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PSDP Board of Directors Minutes  
12/13/19, 12:00 p.m. PT/3:00 p.m. ET

### Attendees

Veronica, Brad, Elaine, Heather, and Christi

### Agenda

- Guest welcome
- Next regular meeting
- Fundraising
  - Convention sponsorship, etc.
  - Grants
  - Fundraisers
- Website/social media
  - Ask an expert
  - Pictures & videos
  - Getting Started page
  - Steps article
  - Forced testing article
  - Alert/response training article
  - Online documentation article
- Advocacy/outreach
  - HUD letter to FTC
  - SD meetup database and funding
  - Reaching out across the pond
  - DOT meeting
  - Presentation/interview podcasts
  - AKC "Service Dog Pass"
- Revision of emergency card
- 2015 FAQ flyer translation
- Treasury report
- Transcribing



This regular meeting was called by verbal agreement during the prior meeting, or by intermediate written reasonable notification made in good faith and agreed to by a majority of board members through email or phone, and was held through videoconferencing.

- Guest welcome
  - Christi is a PSDP volunteer joining us to get a better idea of how PSDP operates.
- Next regular meeting
  - Friday, January 17th at noon PT/3:00 ET.
- Fundraising
  - Convention sponsorship, etc.
  - We are working on reaching out to local businesses to sponsor our convention. We are also obtaining specific items for our goodie bags.

The "Sponsor Apollo" pages is now up:

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/convention/2020-convention/sponsor-apollo>

-Grants

Veronica did not get the AAPD award. We have other grant applications in, which we hope will allow us to create exciting new programs for the service dog community.

-Fundraisers

We are consistently getting people starting Facebook fundraisers for their birthdays, which is fantastic! We also have a Facebook fundraiser we hyped around Giving Tuesday, dedicated to helping us with our advocacy trips. We may receive a small amount in matching funds. To date, the fundraiser is at \$769 raised with a goal of \$1,300.

We are so thankful to our donors—especially those who set alarms for Giving Tuesday.

•Website/social media

We have a tentative plan to update our site's organization. Given that we want any major update to work well for a long time, we are not in a hurry and will wait a little while longer on design feedback from a community member.

-Ask an expert

After our dog trainer interview, we have two more "Ask an expert" entries in the works. After finding a willing expert, we solicit questions from the list to then curate and pass along to the expert.

This was on hold with our selected expert since she's very busy until the end of July. We will get back to this soon.

-Pictures & videos

We have been releasing videos based on 2019 convention footage, including an SDIT Manners Evaluation video and skit videos. These are now consolidated on our 2019 convention videos page. It's still possible, but low priority, that we will produce one or two more videos from convention footage.

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/convention/2019-convention/videos>

We may have an audio recording to work with from Brad and Veronica's July FAA conference presentation. We will think about how to use pictures from the GDUI convention (already posted on personal blog) and the FAA conference (posted in a personal album).

We will soon be soliciting 2019 pictures from our community through the end of the year for our community photos page.

-Getting Started page

Our "Getting Started" page has been updated with easy-to-follow headings and a photo of Tami with Chili.

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/getting-a-dog>

-Steps article

We have updated Veronica's popular article on the steps to become an owner-trainer service dog user and have re-released it. The headings now describe stages, rather than "steps".

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/getting-a-dog/steps-become-service-dog-user>

-Forced testing article

Brad wrote an article called "Forced service dog testing is not the fix you might think", released 9/12/19.

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/forced-testing>

-Alert/response training article

Veronica wrote (with Brad's help) a much-needed article: "How to train a service dog anxiety alert/response", released 11/18/19.

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/work-tasks/how-to-train-a-service-dog-anxiety-alert-response>

-Online documentation article

Brad wrote an article about what our priorities should be if we go after websites that provide documentation for service dog users. We released "Should we hate online service dog certification?" 11/26/19.

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/online-service-dog-certification>

•Advocacy/outreach

-HUD letter to FTC

In early November, the head of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) asked the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to investigate websites that provide assistance animal documentation.

[https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/Main/documents/11\\_06\\_2019\\_Letter.pdf](https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/Main/documents/11_06_2019_Letter.pdf)

We asked our DOT contacts to connect with HUD folks about this so that we might be involved. HUD has not received a response from FTC. Sometimes an FTC investigation will be walled off from other agencies, so it's difficult to assess what is happening.

Our plan is to contact FTC directly so their officials have the opportunity to hear our input, especially as in "Should we hate online service dog certification?".

-SD meetup database and funding

We have been abstractly developing a service dog meetup database and a means to fund local meetups. We have also been working on partnerships with other service dog user groups (GDUI and IAADP) for successful inter-disability outreach.

We are working to hear positive news from grant-makers or private donors so we can breathe life into these ideas!

-Reaching out across the pond

We recently heard about owner-trainer advocates in the UK and plan to reach out to them to extend coalition support. It looks like we might have to do this through Facebook.

This enterprise might become a higher priority as Veronica looks into how transatlantic seafaring works.

-DOT meeting

Brad and Veronica provided all the advocates' agenda items for a DOT meeting in November for disability advocacy groups. Brad's update for the community is available.

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/board-of-directors/board-activities/advocacy/staying-in-touch-with-dot>

These trips are one of PSDP's most important expenses in shaping the legal landscape for service dog users—including those outside the US, whose government officials see what the US does! We appreciate everyone supporting us in this trip and in the important advocacy ventures to come. New flying laws are on the horizon.

-Presentation/interview podcasts

In July, Veronica and Brad presented on service dog solidarity at the Guide Dog Users, Inc. conference in Rochester, New York. A recording was aired last week and this week on ACB Radio. A podcast should be available in about a week.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/gd-ui-juno-report/id1107836850>

On December 8th, Brad and Veronica were interviewed on "The Service Dog Show", which airs on DV Radio. They also were in a public chat session during the show with the hosts and listeners. The podcast is now available through iTunes and other podcast sources so you can listen any time.

<https://dvradio.net/PODCASTS>

Veronica spent a long time making a transcript of the interview so it would be more accessible for deaf and hard of hearing folks.

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/media-coverage-of-psdp/transcript-sd-show-dec82019>

-AKC "Service Dog Pass"

The American Kennel Club (AKC) is once again disregarding disability rights and the perspective of service dog users and user groups. We are not fans of the "Service Dog Pass" program AKC has in the works. We have been working on a plan and are executing the initial phase of this plan to deal with the situation as best we're able.

Brad and Veronica were invited to a roundtable discussion on Dec. 22nd on this topic on DV Radio.

•Revision of emergency card (*no update*)

We are revising our emergency card to be additionally available as a fillable pdf. A draft is in progress based on board input and is being revised.

We are also drafting a first-responder refrigerator notice, and will be doing so based on the 2016 convention's first responder discussion.

•2015 FAQ flyer translation

We now have both a Spanish and a French version of our main flyer!

<https://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/lifestyle>

•Treasury report

The treasury report includes changes to and progress in the categories of: income, expenses, current funds, the budget, earmarked funds, and fundraising.

Upcoming expenses include another expected DOT advocacy/outreach trip and convention scholarships. We have a good stock of solidarity scarves; there was a sale where Brad was able to buy five at the lightning deal price instead of watching and waiting for those deals and buying them one at a time.

•Transcribing

We will see whether some recent volunteers will be able to help us in transcribing PSDP presentations/interviews. This will be broken into more manageable chunks and spread across multiple people so no individual will face a monumental task.

