West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Minutes
November 4, 2010

Division of Rehabilitation Services
Institute, West Virginia

Commission Members Present:  Commission Members Absent:
Doug Godfrey            Dr. Charles Abraham
Pierre Sevigny           Marsha Dadisman
Marty Blakely            Christina Mullins
James Ennis              Dr. Mike Sullivan
Jamie Mallory            Dr. Patsy Shank
Tammy Phillips
Jennifer Burgess          Staff:     Interpreters:
Annette Carey            Marissa Sanders  Connie Pitman
Carla Cleek              Roy Forman    Janelle St. Martin
Pam Roush                Kari Preslar

Visitors:
Gwen Bryant             Sara Maynard    Kelly McGraw
Brenda Robinson         Barbara Schauland Elisa Smith
Laine Wilder            Linda Phillips    Barbara King
Liz Leisure             Nancy Nichols    Benton White
Debbie White            William Nichols

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

II. Reading of the Mission Statement and Introductions
Carla Cleek read the Mission Statement.

III. Minutes
Minutes from the August 5, 2010 meeting were reviewed. James Ennis pointed out that the Deaf Expo was actually the World Deaf Expo and was held in Las Vegas. James made the motion to amend the minutes to read World Deaf Expo in Las Vegas. Motion approved as read after amended.

IV. Staff Reports
Marissa shared highlights from the written report.
Old Business:

V. Interpreter Registry
Roy reported on the work of the Task Force. They have completed a draft of a contract to be in relationship with the Virginia Commission. West Virginia will use raters from Virginia. The task force is still working on the cost for interpreters. The goal is to have everything finalized by the end of May.

VI. Town Hall Meetings
The final meeting for 2010 was held on Oct. 30 in Huntington. The Community Survey will now be added to the website.

VII. WV Hands & Voices
Jamie Mallory updated the Commission on the work of the Hands & Voices chapter. A new brochure is completed that is specific to the West Virginia chapter. Some things they are working on include: expanding their outreach throughout the state; there will be a family chat held in South Charleston and an Open Gym for K-21 years of age will be held at the South Charleston Community Center. Families will be encouraged to bring all of their children (not just the Deaf or Hard of Hearing child). They will schedule the open gyms for when Romney kids are home from school. The board is ready to file for the 501(c)3 application. They are in need a deaf person to serve on the board.

VIII. Deaf Empowerment/Self Advocacy Training
“Policy & Advocacy: What the Law Means to You” was held on October 23 in Fairmont. The same training will be held again in the spring probably in Charleston/Huntington area.

IX. Strategic Plan/Operational Plan
The updated plans were reviewed.

X. Update on relationship between DHHR and WVCDHH
No report. Doug will request that Marsha Dadisman attend the next meeting and give the board an update.

XI. Update on Fire Alarms
Roy called the Virginia Commission on September 3 and didn’t hear back from them. He did some research and it is listed in state code that landlords must provide smoke detectors; however home owners must purchase their own. Lowe’s has a hallway light from First Alert for $19, for smoke detectors and it is battery
operated. He also checked with the local fire department and they do not provide smoke detectors. State Farm Insurance no longer provides them, either. Marissa did talk to the VA Commission and they told her they do not distribute smoke detectors.

XII. Board Appointments
Marissa still has not been able to get an appointment with the administration. If your term is expired, you can continue to serve as a board member until you are either re-appointed or replaced.

New Business

XIII. Public Policy Committee
A meeting will be scheduled to determine what topics to bring to the upcoming legislative session.

XIV. 2011 Board Meeting Dates
February 10, 2011 at the Capitol Complex (with Legislative reception before the meeting)
June 9, 2011 at Romney
August 4, 2011 Charleston House Holiday Inn, room with WVAD, we provide lunch.
Retreat: October, Thursday-Friday, email possible dates to board members.

Adjournment
Marty Blakely made the motion to adjourn and Jamie Mallory seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.