

**BRAIN INJURY COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES**  
**April 6, 2020 – 2:00 PM**  
**Smyrna Rest Area Conference Room, Smyrna, DE**

**20 in attendance of 24 QUORUM PRESENT**

**ZOOM TELECONFERENCE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Christine **Applegate**, Nurse Navigator, Neurosurgery, Bayhealth Neurosciences; Linda **Brittingham**, ChristianaCare Health System/Delaware Healthcare Association (CCHS) (DHA); Andrew **Burdan**, Brain Injury Advocate; Tammy **Clifton**, DOL/ DVR, Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and **BIC Chair** (obo Andrea Guest, Director); Nicholas **Duko** obo; (Program Mgr., BCBS Highmark Health Options); Katie **Freeman**, Psychologist, DSCYF/DPBHS (obo Robert Dunleavy); Kristy **Handley**, Executive Director (Brain Injury Association of Delaware (BIAD)); Kristin **Harvey**, DDC (obo Michael Harris); Jeffrey S. **Hysan**, Paralegal, Community Legal Aid Society, Inc., Disabilities Law Program; Dale **Matusevich**, DOE, ECE, Education Associate, Transition Services (obo Mary Ann Mieczkowski); Karen **McGloughlin**, Director of Women's Health (obo Dr. Karyl Rattay, Director); Dorothy **Prior**, Psychologist, (obo Marie Nonnemacher) (DDDS); Nancy **Ranalli**, Director of Community Outreach, Easterseals; Dr. Ron **Sarg**, DCVA/MOAA; Lacie **Spence**, GACEC (obo Wendy Strauss); Wendy **Strauss**, GACEC; Carey **Swartzentruber**, Survivor; Karen **Tanner**, Psychologist, DSAMH (obo Elizabeth Romero); Tiffani **Taylor**, Nurse Navigator Post-Acute Medical Rehabilitation Dover (obo George DelFarno, Director); and Jamila **Waigwa**, DHSS/DSAAPD.

**ABSENT: (4)**

Megan **Coulbourne**, Director of Therapy Operations, Encompass Health;); Miguel **Marcos**, TCM Program Manager, Wilmington VA Medical Center; Sue **Gamel-McCormick**, APRN, DHSS/DMS/Birth to Three; Christina **Miller**, Insurance Investigator Supervisor, Department of Insurance/TBI Survivor;

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: (6) (Not able to vote or count toward quorum)**

**IN-PERSON – N/A**

**ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:** James **Blair**, Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1 from Del-Mar-Va; Cameron **C.** Boy Scouts of America, Troop 141 in Felton; Gavin **Curtis**, Boy Scouts of America, Troop 75 in Newark; John **McNeal**, Director (SCPD); Dr. Karen L. **Panunto**, Ed.D., MSN, APRN, Department Chair & MSN Program Director/Professor of Nursing, Department of Nursing, Wesley College; Dee **Rivard**, SCPD.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Tammy Clifton called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. after a quorum of members arrived and welcomed Dr. Karen L. Panunto from Wesley College to the meeting. Tammy thanked everyone for attending and requested everyone to introduce themselves for the record.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Tammy inquired if there were any additions, changes or deletions to the agenda.

- Karen McGloughlin made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Dale Matusevich seconded the motion and voting members in attendance unanimously approved today's agenda as prepared.

## **SURVIVOR UPDATE**

- Tammy returned to agenda item III. Survivors Brief
- Carey announced that he did not have anything new for today although there are a few things that he is working on for future updates.

## **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES**

Tammy moved on to agenda item IV asking if everyone reviewed the minutes of the March 6, meeting. Tammy called for additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes.

- Ron Sarg offered a minor correction to the minutes on page 2 under the Survivor Update portion of the minutes ½ way down the paragraph to where it reads: "with every one thing" requesting a correction for it to read "with everything."
- Ron also requested a correction on the top of page 7 at line 2 inquiring if "Now a days" should be 3 separate words or one word. The committee agreed that it should be one word.
- Tammy requested a correction on page 1 to her intern's first name. The correct spelling is "Gilvane."
- Ron Sarg made a motion to approve the minutes of the 03/06/2020 BIC meeting as amended, Kristin Harvey seconded the motion and voting committee members in attendance unanimously approved the motion.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Motorcycle Helmet Advocacy**

Tammy moved on to Section V. Old Business on the Motorcycle Helmet Advocacy requesting Jeffrey Hysan to proceed with his update.

- Jeffrey stated that he worked with Laura Waterland on several versions of the bills that Committee members received prior to today's meeting.
- Jeffrey advised that one of the bills addresses the fine for all motorcycle violations and is labeled Draft BIC MC Fine bill. This is very similar to the one that he had sent last time. This is the one that would make a \$15.00 fine for any motorcycle violation. The way it is drafted is that it creates a separate body called the "Brain Injury Prevention & Outreach Fund", which under this draft legislation, makes it so it would be administered by the SCPD Brain Injury Committee. The purpose of this fund would be for providing for prevention, awareness, education, and outreach of brain injuries. So, if this would go through it would add an extra \$15.00 fee for every motorcycle violation that would go into this fund. Jeffrey shared that everybody wants their piece of the pie when it comes to violations and there are a lot of other funds. He tried to make it so it will have priority over certain other funds so that if it is approved, the \$15.00 would make it into this fund. This bill is set up separately because it had to go under Title 11 of the Delaware Code instead of under Title 21 which relates to rules of the road. Title 11 is basically where all the fines and fees are listed. This draft legislation was made separate because the Brain Injury Committee (BIC) members talked about doing draft motorcycle helmet legislation

with the fine separately and then both together in one bill in case there is a harder sell to combine them both.

- The next piece of draft legislation to look at which combines everything is the one entitled “Draft MC Helmet BIC Fine Bill that is 3 pages long.” For this piece of draft legislation Jeffrey and Laura went ahead and created the “Whereas” section. Most of the information in the “whereas” section, came from statistics on a handout that Dee provided during the last meeting when discussing the survey questions that contained a lot of statistics with links to multiple statistics such as the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Jeffrey can change the statistics if there is information that is more specific to Delaware. Jeffrey assured John that if he or Kyle have something they want added or changed, that he can do that easily. The first section of this draft legislation covers what the committee spoke about previously relating to the motorcycle endorsements for individuals under the age of 30. This draft section is setup so that individuals who obtained their motorcycle endorsement prior to the date of the enactment of this legislation would not have to wear a helmet with an exception for riders 19 years of age and younger, which basically grandfathers everybody except for those 19 and younger as not having to wear a helmet. The second part of this legislation includes language covering everyone who obtains their motorcycle endorsement after the date of enactment and requires them to wear a helmet up to the age of 30 years old. Jeffrey shared that this number might seem random; however, this also has its own fine added to the draft legislation where the fine previously had zero written as the amount. Jeffrey inserted \$100.00 as the suggested fine because he researched other states and their motorcycle helmet laws and their fines. He advised that they ranged quite a bit; however, in researching the State of Maryland he found that they have a universal helmet law with a \$110.00 penalty for violators who choose not to go to court that allows them to pre-pay the penalty to Maryland’s district court. Then there are states like California, with a fine is \$197.00 that varies between 19 different funds. Representative Lynn might want to choose the \$197.00 amount, since we are asking to receive funding from every motorcycle violation. Jeffrey advised that the fine can’t be so small that everybody else doesn’t get their piece of the fine, like the courts, the police, and all the funds before us so it varies by violation. In this same draft legislation, section 2 of the bill adds in the language combining both draft bills into one bill with the same language for the \$15.00 fine going to the Brain Injury Committee, Prevention & Outreach Fund. These are combined with all the “whereas” language.
- Then, since he was aware that the BIC wanted to keep them separate, the other two pieces of draft legislation still include the age limit of 30 and the grandfathering clause. He prepared one of these bills that included all the “whereas” statements and the other one he prepared similar to how Representative Lynn had his without the “whereas” statements.
- Jeffrey stated that the main thing is the \$100.00 civil fine, isn’t specific to us, because we wanted our fine inclusive of all motorcycle violations. He is not sure what type of point that we would need to add to that legislation. This may be something for Representative Lynn or the full legislature to decide on the amount of

the fine since he does not know how many other agencies receive portions of the motorcycle violations.

- John commended Jeffrey and Laura on the really good job they did in preparing the different versions for consideration by the BIC. Thank you! John really likes the bill a lot and stated that there are some local statistics that might go better than the national statistics. John knows that this is going to happen since he had the discussion previously with Representative Lynn and he asked us how much we thought the fine should be. We will go back to Representative Lynn. What ultimately is going to happen, we will take this piece and work with Representative Lynn's attorney to fine tune the legislation and their attorneys are quite familiar with the laws that are already on the books. The attorneys should be able to come up with a consequential but logical fine. It is very interesting how many people get a piece of the pie. John promised to get the information to Jeffrey or if BIC members want, he can just run with the legislation that Jeffrey provided to bring it to Representative Sean Lynn's attention.
- Jeffrey advised that he was good either way and that if John wanted him to go ahead and add local information, he is glad to do that. John advised that he didn't want to ask too much of Jeffrey at this time because he would like to leave an opportunity to ask more of him later. John can provide the information to the legislative attorneys and let them bring it to Representative Sean Lynn's attention.
- Tammy added to John's well-done comment by adding that she whole-heartedly agrees that Jeffrey and Lauren did excellent work. Thank you both very much.
- Tammy moved on announcing that Karen and Dee are both available to talk about the Motorcycle Helmet Survey status.

## **COMMITTEE & SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

- **Motorcycle Helmet Safety Survey Ad Hoc Working Group**
  - Karen McLaughlin stated that Dee has done a phenomenal job in working on the data that we have. The only other update that she had regarding the surveys is that some of you may have noticed that the State of Delaware is currently in a public health crisis. Any work that may have started or was about to start out of public health is not going to happen anytime soon. She has no way of knowing how long this crisis is going to last and does not know when her people are going to be able to return to this kind of work. Meanwhile, I know Dee has done what she can with the surveys and has them up on the website.
  - Dee stated that the surveys are not up on the public website yet because after speaking with Karen, she revisited the surveys in order to make each question dependent on how someone answers the previous question. Depending on their answer it will trigger the appropriate questions to follow. For instance, if they are a first responder, emergency department staff or a motorcycle rider, their responses will trigger the appropriate following questions. It is almost there. Dee will send John a link to view the surveys online on the internal website. It is looking very good, and Terry Lust from DTI is not only great to work with, he is also very responsive. We are hoping that the surveys can go live by the end of this month. The plan is to leave the surveys up for the entire year in order to gather enough data for next year's legislative session.

- As far as the data analysis, Dee announced that she finally finished doing the zip code research for all age groups for the years 2014 – 2018. The research required significant work because the data would contain 33222 for a zip code and list the state as Delaware and we all know that is not a Delaware zip code. This resulted in her doing manual research to look up the zip codes in order to enter city and states into the data. Today she is working on the 0 – 17 years, 364-day age group performing analysis by diagnosis, state, year and age. Dee shared that there are a significant number of concussions in that age group. She believes that this is the data that the BIC is looking for. When the analysis is completed, she will have John review it prior to sharing with the BIC members.
- Karen thanked Dee for doing this as she knows that it is a lot of work.
- Dee added that it is very interesting though, so she is enjoying doing the work.
- Tammy turned the meeting over to John for an update on Medicaid Costs, DMV & OHS Statistics Update and the Motorcycle Rider Education Advisory Committee.
- **Medicaid Costs, DMV & OHS Statistics**
  - John advised that the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is doing some research, and that he received some information from the Office of Highway Safety (OHS); however, it wasn't information that he needed because all of the information that he needed was already provided with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration report. They have their 2020 report already done. It is kind of interesting because they have a different calendar for how they do it. It is almost like 6 months of statistics from January to June of last year. He is unsure if they spend the rest of their time collecting data, but he is looking for some clarification from OHS as to how to get a full year's worth of data. Particularly as January through June is not peak motorcycle riding season from what John's experience is. Typically, we are looking at the summer and fall months as peak riding season. Not having this information in the report and with Delaware, we only have a small representation. When you look at the national statistics, it makes it appear that Delaware, with regard to injury per capita, or accident per capita, is 47 to 48 which is only because they are only reporting the first six months of the year. John is working to figure out why that is and what it is all about. John does not believe that the Feds would be satisfied with half a year's statistics. And it does create a terrible misconception, that we are doing a lot better than what we are.
  - John sent a copy of the response he received from DMV to Dee. They provided information on the average age of a new motorcycle endorsement request as 40 in 2018 and 2019 and 46 in 2020 which provided an overall average age of 40. While it is not what you would think; as John looked around, he is 50 now and if he was going through his mid-life crisis, he might be looking for his Harley also. John stated that there are some misconceptions that don't allow us to draw on the point that all new cyclists are younger. As a matter of fact, it may help us with the actual group that we are going up against, because this is going to impact very few of their

members and very few new drivers. While it may not be the message that we want, we want people to start wearing helmets. With regard to them we can quote that the average age is 40, so why would you be so concerned about this. Beyond this, John really did not have a whole lot more to report on.

- **Motorcycle Rider Education Advisory Committee**

- With everything that is going on right now, John has a bit of a COVID-19 crisis with his father-in-law and if the Motorcycle Rider Education Advisory Committee meeting even took place, he was not able to attend because he was in the emergency room with his father-in-law who was rushed in as one of the first people before they even had tests. Whenever this meeting gets rescheduled, John will request to get on their agenda again.
- John will continue to try to get the information that will help the Committee from the Office of Highway Safety and to get additional information to Jeffrey for the bill and will take it from there because the legislative attorneys are still working.
- Tammy moved the meeting on to the committee and subcommittee update portion of the agenda.

- **TBI Fund Application Review Committee Update**

- Nancy Ranalli stated that the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Fund Committee met in-between the March BIC meeting and today's meeting because they had a couple of applications that required a meeting even though they were not urgent.
- The applications are interesting because they were for things that we had not previously received requests for before. One was for a family that has a child with a traumatic brain injury who needed a weighted blanket in order to help the child sleep. The committee approved that request.
- We also had someone request some dental work for their son because he had a seizure as a result of his brain injury and damaged his teeth during the seizure. The committee also approved this request for a tooth extraction at a cost of \$580.00.
- It just shows you all the different types of requests that the Brain Injury Fund can be used for. While these were not big expenses, at least the word is continuing to get out about the Brain Injury Fund and people are applying for funding.
- Dee provided Nancy and the other TBI Fund Committee members with a quick update stating that home modifications for one of the applicants is completed except for the installation of hand railings from the lower level to the first floor.
- Nancy added that once the work is fully completed that hopefully the Committee will receive a testimonial or something that we can add to the website.
- Andrew inquired if we allow for the person who completed the home modifications in their business title to go on the website or, are we not allowed to enter those waters.

- Dee referred this question to John stating that she did not believe that we could allow that as it would be considered an endorsement of their business.
- John was not quite sure about that stating that if the contractor did really good work and the homeowner included in their testimony thanking the company that did the work, then we wouldn't necessarily be endorsing the company so much as the applicant or homeowner endorsed the company. If we can find more companies that provide customer-service friendly work, that would be great. John stated that he would not have any qualms if the individual who received the work, liked the work and mentioned the contractor's company in their testimonial.
- Andrew just thought that it would be nice if the contractor's received credit for their work. Dee thought it was a great question and thanked Andrew for asking the question because we all got an answer to the question.
- Nancy announced that was all she had for her update.
- John announced that the last full Council meeting was cancelled so John plans to bring up for a vote during the Council's next meeting the recommendation for using a portion of the Brain Injury Fund for outreach. This item is placed on the agenda for the upcoming meeting in two-weeks.
- **Data Development Subcommittee (DDS) Update**
  - Karen McGloughlin stated that she did not have any additional updates other than what we already discussed under the motorcycle helmet advocacy category. That is our priority now. Of course, John may have an update regarding the funding of analysis from the Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN) data. I don't know if that is something that he might have more information about. Our actual subcommittee hasn't met as a full committee in a while because we have just been trying to tackle the data that we have.
  - John stated that he did not have any updated information at this time.
  - Karen stated that she knew John had requested from the folks at DHIN to provide him with some information on how much data analysis might cost. Has Terri or anyone gotten back with you with that information yet? John asked Dee who advised that yes, he had received a response that she couldn't recall the exact amount at this time for a year's worth of analysis that was limited to a certain number of hours that you were going to include in next year's budget request.
  - John thought that he recalled that the analysis was between \$1,500 on the low end and \$5,000 on the high end. However, when John said that the amount was a little much, DHIN was agreeable to doing some analysis with Dee, if he is not mistaken, at no cost to try to teach and to also learn what we were trying to determine.
  - Dee stated that yes, she sent DHIN the information following our last meeting although she hasn't received anything back yet because they are probably running into the same issues that she did with the zip codes. They are working on the requests that Karen McGloughlin gave to us that they looked at as a subcommittee. Of course, the priority is the number of concussions and traumatic brain injuries in the state by year. Then we can

also by gender if we need it although we cannot drill down as far as by zip code because that make it personally identifiable information since there may only be less than 10 within a zip code which would enable someone to figure out their identity. We may have to combine zip codes. However, Dee is simultaneously working on the data analysis at the same time as we are waiting on DHIN to begin some analysis.

- John added that DHIN's estimate included 50 hours of analysis per year with a specific cost for that, which is something that he can look to include in next year's budget request. One of John's staff wanted him to hold off on that as they were pulling data and working to try to figure out how they could do it themselves. He won't mention what staff member it was; other than that, they are pictured on the screen right now. Dee has done a fantastic job pulling information and learning to understand the data. We are grateful for DHIN because they have been willing to be helpful providing a tool. That said, we do not have the staff time to do that in the manner to which the DHIN is capable of even though John has a staff member who is building her resume well above her current paygrade right now. To make it short, we are going to have to get analysis cost into the budget for someone to be able to do the analysis timely, efficiently, and in more than one area at one time.
- Karen told John that he was exactly right and that she would strongly recommend that John make it a standing budget item. She asked him to also understand that 50 hours is not very much time when you are pouring over data. She thought that Dee could attest to the fact that she spent way more than 50 hours already and sometimes it is just simply trying to clean up the data that we already have. Karen suggested projecting something relatively large so that if we have a need for a report that the money is already budgeted for the reports. This is just her recommendation.
- John stated that he completely agreed. Having 50 hours is not a lot of time even as efficiently, effectively and as familiar as they are with the data. John stated that he will go by that same thing. Because it is legislatively mandated that the State Council is the clearinghouse for people with disabilities in the State of Delaware, it gives us a lot of leverage to ask for a reasonable portion of funding to track what we can through this data pool.
- Karen advised that she reached the end of her report.
- **Prevention and Outreach Subcommittee (P & O)**
  - This committee has not met since March 2 due to the pandemic.
  - Tammy announced that this brings us to new business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Tammy announced that we do have some guests who joined our meeting today and requested that one of the Boy Scouts, please let us know what Troop they were a member of.
- We have Cameron representing Troop 141 in Felton, Delaware, Gavin representing Troop 75 in Newark, and James representing Troop 1 from Delmarva.
- Dale Matseuvitch provided a quick update on the Special Education Regulations that have been out for public comment. He believed that the public comment closed

on Friday. He shared that the Department of Education (DOE) is in the middle of answering questions received during the public comment. He believes that there were only a couple of questions received relating to Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI); however, most of those were in favor of the changes that were suggested; which came from this committee. The Special Education Regulations will have to go out for public comment again and DOE is hoping to make the April 15 deadline so they can get them finalized in the May Registry for public comment. Once this happens, Dale promised to notify everyone that they are out for public comment again. They are hoping that things will go well with the public comment, posting, and that they will be able to have the regulations in effect come next school year.

- Katie stated that for some reason she was under the impression that they had until the end of the month. Dale responded that he thought that it was more like the end of March. However, they are coming out for public comment again.
- Wendy Strauss stated that one was April 1 and the other was April 4.
- Dee thanked Dale for providing the update.
- Tammy inquired if there was any other new business.
- Kristin commended Kristy and Tammy and everyone on Brain Injury Association of Delaware (BIAD) who worked so hard to bring about the Brain Injury Conference. All their speakers were phenomenal. She loved the “Unmasking Brain Injury” activity and exhibit. The ice cream was also great. It was an outstanding job by the BIAD members. Kristin was so busy networking that she didn’t get to any of the sessions except the last one in which John was a panelist. Outstanding job John, as always to you and all your fellow panelists. The conference showed such great work. Kristin knows just how hard of a job it is and you did a phenomenal job. Numerous BIC members who attended the conference echoed Kristin’s words about the great job done on the Brain Injury Conference including John, Karen, and Katie.
- John stated that he met some maybe new, lifelong, much younger than him friends. John thanked Kristy stating that he really appreciated having the opportunity to participate and to be a part of presenting during the conference. He stated that it was an exceptionally great job that Kristy and Tammy did.
- Tammy thanked John stating that BIAD appreciated him working on the panel as well.
- Karen echoed everyone’s gratitude and commendations to Kristy and Tammy stating: “Who knew that it was going to be our last conference for months?” At least for her, it was the last time that she got to meet in public with anybody. The conference was really well done, and she was happy to be able to staff one of the exhibitor tables and get a chance to talk with a lot of the people who were there. She also was not able to do a lot of the sessions, but she heard a lot of good feedback. Great job!
- Karen brought everyone’s attention to the comments in the chat area from some of the Boy Scouts of America who participated in today’s meeting.
- Dee announced that attending today’s meeting were representatives from various Boy Scout Troops of America from throughout Delaware. Cameron represented Troop 141 in Felton, Gavin represented Troop 75 in Newark, and James from Troop 1 from Delmarva.

- John thanked them all for participating in the meeting and asked them if they have any questions for the committee. Do you have any questions about brain injuries?
- What could the committee do to ensure that they properly earned their Merit Badge.
- Tammy asked if any of the Scouts could provide information on what inspired to join the meeting today.
  - The scouts were sent a link by their leaders in order to work on earning their Communications Merit Badge.
  - Cameron from Troop 141 stated that his brother was diagnosed with a TBI following a motor vehicle accident in 2014 when they were rear-ended.
  - John asked Cameron to take back that if there is anything in any way that the State Council or the Brain Injury Committee could be a resource that he can find resources on our website at: <https://scpd.delaware.gov/brainInjury.shtml>. We are also here for your brother and your family.
  - Kristin hopes that Cameron and his family are doing well and thought it outstanding that Cameron reached out to this committee. If a lot of the things sounded technical, she advised that she thought it was because we were on Zoom. We welcome when any young people and families of persons with brain injuries to join our group. Kristin hoped that Cameron and his family are doing well after their accident. She felt that it was outstanding that he reached out to this committee.
  - James from Troop 1 is working toward the same merit badge; however, he himself had a concussion when he was 7 years old and that was the reason that he chose this meeting.
  - John stated that concussions are something that we try to provide a lot of education about. A concussion is a traumatic brain injury and not a lot of people think of it as seriously as that; but it is. We hope that James is doing well after his concussion.
  - Tammy addressed James and Cameron stating that she would like to mention that if they had any interest in learning more about the Brain Injury Association of Delaware they or their family members could check them out on their website at [www.biaofde.org](http://www.biaofde.org).
  - John inquired if they added their contact information when they joined the meeting.
  - Tammy thanked Kristy and Dee both for adding the BIAD website to the chat information and called for any new business.
  - Ron Sarg relative to the motorcycle safety bill that we are working on; Ron stated that the \$15.00 fine is a slap on the wrist. In the event of repeat offenders, it remains a \$15.00 fine. This committee may want to consider for future legislation, if we get this passed, to change the \$15.00 fine to an increasing fine for each repetitive occurrence. And for those who are chronic offenders, eventually they will find that the penalty is higher than what their initial concern was.
  - Several BIC members including Karen M., voiced that they liked how Ron was thinking.

- John advised that the \$15.00 is not the amount of the penalty, it is the amount of money out of a fine that is added to the penalty and designated to come to the Brain Injury Prevention & Outreach Fund.
- Jeffrey clarified that it is for every motorcycle violation. The actual fine for the motorcycle helmet legislation is the one that we talked about having the legislative attorneys researching to see what fine amount they like compared to other states.
- Ron inquired if the \$15.00 fine was part of the initial violation or in addition to it. Dee clarified that it was in addition to the fine. Ron stated that is why is spoke about having it as an increasing fine for chronic or repeat offenders. He suggested doubling it for each repeat offense. Jeffrey clarified that Ron was suggesting that the fund would receive more money for each repeat offense. Ron responded yes, because they are expensive machines to purchase and hard to maintain. He thinks that it should get to a point where the increasing fines are not worth it anymore unless the person is a true hard head. They could make it a stepping type of increasing fine scale if they want. The \$15.00 is something that this committee is trying to enact for every single motorcycle violation. Jeffrey assumed that it would.
- John shared that many times, the way that the fines are done, is similar to accessible parking. For the first offender it would be let's say \$100.00, second time it could be \$350.00 and the third time it could be \$400.00. John's understanding of the way that the revenue generated for anyone who gets a piece of the pie. The standard is \$15.00 no matter how large that fine is.
- Ron inquired if motorcycle moving violations are reported to insurance companies in the State of Delaware the same as for automobile violations? Jeffrey responded that yes, motorcycle violations are treated the same as for automobiles and are included under the same part of the Delaware Code and are not really differentiated much.
- Ron shared that he recently got a ticket for the first time ever for a moving violation and that ticket turned out to be \$105.00 and he made sure that he paid the fine. Then when his insurance bill arrived it showed an increase of \$100.00 per year because of the conviction. Ron called his insurance company to tell them that he has never been convicted of anything. And they told him that oh yes, he had a moving violation. Ron said well alright if that is what your interpretation is; how long does this increase last? His insurance company told him that the additional \$100.00 per year lasts for 5 years for his conviction for a moving violation. To which he just wrote out the check and sent it in. There are other ways of deterring offenders.
- John advised that if it was any consolation, to the point that he is making so strongly, our friend Cameron from the Boy Scouts agrees with increasing the fines for repeat offenders.
  - Cameron followed up on his brother's injury stating that his brother used to play lacrosse and had multiple concussions over time from it. Once we were in the accident, he wasn't cleared to do contact sports anymore. He coaches through his college now and copes through that. His TBI frustrates him and gives him irritability. We understand the difficulty of it, and it is frustrating for all of us. A. I. DuPont Nemours Hospital was very

helpful for his PT and Neuro tests. Being a previous resident of Maryland, Cameron agreed with the increases on these fines.

John inquired if anyone wanted to mention anything to Cameron about his brother.

- Ron Sarg encouraged Cameron to run for the Legislature when he is old enough.
- Dee told Cameron about the available support groups in Delaware for his brother as well as in Maryland if that is where he is. Wherever his brother is in college we do have support groups on our website listed and so does the Brain Injury Association of Delaware.
- John shared that he is also a TBI survivor and it is very frustrating. It looks like your brother has done some remarkable things to get to a point where he can still be involved in something that he loved to do even though he doesn't participate the way that he used to. John thinks that what he is doing is awesome.
- In response to Andrew's question to everyone as to whether we can invite Cameron and his brother to a future meeting, as a survivor and sibling caregiver, John thinks that would be great as does all the members of BIC. John stated that one further step to that is that there are times when we need people to come and speak to legislators about the impact that brain injuries, concussions have had on an individual and their families.
- John stated that we are going to send out a thank you email or letter to the Troop leaders and will provide the scouts with some information in case they would like to continue to participate. John is not sure where his brother is coaching but we do have resources that are available to him should he need them. Not to mention that Kristy Handley and her group at the Brain Injury Association of Delaware (BIAD) does some remarkable things. John thanked Cameron for sharing his story.
- James inquired if there was a recording of today's meeting that he could watch because some of the meeting had a lot of static and he could not hear certain parts of it.
- John responded after consulting with Dee that yes, it is being recorded and that he will see what we can do for them. Dee added that she would need their email addresses in order to share the link with them or their home addresses to send out letters. It may be too large to send by email but if they wanted to add their home addresses to the chat then she can send it to them another way.
- Dale advised that Zoom will send us a link that we can just share with them.
- John acknowledged Cameron's thank you and thanked him and the other scouts for not just coming to the meeting but for really investing themselves in the meeting and our conversations today. You are all going to be a really remarkable young men and we are lucky to have you in our meeting and we are lucky to have you growing up to make the world a better place.
- Kristin's husband who just returned from a run had a question for BIAD as to when the next Brain Strong Run will occur. Kristy responded that right now Dr. Mills and his daughter, who is just finishing up her master's degree and beginning her Doctorate for law. They are going to restructure the Brain Strong

5K and they are not sure when, but they will send us the information when it is restructured. Sorry!

- Tammy stated that it looks like we are down to announcements.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Kristy thanked everyone who did come to the Brain Injury Conference. She really appreciates all the support. It was remarkable how much support that the Brain Injury Association of Delaware had this year and she just wanted to say thank you. Dee and everyone who kicked in as a volunteer, to the speakers to the vendors, it was remarkable. We sold out of our vendor spots this year, which was Kristy's goal for this year. They also had some remarkable speakers this year and she thinks that BIAD did a really good job of getting it all together. Kristy thanked all the volunteers that helped because without them BIAD could not have done it.
- John shared that things really move along with the video conference and that this meeting is the largest one that he participated in so far. Thank you all for your willingness to take time out of your busy schedules. This is what the full State Council has worked on for some time now. We have legislations for trying to provide some alternatives particularly as a reasonable accommodation, to be able to participate in meetings in other formats. Right now, the law states that you must be at a meeting or that you must be at a remote meeting that is where the public can meet. Ultimately, John thinks that this is a great format and probably what people will go to in the future. This will hopefully be a format that we can use in the future for meetings. Thank you all for taking the time for this many people to gather. John believes that we had as many, if not more people in attendance today than we do at some of our in-person meetings.
- Dee advised that we had 24 participants involved in today's meeting.
- Tammy also advised that this is the largest Zoom meeting that she participated in so far and that it worked out well. Time lag is the biggest challenge that she has come across and that relates to individual internet access.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- Ron Sarg made a motion to adjourn that Jeffrey seconded. Tammy called for discussion and hearing none, called for a vote by committee members present who unanimously approved the motion to adjourn at 3:14 pm.

## **NEXT MEETING**

- The next scheduled Brain Injury Committee meeting is on **Monday, May 4, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.**, and is being held virtually by Zoom Meeting. When held virtually, this meeting is accessible by desktop, laptop, and tablet computers, smartphones, teleconference with chat via computers without video capabilities and by regular teleconference.