

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Minutes  
August 14, 2008

John XXIII Center  
100 Hodges Road, Charleston, WV

Commission Members Present:	Commission Members Absent:	Visitors:
Doug Godfrey	Gary Vandevander	Melanie Wilkerson
Pierre Sevigny	John Knisely	Christine Kannon
Dr. Charles Abraham	Melinda Siler	Dot Stewart
Molly Simonton	Jennifer Burgess	
Marty Blakely	Pat Moss	Interpreters:
James Ennis	Pam Roush	Teresa McGonigle
Harriett Fitzgerald	Michael Sullivan	Jennifer Casto
Annette Carey		
Barbara King	Staff:	
Dr. Patsy Shank	Roy Forman (Deputy Director)	
Jeanne Roberts	Kari Preslar (Secretary)	

I. Call to Order

Doug Godfrey called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m.

II. Reading of the Mission Statement and Introductions

Barbara King read the mission statement.

III. Minutes

The minutes from the May 22, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Annette Carey made the motion to remove JD Corbin's name from the list. (Dr. Shank was listed as attending in his place. Mr. Corbin was attending as a representative of the Superintendent. Dr. Shank will be attending as the representative from the School for the Deaf.) Marty Blakely seconded. Motion approved.

Annette Carey made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Marty Blakely seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Staff Report

Staff report was reviewed.

Old Business

V. NAD Conference

Doug Godfrey shared his written reports on the NAD conference held in New Orleans.

## VI. Deaf Child's Bill of Rights

Following discussion, the board agreed that a smaller committee would be a more efficient way to create a Deaf Child's Bill of Rights. The sub-committee will include: Doug Godfrey, Annette Carey, Marty Blakely, Barbara King, Melinda Siler. (Kari will contact Melinda to see if she is available. If she is not, Melinda will choose another parent representative). The first meeting will be on September 19. Barb and Annette will find a location.

## New Business

## VII. Legislative Rule

Roy Forman reported that a rule for the establishment of required qualifications and ethical standards for interpreters and transliterators is now in the comment period until August 25. Annette Carey suggested that the commission should have a grievance policy in place. Molly Simonton made the motion and Barbara King seconded for Doug to begin researching grievance policies already in place through RID and other states and this issue will remain on the agenda for future meetings. Motion approved.

## VIII. State Fair

WVCDHH will share a booth with the Governor's Office and will be present on Saturday, August 16.

## IX. Workshops

Kari reported on upcoming workshops. Jennifer Casto will lead "ASL for Elementary Settings" on September 27 and 28 in South Charleston and Michael Canale will lead "NIC: It's No Mystery" on November 8 in Fairmont. The November 8 workshop is co-sponsored with Pierpont Community and Technical College (Ruby Losh).

## X. Sorenson

Jennifer Casto gave an update on her new position with Sorenson Video Relay. She is the manager for the Call Center that is opening in August in Charleston.

## XI. Mentor Program

Annette Carey reported that a new cohort has begun. There are 25 mentees. Janelle St. Martin is the new Lead Mentor. A meeting of all of the mentors and mentees will take place on September 6 at the Division of Rehabilitation Services in Institute.

## XII. Public Comments

Dot Stewart asked the Commission to be aware of ways to assist veterans returning from Iraq with hearing loss. Barbara King said that Rehab is very involved with assisting vets with Traumatic Brain Injury and many vets qualify for services through Rehab.

Rev. Stewart also volunteered to assist in the writing/editing stage of the Deaf Child's Bill of Rights.

### XIII. Executive Session

Annette Carey made the motion and Marty Blakely seconded that pending approval from the Attorney General's office and board approval that Doug Godfrey extend an invitation to the candidate for the Executive Director position. Motion approved.

Barbara King made the motion and Annette Carey seconded that Public Comments be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Motion approved.

### XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.