



NYC Metro RID General Meeting Minutes

Date: November 17th, 2010

6:00-7:30pm

President: Christopher Tester

Secretary: Mandy Heinbaugh

Vice President: Kathy Walley

Associate Rep: Dori Griffiths

Treasurer: Jennifer Ward

Directors at Large (4): Sarah Brandenburg, Jana Owen, Mara Stephens, Janice Quiles

Standing Rules:

1. No Smoking
2. Food and drink are allowed; please clean up after yourself.
3. If you would like to speak please wait to be recognized.
4. We encourage the use of ASL but have interpreters if you choose to use spoken English.
5. Please make sure you signed in.

Chris called the meeting to order at 6:19pm.

Announcements:

We do have a quorum thanks to all the proxys.

Official reports from the board – Chris has nothing.

Jana Owen – on the SL court interpreting task for and we'd like to write up information and interview deaf people, but haven't yet found enough deaf people to interview; so if you are interested in participating in the survey, please let us know so that we can be better aware and equipped to share a workshop for court interpreting.

New Business

Committee updates:

- **CMP** -Kathy reporting for Amy Meckler - Website has info related to CMP and CEUs, such as how to obtain them, requirements, etc. If you have any questions, check www.nycmetrорid.org. Once you submit paperwork it will take a minimum of 2 weeks.
- **DIRC** – Debbie Swamback – in the past 2 years people haven't contacted me much, so if you have anything related to deaf, CODA, interpreting, etc., please feel free to bring any ideas or information for discussion to my attention.
- **Directory** – Bram Weiser – Is handing out directory tonight so if you haven't gotten yours please let me know. It is being distributed here to save money.

- **Interpreters** – Kathy reporting for Sam Tallerico - if you know anyone who wants mentoring opportunity please let Sam know. This is an opportunity whether you are certified or not and we would like thank our two interpreters here tonight.
- **Office Manager** – Jeff Jaech has nothing
- **Membership** – nothing new to report
- **Mentoring** – has been quiet
- **Metrobits** – nothing new to add
- **Newsletter** – deadline date is on the website. You can send any articles, issues, etc. to the email on the website. Trying to save paper and manpower so the newsletter will be electronic.
- **PDC** – Debbie Olsen – we have a wonderful 2 hour workshop tonight related to stress relief. Future ideas are financial aid and interpreting in the age of Facebook, social networking, news media, and all the technology we deal with. After the general meeting we typically have two hour workshop; however, in March, I think there will be a four hour workshop. The topic not yet decided so let me know if you have any ideas.
- **Website** - Amy G. and Nicole are trying to come up with a better website – currently it’s not so user friendly so want to work on that and make it more accessible.
- **Scholarship** – nothing
- **Bylaws Committee** - recently set up this fall. Jana and Kathy will talk about the Bylaws committee. Kathy - this is an ad hoc committee and we are looking for interested people to research the bylaws and any discrepancy between what the bylaws say and what we are doing. So far there are five people involved: Michael Anthony, Jana Owen, Joann Kranis, Kathy Walley, and Pat Dash. Thank you for all of your participation. So far we’ve learned quite a bit and in the future we will do more, so if you are interested let me know (email Kathy) at board email address. Bylaws committee will also clean up anything necessary to be revised. Chris said – this has been helpful for him even as someone who’s been on the board – he is new to presidency so often has questions and reinventing wheel so hopefully this committee will be able to set up something so that the information is there and can be accessed. Hopefully this will be an easier transition for the next board and so on.
- **GRC** – have not yet had a meeting, first one will be December 8th. Chris, Jana, Beth Prevor, Michale Anthony, Anna carter, and Arlene Weiss. Janet bailey will also be involved – she is involved at the National level and is willing to come to join our local meeting to help advise us as well as other local chapters.

Motions

Chris recognizes Kathy Walley. We will open the motion to discuss electronic voting (voting for board and for bylaws).

Jana Owen seconds.

Vote to open discussion – 21 in favor. No opposed, open to discussion is passed.

Discussion:

Michael Anthony – are we voting on yes/no to electronic voting only or also voting on which program to use. Chris – we are voting on if everyone is in favor of changing to electronic and

then board will decide more on programs because we haven't researched enough. It was not worth researching if members are opposed to the idea altogether

Discussion

Chris Tester Discussion closed

Debbie Swamback seconds

Open the motion for the vote:

Kathy Walley – NYC metro RID moves to change to electronic voting board elections and for bylaw changes.

Debbie Swamback seconds.

Discussion on which committee is responsible for it? Nominations committee is responsible for elections but what about bylaws. Nominations will set up for board elections and that same system will be used for bylaws. Nominations committee will run the electronic site. Kathy – nominations responsible for running for board voting, bylaws committee will be responsible for bylaws voting. Chris – it's the same as someone being responsible for papers. The board becomes responsible just as they would if it was paper. Nominations committee will be in charge for board elections.

Discussion continues; ultimately one of the main points is that electronically it will be easier to handle for such a small board.

Chris – moves to close discussion – 21 in favor. No one opposed. All in favor.

Chris T. – move to vote. All in favor of switching from paper ballots to an electronic voting system? All in favor – 21. Opposed – NONE. Motion passed.

Board and nominations committee will do more research to pick a program.

Any other motions?

Jana - I move NYC metro RID donates \$100 for Asian Deaf people conference in 2011. This conference happens every 3 years. Swamback seconds.

Discussion. Chris recognizes that because our treasurer is not here we may need to table this discussion for vote at the next general meeting. Their meeting is not until June 2001.

Chris moves to table the discussion.

Rick Rubin seconds.

21 in favor none opposed, passed to table the discussion until January 26th General Meeting.

No more motions.

New Business:

1. One recent issue that came up - Chris thought he had all the documents related to Metro, but it seems there are documents all over the place; so everything is not in once place.

We are researching storage space so that everything can be housed in one place. Chris wasn't able to get relevant documents for about one and a half months so things were delayed. So for now and future board members we'd like to have everything in one place.

2. National news - unfortunately Lewis Merkin couldn't be here tonight. National got feedback about video interpreters wanting to create union. National can't really support or oppose lest they look like they favor one VRS company.
3. Regional news – region will be in charge of appointing a chairperson. National has taken over the budget for regional conference. Corri Dussett – director of meeting. Looking for location feedback for region 1 2012 and where the conference will be. There has been talk of Rochester or Boston. They would like feedback from membership.
4. Janet Bailey from GAP is interested in going to various states to hold forums to vote on various issues and in the near future come to NYC. Right now the primary focus is FCC, and future projects may include things such as licensing.
5. Money that RID getting from certification test has decreased. Is it because so expensive and people are afraid to spend the money and not pass? Don't know – other money has stayed the same, but that has gone down.
6. Debbie Olsen – we have a weak turnout right. If we don't have a Facebook page maybe it is a good idea to have one. Also, it may be a good idea to include people via webcam if they can't get to a meeting. Just an idea. Chris does not think metro has a FB page, but National does – we can discuss at the next board meeting.

Announcements:

1. AADB has folded – now it is completely run by volunteers. Not sure what the future holds, this is sad news.
2. Region 1 Rep – have been looking and now have two people interested in the positions. One is from the NYC area, Michael Canale and from Boston, Janice Cagan-Teuber. Keep an eye out to vote. Please – I encourage all the members to vote.
3. CMP – reminder – cycle ends for many on December 31st – check transcript to make sure you have required CEUs.
4. Next board meeting will be Wednesday, January 12th from 6-8, location TBA
5. Next general meeting/workshop will be Wednesday, January 26th from 6-9. Location TBA
6. Following meeting will be March 26th – full day – Saturday with a workshop. Wope to bring in people from LI, Westchester, etc. Location TBA – recommendations welcome.
7. Melanie Girshick – a young new interpreter – 23 yrs old, just graduated from NE, was on a scooter and was hit and killed by a hit and run driver. Denis Cokely and other students are asking for donations for NE university and they are discussing what to do with the money.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm