

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Minutes  
May 5, 2010

Division of Rehabilitation Services  
Institute, West Virginia

Commission Members Present:

Doug Godfrey  
Pierre Sevigny  
Dr. Charles Abraham  
Marty Blakely  
James Ennis  
Jamie Mallory  
Marsha Dadisman  
Annette Carey  
Pat Moss  
Carla Cleek  
Pam Roush  
Michael Sullivan  
Patsy Shank

Commission Members Absent:

Tammy Phillips  
Jennifer Burgess

Staff:

Marissa Johnson  
Roy Forman  
Kari Preslar

Interpreters:

Connie Pitman  
Toni Hall

Visitors:

Nicole Knipp  
Diana Ramsey  
Barbara King  
Gwen Bryant  
Gary Vandevander  
Layne Wilder  
Donna Whittington

I. Call to Order

Doug Godfrey called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

II. Reading of the Mission Statement and Introductions

Pam Roush read the mission statement.

III. Minutes

Minutes from the February 4, 2010 meeting were reviewed. Jamie Mallory made a motion to approve the minutes as read. James Ennis seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Staff Report

Marissa shared highlights from the written report.

Old Business

V. Deaf Child's Bill of Rights

Marissa reported that it was introduced in the senate, but it did not move out of committee. Fair Shake Network attempted to get it moved out. DHHR did not push it. We need to re-strategize to get it on the floor for next year.

VI. Interpreter Registry

Roy Forman and Annette Carey reported on the work of the task force. The task force is developing a QAS system to evaluate interpreters for the long-term. They will look

into working with other states in a collaborative partnership. Marissa will be contacting other states.

#### VII. Board appointments

Marissa has given the nomination of Paul See to the Governor's Office. She will follow-up.

#### VIII. Town Hall Meetings

Marissa reported that we have done four this spring. The long-term plan is to do 3-4 a year on a rotating basis around the state.

#### IX. Fees for Qualified Interpreters

There is nothing new to report.

#### New Business

#### X. Deaf Tech Fair

Roy gave an update on plans. It will be held at the Charleston Civic Center on June 12, 2010.

#### XI. Relationship between WVCDHH and DHHR

A motion was made by Pat Moss and seconded by Annette Carey to seek clarification on the roles and responsibilities of the board in relation to DHHR. Who has administrative oversight over WVCDHH? The following questions came up in discussion:

- Hiring has been per DHHR regulations. DHHR has set salary, reviewed applications to determine who eligible candidates are.
- The Executive Director can't go to the Governor's office for appointments to the board.
- Does the Executive Director have the power to advocate directly to the Governor and legislature regarding rights for deaf or hard of hearing individuals?
- Budget is managed by DHHR but question came up regarding purchasing regulations.
- Who evaluates and supervises Executive Director? Are staff members DHHR employees?

The board requests clarification in writing to alleviate the confusion with the relationship between WVCDHH and DHHR. Motion approved.

#### XII. Upcoming Board meetings

August 5, 2010

November 4, 2010

#### XIII. Other comments:

Pat Moss announced that she is retiring as of May 14, 2010. She has requested a replacement for her spot on the board.

Patsy Shank announced that WVSD&B will celebrate the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school on September 23-25, 2010.

Jamie Mallory reported that she and Gwen Bryant will be exploring the possibility of starting a Hands & Voices state chapter. This is a family advocacy program.

Barbara King suggested that a letter come from the board to DHHR sharing the history of why the Commission was founded.

Retiring Board Member Recognitions: The board recognized Gary Vandevander and Barbara King for their years of service on the board. Plaques were presented. A certificate from the Governor to Barbara King was also presented.

#### XIV. Adjournment

Marty Blakely made the motion to adjourn and Pierre Sevigny seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

Next meeting: August 5, 2010.