

ODFL Board Meeting
November 13, 2025
6pm to 7:30pm
Re-Election Zoom Meeting

Roll Names: Chris Cooley, Debbie B, Dawn Watts, Christine S. Danny L., Bob Donaldson-Pirc, Brad Race, Charles W., Angie P., Juanita Hall, Casey

Absent: Lilian P, Jenny Jaske, Regis Gilchrist, (Michael Homko: excused)

Parliamentarian: Bob Donaldson-Pirc

Visitors: Britney Garstka, Julie L.Gail T, Casey Craig, Alma Sepulveda

President started to call at 6:05pm.

The Minutes of Meeting, August 12, 2025: Debbie B. (Danny L.), that we approved as read, PASSED.

President's Report: Dawn Watts

Introduce new visitors: Gail T (Nominator for the election officers), Julia Levine, Britt Garstka of Cincinnati, Alma Sepulveda, Casey, TRAIID Deaf Service,

One person is missing, he is interested to work with ODFL for the Black Deaf people: Nineteenth, we supported with them for second time in 2023 (Cleveland) and 2024 (Columbus). We need to support Black Deaf people for next year 2026.

Attended Canton Public Library for Marlee Matlin, Deaf Actress who was given her presentation, Awesome. Her book is good to read. Ohio Deaf Association, I am representative for the LEAD-K (Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids) at the age 0 to 5.

SB 52 Ohio Senators asked to change Ohio Deaf History Month to the month of April. I am waiting for them to confirm me.

We will work for Hands and Voice and Advocates for Kids for the Children Art Contest at the Columbus Museum of Art on Sunday, March 8th. I will call a special meeting with Chairperson and committee in February.

Vice President's Report: Angie Potosky

No report: She enjoyed being Vice President for 2 years and want to run for Regional Representative for next year if you approve me. Thanks.

Secretary's Report: Christine Stepien

I will add electrical voting in the minutes meeting: MOU with Ohio Association of the DeafBlind by email on September 26, 2025. Chris Cooley (Christine Stepien) moved the motion OADB collaborate with our the Deaf Reader Newsletter. PASSED

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Brown

1. ODFL: 2,566.44
2. Art Contest: 697.13
3. ASL Storyteller for the libraries: 5,000.00

Total: 8,236.57 with two auditors' signature.

ODFL Representatives Report:

Chris Cooley:

Blue Envelope for the Disabilities; To place them inside of vehicles or gloves department in case for the emergency/especially for SSP/CN for DeafBlinds.

Brad R.: Debbie Brown and I will attend at the Park for ASL event. There are Five different organizations. It will be on November 8th. We got about 20 people who signed up for the Deaf Reader Newsletter and we sold two Art Contest notes.

Juanita Hall: of Ohio University in Athens, Ohio Ohio Deaf History and Library for Children stories with signs. She is interested to work with the Deaf Reader Newsletter, again.

Others: Irene T.: Irene, Arthur, wrote her book about her mother, Greek family, Name of the book is Rising from the Abyss of Grief.

ASL Storyteller Chairperson: Danny L

Danny L and Nancy Levine are working on the grant for libraries. It is for ASL Storyteller (Deaf) and interpreter. I learned from Nancy who know how to write well for the grant. We got 5,000.00. Also, Advocates for the Kids collaborated with ODFL, they donated us 5,000.00. Nancy Levien will retire, we will miss her.

Three Deaf people, Liliana P (Cleveland Heights Public Library) Christine S (Westerville Public Library), and I (Dayton Public Library) gave our presentation in the libraries.

Christine S: I was an ASL Storyteller to sign from the books and shared with stories, songs the kids and parents in the meeting room at Westerville Public Library. Their parents, grandparents, friends and kids were smiling to learn using in American sign language with ABC's, new words from story books, and names of different animals' filled from Children's books. At the end of storytelling and songs, they were enjoying to play with the bubbles all over in the room. Free ASL flash cards handed out to the kids. 'Fry Bread'- A Native American Family Story. Hello Song- 'You Are My Sunshine', 'Goodnight Moon' and more. All these three dates of ASL storytelling I took were October 8, November 1st and December 1st of 2025. There were SUCCESSFUL! A \$150.00 will be donated to the Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library. I wanted to say Thank You to Dawn Watts and Danny Lucero for having me to join in.

Dawn and Danny L will meet with Casey and Alma Sepulveda for Canton Public Library next week.

The Deaf Reader Newsletter: Dawn K Watts

More people are interested reading the newsletter, Juanita Hall will work with me closer. Brad Race and Irene Tunanidas are continued as editors.

ODFL Webmaster: Dawn said that he is working today and is interested to run for two more years as ODFL Webmaster. He is doing very well on time with webmaster.

Old Business: No report

New Business: no report

Angie P, Nominator for the Volunteer of the Year 2025. She announced that Christine Stepien won a nomination for an ODFL 'Volunteer of the Year 2025'.

Gail T, Nominator for the Election Officers 2026-2028:

ODFL Election 2026-2028 for Board Officers:

President: Danny Lucero AC

Vice President: Dawn Watts AC

Secretary: Christine Stepien AC

Treasurer: Debbie Brown AC

Regional Representatives:

Region 1- (Northwest) OPEN

Region 2- (Northeast) Alma Sepulveda and Angie Potosky

Region. 3- (Southwest) Britney Garstka

Region 4- (Central) Julie Levine and Brad Race

Region 5- (Southeast) Christopher Cooley and Juanita Hall

We, new the officers board make an oath by Bob Donaldson-Pirc.

Dawn wants to say THANKS to Chuck Williams for his commitment with ODFL for a long time since we started.

President adjointed at
adjointed at 7:37pm.

Submitted Yours,

Christine Stepien

Christine Stepien
ODFL Secretary