

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Minutes
May 17, 2007

West Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind
Romney, West Virginia

Commission Members Present:	Commission Members Absent:	Visitors:
Doug Godfrey	John Knisely	Dr. Patsy Shank
Pierre Sevigny	Dr. Charles Abraham	John Burdette
Gary Vandevander	Molly Simonton	Mitchell Levy
Marty Blakely	Melinda Siler	Paula Forman
James Ennis	Emily Hopta	
Pat Moss	Jennifer Burgess	Interpreters:
Barry Hill (proxy for Barb King)	Annette Carey	April Starks
Pam Roush	Michael Sullivan	Teresa McGonigle
Nancy Williams (proxy for JD Corbin)		
	Staff:	
	Deanna Stone, Executive Director	
	Roy Forman, Deputy Director	
	Kari Preslar, Secretary	

I. Call to Order

Doug Godfrey called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m.

II. Reading of the Mission Statement and Introductions

Marty Blakely read the WVCDHH Mission Statement.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 29, 2007 meeting were reviewed. Gary Vandevander made the motion to accept the minutes. Pierre Sevigny seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Deanna Stone shared a written report. She will be meeting with representatives from WVAD and the State Police at the State Police Academy in Institute on May 18 to discuss the "Driver is Deaf" card project.

Old Business

V. Parents' Guide Update

Deanna shared that she has been in contact with Joni Alberg, the Executive Director for BEGINNINGS in North Carolina. Joni was making some inquiries and has not gotten back with Deanna. Pam Roush will try to contact Joni as well.

VI. Mentors

Deanna gave a report on the Mentor Program. Six mentors attended a two-day training with Frances Beaurivage on April 28-29. Applications are being accepted until May 30 for “mentees.”

VII. Workshop Reports

Kari Preslar reported on the “That’s A Wrap” workshop held in Morgantown on April 21. It was very well received. Deborah Roberts, the workshop leader, will be repeating the workshop on September 29.

Carol Tipton will repeat the “Smaller Hands, Bigger Challenges” workshop on March 1 and will do a more advanced voicing workshop on March 2. Frances Beaurivage will be doing a workshop on the EIPA written test sometime in the fall.

VIII. DHHIG

Doug Godfrey reported on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Government conference he attended on behalf of the Commission. He shared a written report.

IX. WVAD Conference

John Burdette reported on the workshop that the Commission is sponsoring. It will be on emergency preparedness. The workshop leader will be Lise Hamlin from the Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons. Hamilton Relay will also have a workshop and hopefully the State Police will provide a workshop as well.

New Business

X. Change of meeting date to November 7, 2007

Doug asked for a vote for the November meeting to be held on Wednesday, November 7. Request was unanimously approved.

XI. WVSD&B Superintendent Position

Doug introduced Dr. Pasty Shank, the new WVSD&B Superintendent.

XII. Hamilton Relay

Mitchell Levy introduced himself and discussed the change from AT&T to Hamilton as the relay service provider. He said he expects no changes to services.

XIII. National Deaf Awareness Week

Marty Blakely shared that National Deaf Awareness Week is September 24-28, 2007. He would like help to plan activities for the week including inviting the Governor to come to Romney to make a proclamation. Doug will work with Marty and Deanna will talk with Emily on working with the Governor.

Public Comments

XIV. James Ennis brought an issue between a WVU audiologist and his daughter, Ruby, regarding a cochlear implant for his granddaughter, Maddie. Deanna shared that she had

already discussed this issue with Ruby and had suggested to her that Ruby discuss her experiences at the Speech and Language Association's conference. Deanna and Gary will work on some kind of a presentation for that conference as well.

XV. Driver is Deaf project

John Burdette shared that he intends to share the design with the State Police at their meeting on May 18 for feedback. WVAD is hoping to do a training CD for the police.

XVI. Adjournment

James Ennis made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Pierre Sevigny seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.