

May 20, 2010

Springfield, Illinois

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMISSION

The fifty-first meeting of the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission (IDHHC) was held on Thursday, **May 20, 2010**, at the University of Illinois at Springfield, Public Affairs Center Building, 1 University Plaza, Springfield, IL 62703 and broadcasted live via IDHHC’s website.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Tina Childress called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Members Present:

Victoria Gustafson	Tina Childress	Emma Danielson	Joseph Culpepper
Marc Siegel	Benro Ogunyipe	Mindy Joy Mayer	Tamara Hogue
Julie Chavez	Hershel Jackson	Nancy Abbott	

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

John Miller	Janet Lambert	Brandie Belford	Mary O’Brian
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Interpreters:

Sheila Chapman	Marilyn Corlett
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CART:

Kathy Smith

Public:

None

Mindy Jo Mayer moved to accept the February 10, 2010, minutes as corrected. Seconded by Hershel Jackson. Motion passed.

Vicki Gustafson	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Emma Danielson	Yes
Joseph Culpepper	Yes	Marc Siegel	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes
Tamara Hogue	Yes	Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Julie Chavez	Yes
Hershel Jackson	Yes	Nancy Abbott	Yes		

Special Reports/Presentations:

CART Services:

Catherine Rajcan presented on the need for certification, licensure and testing for CART Reporters in Illinois. Discussion followed regarding setting up a task force to address issues regarding licensure of CART Reporters; licensure in Illinois; lack of Interpreters in areas where CART Reporters are needed; who pays for CART services; shortages and voice recognition and how that affects CART services.

Communication Access - Self Assessment Tool:

Mary O'Brian, IDHHC Program Coordinator presented on the development of a new tool for businesses to help identify and remove barriers to communication access. It was requested that the Commissioners review the document and get back to Director Miller with any comments or questions by June 30, 2010.

Chairperson's Report:

At this time, there is nothing to report.

Director's Report:

Commissioner Appointment:

Director Miller welcomed newly appointed Julie Chavez as Commissioner replacing Dennis O'Brien's position.

Budget:

Director Miller testified in front of the House and Senate Appropriation Hearings regarding IDHHC FY 11 budget. IDHHC is facing cuts and reductions. The final budget has not been approved by the General Assembly.

FY08/09 Audit:

IDHHC's FY08/09 Audit is complete. The Office of the Illinois Auditor General's Office reported findings relating to property control weaknesses, report filed late and segregation of duties regarding payroll. IDHHC has implemented procedures to correct the noted deficiencies. .

Annual Conference:

The conference will be held in Springfield on May 21- 22, 2010, at the Hilton. Commissioners are welcome to attend. The Illinois Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf will be holding its board meeting during the conference. So far, 190 interpreters are registered for the conference. The State Board of Education has been involved with providing support relating to Educational Interpreters.

Meeting Schedule:

IDHHC is required to hold four meetings a year. The November 2009 meeting was cancelled. While there is justification, it is possible that Auditors will issue a finding during the next audit.

The proposed dates for FY11 meetings held at the University of Illinois Springfield are as follows:

- August 26, 2010
- November 4, 2010
- February 11, 2011
- May 19, 2011

Website:

As IDHHC does not have an Information Technology (IT) person, Central Management Services (CMS) maintains the website and makes any updates. IDHHC is exploring options with CMS to make the website more user friendly.

Interpreter Licensure:

IDHHC is in the process of revising the job description for the Interpreter Coordinator position. After that, IDHHC will request approval from the Governor's office to post and hire.

IDHHC has received 15 interpreter complaints: 8 cases were closed due to no jurisdiction; 2 reached a settlement agreement; and 5 are pending further review.

ISAS testing ends in June. The Interpreter Licensure Board recommended adopting the BEI interpreter performance test from Texas. IDHHC will need to enter into a contract with Texas to lease the BEI. After that, IDHHC will recruit and train BEI raters.

Licensed Interpreters:

- Provisional 67
- Intermediate 208
- Advanced 154
- Master 192
- CDI 3

A total of 72 interpreters (12 live out of state) allowed their licenses to expire after the first year..

Activities to Report:

The Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD) was forced to layoff 6 Teachers and another 6 retired. The ISD Advisory Council and Parent Organization are exploring the possibility of ISD moving out from under DRS/DHS.

Equip for Equality held a priority meeting to send in issues regarding closed captioning for movie theatres being shown in Chicago and Springfield and Interpreters were encouraged to attend.

DHS/DRS will be hosting a meeting regarding Vocational Rehabilitation Needs Assessment and asked for input regarding employment opportunities for deaf/blind support service providers. There is no funding for transportation, readers, etc. They are asking for people to attend the forums.

New Business:

Chairperson Childress asked if another meeting date should be held prior to June 30, 2010 to make up for the November 2009 meeting which was cancelled. Discussion followed asking about the possible repercussions if a fourth meeting was not held as required. Director Miller indicated that it is possible there would be an audit finding.

Mindy Joy Mayer moved to close discussion. Seconded by Tamara Hogue. Motion passed.

Vicki Gustafson	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Emma Danielson	Yes
Joseph Culpepper	Yes	Marc Siegel	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes
Tamara Hogue	Yes	Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Julie Chavez	Yes
Hershel Jackson	Yes	Nancy Abbott	Yes		

Emma Danielson moved not to have a meeting in June 2010. Seconded by Mindy Joy Mayer. Motion passed.

Vicki Gustafson	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Emma Danielson	Yes
Joseph Culpepper	Yes	Marc Siegel	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes
Tamara Hogue	Yes	Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Julie Chavez	Yes
Hershel Jackson	Yes	Nancy Abbott	Yes		

Tamara Hogue moved to accept the proposed meeting dates for the Fiscal Year 2011. Seconded by Hershel Jackson. Motion passed.

- August 26, 2010
- November 4, 2010
- February 10, 2011
- May 19, 2011

Vicki Gustafson	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Emma Danielson	Yes
Joseph Culpepper	Yes	Marc Siegel	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes
Tamara Hogue	Yes	Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Julie Chavez	Yes
Hershel Jackson	Yes	Nancy Abbott	Yes		

Discussion followed regarding whether to continue to broadcast live at UIS or holding meetings at IDHHC office without broadcast. It was suggested the possibility of hosting meetings in southern Illinois. Director Miller explained that it would not be cost effective for IDHHC due to travel and overtime for staff.

Tamara Hogue moved to close discussion. Seconded by Emma Danielson. Motion passed.

Vicki Gustafson	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Emma Danielson	Yes
Joseph Culpepper	Yes	Marc Siegel	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes
Tamara Hogue	Yes	Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Julie Chavez	Yes
Hershel Jackson	Yes	Nancy Abbott	Yes		

Emma Danielson moved to set up task force to investigate the possibility of regulation for CART services in Illinois. Seconded by Nancy Abbott. Motion passed.

Vicki Gustafson	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Emma Danielson	Yes
Joseph Culpepper	Yes	Marc Siegel	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes
Tamara Hogue	Yes	Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Julie Chavez	Yes
Hershel Jackson	Yes	Nancy Abbott	Yes		

Discussed who will recruit and who will be on task force. Director Miller stated that it will be contingent on IDHHC's budget. IDHHC will absorb the additional responsibilities.

Tamara Hogue moved to close discussion. Seconded by Nancy Abbott. Motion passed.

Vicki Gustafson	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Emma Danielson	Yes
Joseph Culpepper	Yes	Marc Siegel	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes
Tamara Hogue	Yes	Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Julie Chavez	Yes
Hershel Jackson	Yes	Nancy Abbott	Yes		

Announcements:

Mindy Jo Mayer announced Deaf/Blind retreat on June 9-12, 2010. This is the third year for the retreat and expects 83 people to attend.

Julie Chavez announced SB2156 – Hearing Aid Bill was amended to HB5407 and is under negotiations. As opposition continued, it was decided to kill the bill and start again next year.

Chairperson Childress announced the following:

- The National Conference for Hearing Loss Association of America will be held in Milwaukee on June 17-20, 2010
- Cochlear Implant Chapter Party will be held on July 17, 2010
- ISD Statewide Conference on August 9, 2010 for Interpreters and Teachers (Registration free)

Adjournment:

Victoria Gustafson moved to adjourn at 4:00 pm. Julie Chavez seconded. Motion Passed.

Vicki Gustafson	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Emma Danielson	Yes
Joseph Culpepper	Yes	Marc Siegel	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes
Tamara Hogue	Yes	Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Julie Chavez	Yes
Hershel Jackson	Yes	Nancy Abbott	Yes		

(Signature in file)

Chairperson

Date

(Signature in file)

Executive Secretary

Date

Approved