Spanbauer - \$25.00. All three are repeaters!

50/50 RAFFLE: Treasurer Cathy Thompson announced that half of the proceeds from the 50/50 raffle will be donated to Deaf Seniors of America (DSA) this year. Everyone loved Mary Lynn Lally's suggestion that we continue to donate the proceeds from the raffle sale to DSA until the DSA conference in Hollywood, FL in June 2023. Volunteer Arleena Thompson announced that the total of raffle sales was \$167.00 and that **Lionel "Sonny" Moreland** is the winner of \$83.00.

Stay safe and cool!
See you all on Thursday, August 16th!!!