



## NYC Metro RID Board Meeting Agenda

January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

Meeting called to order: 6:06

Meeting adjourned 7:16

**In Attendance: Meri Sulcer, Lusanne Massaro, Dani Schuller, Drew Sachs, Celeste Owens, Kat Dudina, Rebecca Friedman**

### 1. Announcements:

- a. Congratulations to Meri Sulcer on her recent NIC certification!
- b. The newsletter will be distributed at the beginning of February. Treasurer Kat Dudina suggested that the revised budget be submitted and included in the upcoming newsletter.

### 2. Old Business:

- a. Pins – Region I Presidents agreed back in January 2007 to order Region I pins. Representative Jeremy Brunson thought each chapter could buy the pins and use them to fundraise for a potential 2010 Region I conference. MetroRID paid \$150 for the 30 pins and there are two styles available. One style of pin is from the Region I conference that was held in 2006 and then the Region decided to order more in a different color for those who already have a pin from the Regional conference. These Region I pins will be available at the next General Meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> for a suggested donation.
- b. Mentor opportunity with Lag CC- After doing an intensive outreach to the interpreting community, there was an overwhelming positive response from interpreters who agreed to be mentors to LaGCC students. Dani has given all their contact info to Rob Hills who will be taking over this project. Originally when the mentorship program was being discussed, there was a conversation regarding mentors earning CEUs. Due to the somewhat complicated nature of procuring CEUs for mentors on a larger scale, it will be up to the individual mentor to be proactive about receiving CEUs if they so desire.
- c. Deaf Board Member position/ Deaf Outreach-Every time there has been talk about getting together a workshop or some mini workshop about Deaf Interpreters, there has been a lack of motivation from the community, so right now this discussion has been tabled.

### **3. Committee Reports:**

- a) Interpreter coordinator for general meetings - Sam Tallerico put an advertisement in the newsletter. Metrobits will also be sent out requesting interpreters for upcoming general meetings.
- b) Newsletter – Please send any columns or articles related to the conference to Janice Rimler and please don't format articles or minutes before sending them in if they are to be included in the newsletter.
- c) Scholarship – All the people who received scholarships have committed to at least one committee for the upcoming year.
- d) PDC – The PDC is looking for a budget increase for an upcoming event. (See New Business)
- e) Membership – The current number of members is as follows: Certified 120, Associate 55, Student 35, Supporting 21, Organizational 21, for a total of 252 members

### **4. New Business:**

- a) Nominations –Cathy Markland will contact 2 people to help her call everyone in the current Metro RID directory. The current Board members are all leaving their positions, but must ensure there are strong replacements to continue the success of Metro RID. Cathy suggested that once nominations are closed, if all positions are uncontested, there would be no need to send out ballots since the Board will be set. This idea will be put to membership for approval. In the meantime, please think about people for Board positions.
- b) PDC Budget Increase – Both Treasurer Kat Dudina and President Lu Massaro received emails asking for an increase to the PDC budget. The increase would be to support a presentation of “Deafhood.” “Deafhood” was presented at the National Conference in San Francisco and is based on Paddy Ladd's book *Understanding Deaf Culture: In Search of Deafhood*. The general goal of the presentation is to get the community together to revive the Deaf community again, to support ASL and to provide ways to strengthen Deaf culture. It empowers and encourages the Deaf community to become more involved and Metro is looking for ways to reach out, so it seems like it's a perfect fit. The presentation would be held in NYC, and PDC asked for an increase in the budget. Lu will contact Debbie Swamback to discuss a detailed budget outlining the expected costs for a presentation of “Deafhood” in New York City.
- c) Metro was also contacted by Celeste Owens on behalf of NYC Deaf Parents Association looking for support for three items (1) A business card to be given to organizations and businesses guiding them to where they can find information about hiring interpreters in addition to a short ADA statement (2) A directory of local deaf/interpreter agency contact information (including video phone numbers) (3) A computer class where Metro would either cover the cost of interpreters or help with volunteer efforts. Lu mentioned that we should support these efforts with the Deaf community and not just with RID sponsoring, in order to get the community involved. Lu also asked for specific budget numbers in how we might help to defray the costs of some of the above items.