

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Minutes
November 4, 2016

DRS Offices
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• Gloria Hollen• Rachel Gill• Roy Forman• Tammy Phillips• Nancy Sullivan• Angela Wilson• Susan White• Karen McNealy• Annette Carey• Gwen Bryant (via phone)• Mekell Golden (proxy for C. Mullins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Martin Keller• Pam Roush	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earnest Covington• Sarah Lowther	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paula Forman• Earl Hollen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stephenie Woodall

I. Call to Order

Paul See called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

II. Reading of Mission Statement and Introductions

Karen McNealy read the Mission Statement.

III. Public Comments

No public comments.

IV. Executive Session

John Burdette made the motion to go into Executive Session at 9:06 a.m. Annette Carey seconded. Motion approved.

Gloria Hollen made the motion to go out of Executive Session at 9:17 a.m. Rachel Gill seconded. Motion approved.

Susan White made the motion to approve the nomination for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing position on the board. Karen McNealy seconded. Motion approved.

V. Minutes

The minutes from the August 12, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Tammy Phillips made the motion to approve the minutes. John Burdette seconded. Minutes were approved.

VI. Staff Report

Earnest Covington shared information from the written staff report.

- Highlights included:
 - a. Board appointment paperwork for Dr. David Blaine was mailed to the Governor for approval. Also included was a reminder that the re-appointments for Karen McNealy and Gwen Bryant have still not been approved.
 - b. Marty Blakely's board term ended in June 2016. The position was posted. Three applications for a D/HH member have been received.
 - c. WVCDHH is awaiting approval from the Governor's Office for the new Interpreter Coordinator position. Sarah's promotion to become Project Director will also need to be approved by the Governor.
 - d. Earnest was asked to attend the Legislative Oversight Commission hearing regarding WVCDHH's status on September 19, 2016. He answered questions in front of the delegates.
 - e. A video was made regarding Video Phones and relay calls with a voice over. The video was sent to agencies who requested it.
 - f. Sarah has been in contact with representatives at CapTel who want to help WVCDHH include their captioned phones in the Telephonic Communication Device Loan Program.
 - g. WVCDHH was the RID Sponsor for CEUs for the 2nd Interpreter Retreat held on October 7-8, 2016 in Fairmont, WV. There was an increase in numbers attending this year.
 - h. On the WVCDHH Facebook page, we have gained 21 likes for a total of 674. We had three posts topple over 1,000 "reaches." Our highest was 1,617 people reached from a single post.

VII. Committee/Task Force Reports

1. Executive Committee: No report.
2. Interpreter Task Force: No report.
3. Nominating Committee:
 - The D/HH position previously held by Marty Blakely is now open.
 - Three applications have been received. The applications were reviewed by the Nominating Committee on November 3, 2016, and a candidate was chosen. A letter will be sent to the Governor for approval.

VIII. Strategic Plan

- The Board held a Retreat on November 3, 2016 in Charleston to discuss and update the Strategic Plan.
- The Strategic Plan has been updated to align with State Code. The wording has also been updated.

IX. Board Member Reports

- Angela Wilson
 - She shared that her current boss is retiring soon. She will send the updated contact information for the new boss.
- Rachel Gill
 - On November 9, 2016, Dr. Mays from Marshall University will present to medical students on working with Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals. There will be a panel discussion on the Registry of Interpreters and finding interpreters.
 - On November 16, 2016, DRS counselors will be going to WVSDDB in Romney to meet the kids. The kids will be able to meet their home counselors.
- Mekell Golden
 - The funding for the Kids First Hearing Project is almost exhausted.
- Gloria Hollen
 - On November 7, 2016, she will be going to Shenandoah University in Virginia to attend a cultural discussion. She will be going to learn and could give a presentation.
- Karen McNealy
 - She suggested putting links on the WVCDHH website for hearing aid assistance programs, with information on eligibility and criteria.
- Susan White
 - The Council of Exceptional Children went to Romney, WV to visit WVSDDB. It was a positive atmosphere and a good experience.

X. Future Meeting dates

- February 3, 2017 – Romney, WV
- May 19, 2017 – Wheeling, WV
- August 3, 2017 – Beckley, WV

XI. Adjournment

Gloria Hollen made the motion to adjourn the meeting. John Burdette seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.