

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Minutes
November 2, 2018

DRS - Charleston District & Branch Office
4701 MacCorkle Avenue, SE, Charleston, West Virginia

Commission Members Present:	Commission Members Absent:	Commission Staff Present:	Visitors:	Interpreters:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paul See• John Burdette• Gwen Bryant• Rachel Gill• Pam Roush• Gloria Hollen• Angela Wilson• Annette Carey• Barbara Calhoun• Michael Coleman <i>(proxy for M. Gandolfi)</i>• Mekell Golden <i>(proxy for C. Mullins)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karen McNealy• David Blaine• Susan White• Nancy Sullivan• Roy Forman	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earnest Covington• Sarah Lowther	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gina Desmond• Earl Hollen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stephenie Woodall• Kelly Golightly

I. Call to Order

Paul See called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

II. Reading of Mission Statement and Introductions

- Paul See read the Mission Statement.

III. Minutes

The minutes from the August 3, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Pam Roush made the motion to approve the minutes. Gloria Hollen seconded. Minutes were approved.

IV. Staff Report

Earnest Covington shared information from the written staff report.

- Highlights included:
 - a. The draft of the Annual Report for FY2018 has been completed. It is now ready for Board review and approval. After the annual report has been reviewed and approved by the Board, it will be submitted to the Governor's office.

- b. The Board term for the Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing position expired in June. The vacant position was announced, but no applications have been received.
- c. The Interpreter Coordinator position has been vacant after nearly two years. One application was received, and a candidate was interviewed. After careful consideration, the candidate was offered the job. We are awaiting confirmation and acceptance of the offer.
- d. The renewal paperwork for Janelle St. Martin as the Local Test Administrator for the EIPA was received and submitted to DHHR Purchasing. The EIPA contract is now valid for another year.
- e. Two EIPA tests were scheduled during the months of October and November. The first test was held on October 6, 2018. It was given to four applicants at the WVCDHH office in Charleston. The second test will be held on November 10, 2018 in the WVCDHH office in Charleston. Four applicants are scheduled for testing on this date. Additional test dates will be offered once new applications are received. Tentative test dates will be scheduled in Spring 2019.
- f. WVCDHH has continued to work with Regal Cinemas in Nitro, WV to offer open captioned movies to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. Six movies were shown throughout the months of August, September, and October. Two more movies will be shown in November.
- g. WVCDHH, DRS, WVATS, and WVAD are continuing to work together, alongside the Governor's Office, to develop captioning for the legislative sessions. Plans are being made to have the captions available during live streaming of the sessions. A meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2018 at the Capitol to continue working on the accommodations.
- h. WVCDHH hosted Deaf WestiVal on September 21, 2018 at the Running Right Leadership Academy and Conference Center in Julian, WV. It was a very successful day. There were nearly 200 people in attendance at the event, along with over twenty-five exhibitors/vendors. Two Town Hall Meetings were also held throughout the day.
- i. Deaf Awareness Day is scheduled for February 27, 2019 at the Capitol.
- j. On the WVCDHH Facebook page, we have gained 31 likes since August 4, 2018 for a total of 1,005. We have had nine posts gain over 500 "reaches." Our highest was 883 people reached from a single post.

V. Committee/Task Force Reports

- Executive Committee: No report.
- Nominating Committee: No applications have been received for the Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing position on the board.

VI. Board Member Reports

- Barbara Calhoun
 - She shared information about global Usher Syndrome Awareness Day held on September 15, 2018. This day falls near the autumnal equinox in the northern hemisphere, marking the start of days that contain more darkness than light - a powerful metaphor for the threat of Usher syndrome.
 - She also announced that Stonewall Jackson Middle School and Capitol High School now have functional accessible smoke alarms in classrooms and bathrooms.
- Gloria Hollen
 - She is going to be a panelist for an upcoming cultural discussion at Shenandoah University.

VII. Future Meeting dates

- February 28, 2019 – Nitro, WV
- May 3, 2019 – Romney, WV
- August 8, 2019 – Morgantown, WV

VIII. Adjournment

John Burdette made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Gloria Hollen seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:09 p.m.