

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Minutes
August 10, 2006

John XXIII Pastoral Center
100 Hodges Road
Charleston, West Virginia

Commission Members Present:

Doug Godfrey
Pierre Sevigny
John Knisely
Molly Simonton
Marty Blakely
Emily Hopta
Angie Dolin (proxy Labor)
Annette Carey
Pat Moss
Barbara King
Pam Roush
Dr. Michael Sullivan
J.D. Corbin

Commission Members Absent:

Gary Vandevander
Dr. Charles Abraham
Melinda Siler
James Ennis

Visitors:

Scott Hottle
Linda Phillips
Liz Leisure
John Burdette
April Hottle
Dolly Ford

Staff:

Deanna Stone, Executive Director
Roy Forman, Deputy Director
Kari Preslar, Secretary

Interpreters:

Teresa McGonigle
April Starks

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Doug Godfrey called the meeting to order at 1:17 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the May 11, 2006 meeting were reviewed. Annette Carey requested one amendment to the ASL as a foreign language section XIV – “Annette Carey reported on the committee that has been working on developing WV content standards and objectives for ASL as a foreign language.” Minutes were approved with the amendment.

III. Executive Director's Report

Deanna Stone shared a written report.

Old Business

IV. Deaf Tech Fair 2006

Deanna reported on a very successful Deaf Tech Fair held at the Charleston Civic Center on May 20. There were 16 exhibitors, 40 volunteers and around 200 people attended.

V. Summer Conferences and State Commissions Meeting

Deanna attended the State Commissions meeting that was held immediately before the NAD conference in California. It was a very good meeting. Deanna will be serving on the by-law committee. The NAD conference was wonderful with good workshops.

Roy attended the Emergency Alert & Notification Solutions for Government and Business conference on June 29 in Washington, DC and the RID Region II conference in Herndon, Virginia on June 29-July 2. He attended the RID Region I conference in Rhode Island on July 21-23. All conferences were very good.

VI. Standards for Educational Interpreters

Annette Carey reported that the policy was approved and will go into effect on August 16. She has copies of the policy for any who are interested.

VII. ASL as a foreign language

Annette reported that the committee has finished a draft for content standards. The committee will continue its work.

New Business

VIII. 2006-2007 Workshops

Deanna shared the workshop schedule for the year. The workshop topics include areas that educational interpreters need to be skilled at in order to pass the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment.

IX. Cochlear Implant Task Force

Deanna has been participating in this task force. A survey is currently being distributed to gather data on the number of children who have cochlears. Annette reported that a lab school will be created in conjunction with Marshall University for children ages 2-5 years. The school will be used as a training ground for service providers.

X. TRS Contract

AT&T will no longer handle TRS services. Roy attended a meeting at the Public Service Commission with the companies that have made bids for the contract. The decision will be made by September 25.

XI. PacMates for the DeafBlind

Doug Godfrey shared information that he collected regarding PacMates. People who are interested

in this device will apply to the Commission and the office will purchase them once the approval has been given. Doug asked the board to give approval for the office to purchase the devices from the Special Revenue Fund. Board unanimously approved.

XII. Board voted to go into Executive Session

Public Comments

Doug shared that Deanna has asked the board for support to go to Law School at WVU. Deanna has been granted educational leave by the Office of Personnel Services of the Department of Health and Human Resources to receive additional training and is allowed to adjust her work schedule in compliance with the state policies. The Board gave its support.

John Burdette shared a letter from WVAD president Doug Evans.

Adjournment

John Knisely made the motion to adjourn. Pierre Sevigny seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.