

Minutes from the Board Meeting, held at the Lighthouse

January 26th, 2006

In attendance: Mary Kay Adams, Dina Marconi, Amy Rubinger, Jina Porter, Melanie Girshick, Rachel Nekoukar

NJRID Biennial Conference is happening 3/24/06 – 3/26/06. Michael Canale and Debbie Olsen will be presenting on VRS interpreting. Jody Gill will be presenting “Uh-Oh – What do I do?”. Workshops look very interesting... MG mentioned that 2 years ago, NYC Metro RID put an add in their program to support the conference...all board members in attendance were in favor of doing the same. RN said we had room in the budget for the \$60 ½ page ad.

MG mentioned again that EIPA and RID are looking to collaborate. RID has asked for opinion papers from all local chapters. There are some concerns that if an educational interpreter meets the “standard” under EIPA, that they will call that “certified” and people outside the interpreting community might get confused with what the difference is between EIPA certified and RID certified. MG is working on the paper (after talking to individual members, representing all our collective opinions to give to the Region 1 president. Rachel Coppeilli will then compile all opinions from all local chapters within Region 1, which will then get turned into National RID.

MG mentioned it is again time to nominate Region 1 Reps – Rachel Coppelli is interested in staying on as Region 1 president, so please submit any nominations you have.

The February 11th workshop on conflict analysis is underway and plans are being made this week. The three presenters will meet again this week to hash out the details of the day.

March 11th will be Laura Hoffman and Hinde Nessenbaum’s workshop on Self-Guided analysis. PDC is planning everything, a flyer is being developed and the workshop will be advertised on DNN and Metro RIDBITS.

Tentative date for the Commission Information session is slated for May 6th, though this looks like it will be postponed to a later date. MG has started the process rolling, Debbie Swamback said DIRC should also be involved, since the idea was presented at a DIRC meeting. MG mentioned this will be a BIG meeting, since all the key players and stakeholders will be involved. It will also be costly, though Mill Neck has promised to financially lend support to the event. This will also require lots of interpreters (for all Deaf and Deaf-Blind participants, plus paying for the Massachusetts Commission employees to travel, and hotel accommodations, etc.)

Committee Reports:

JP – DIRC is self-sufficient, Debbie swamback, chair for DIRC does not need anything at the moment. DM – Fundraising – she is in touch with Maria – Maria is planning some type of comedy show for the spring. Maria wants to know what her budget is and how much she is expected to bring in...RN will e-mail DM after checking the budget. MG mentioned that CQ, CTM and Debbie are on the PDC committee – they are actively planning workshops for the rest of the year. AR – Jeniece is fine as office manager – no problems. Amy e-mailed Stephanie Feyne to find out more about her proposed storytelling workshop – Stephanie seemed to only have suggested it, and is not developing the idea further. AR contacted CQ about the idea and is willing to help PDC plan it. DM – CMP – Karen Jacob assumes Helen Darby has resigned from being co-chair on CMP. DM said she can help KJ when necessary, but right now, KJ is fine. DM – LTA – Jeff Jaech has Teachers College Supersite up and running – they are offering all three tests (CI, CT and NIC) on Fridays. ...contact him to schedule a performance test. MK – Has been in touch with Josh Finkle, regarding ESAD. There is a bill that has been submitted to Congress, so ESAD is collecting complaints from Deaf consumers in medical settings regarding poor interpreting services and access to their health care. Metro is encouraged to join ESAD as an organizational member...all members agree we should do this. MG mentioned we are also organizational members of NAOBI and LIRID RN – Awards committee – has been in touch with Christine Iannone. Awards will be ready to be given for the 2/11 meeting. She will present one award and MG will do the other. Website – Kat Dudina is no longer on the committee with Stephanie, but Stephanie seems to be doing fine.

MG mentioned the mentorship program. LIRID is hosting a good mentoring workshop on 3/25, from 9 am to 5 pm. Northeastern University has a grant to maintain professional development for mentors – the program requires 30 plus hours...and if enough people are interested, we may cancel our own mentorship program and sponsor and support theirs jointly.

RN passed the 2006 proposed budget around – all individuals in attendance approved it.

MG expressed frustrations in trying to contact Jim Forbes, our new contact at the lighthouse. RN, CTM and MG have all been trying to reach him for months, and he never returns our calls. We are working on reaching him to discuss our contract with the Lighthouse, etc.

NYC Metro RID's condolences go out to Jennifer Berman whose mother recently passed away and to Drew Sachs on the loss of his father.

Metro planned to have a Halloween party at Fanwood, but we are not allowed to use that space for that purpose. Arlene Rice will see what we can do in the Westchester area and what the members are interested in.

Membership Committee: Bram is updating the forms.

Newsletter – Bobbie mentioned that the newsletter is all set and Meri Sulcer is interested in helping Janice collated and organize it.

RN mentioned Metro donated \$400 to Pam Maynard and Sarah Bartow for hosting their Deaf women’s self-defense class.

MG asked members to approve December’s board meeting minutes – all members approved.

Stephanie Feyne and Debbie are requesting a year-long calendar of Metro’s proposed events, for PDC and website purposes. MD is working on that.

MG mentioned that we are no longer looking to host the vicarious trauma workshop proposed by Mani last year because Sorenson will be hosting it (11/18/06)– though Metro promised to help advertise the workshop. We will be in touch with Michael Canale.

MG – Central Park called – assuming our permit request was approved for our first annual picnic on June 10th, 2006. The rain date is June 17th. MG mentioned we need a committee to help plan this event. No alcohol is allowed.

MG mentioned that Stephanie Feyne wants guidelines for what should and should not be posted/advertised on Metro’s website...should it only be interpreting events? Or events held for the Deaf community in general? AR suggested we use DNN’s model in saying who submitted the information to us to advertise. Or perhaps it could be categorized into “community events” and “interpreting events...JP will be in touch with SF about this issue.

MG said she will be recruiting people’s help with the picnic and fundraising committee at the February 11th meeting...

Meeting adjourned....