



NYC Metro RID

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 6, 2011
Attending: Chris Tester, Jennifer Ward, Kathy Walley, Mandy Heinbaugh, Sarah Brandenburg, Mara Stephens
Location: La Guardia Community College
Commenced: 2:10pm

Announcements:

Saturday meeting/workshop is set for March 19th (we will require at least 50 chairs). We will provide a light breakfast in the morning and refreshments in the afternoon. People will be on their own for lunch.

Still looking for interpreters for the meeting - we may have one certified, still need an associate. Ask around, maybe post on Deaf NYC (make sure to emphasize that the person MUST be a member for the mentor/interpreting opportunity). People can attend the meeting/workshop if they are not members - it is free and there will be CEUs. It has been posted on LIRID through Laurie Nash too. We may have an associates meeting from 9-10am.

Old Business:

Facebook - who has Administrator permission in case of changes? Jen W., Corrie P., Amy G. - permission information is something that may be added to the Bylaws; however, we first need more structure, answers to picture concerns, etc. The President should have access to administrator permissions. Facebook access/rights end with board members' term - so it will make sense to use metro email addresses. Permissions suggested for Chris, Corrie, Jana, Jen and Amy.

Vote was all in favor of using individual metro board emails rather than one email address. We still need to figure out picture approval - perhaps announce before a meeting, workshop, etc., if you don't want your picture used to please let us know. Also we need to determine whether this is something that we should add to the Bylaws - Chris will ask the Region Reps. Maybe Facebook will have more closed announcements and Metrobits announcements will be more open. Still need to determine more specifics on rules, policy, etc.

- Never finalized discussion/decision to purchase a laptop for Metro's secretary. We have a budget of \$1,000.00 in fundraising that we have not used. Mandy will research laptops, MAC, netbooks, etc. for pricing.

Committee Reports:

- 1. Newsletter** – Jana needs articles by March 15th. Kathy is writing 3. Get the word out if you know people who may have a topic of interest to write about. We can also post on Facebook.
- 2. Associate** - - Dori - 2 people contacted her about mentoring. What are the guidelines for paying mentors? Are they paid? Dori will talk with Jen about that. We can send mentoring info to Metrobits and post on FB. Often mentors volunteer and this year we did not receive any money from LaGuardia to pay for mentors.
- 3. Bylaws** –one board member should be Parliamentarian along with another member of Metro. Contact Debbie Olsen about a possible Bylaws workshop.
- 4. GRC** - about one month ago Chris met with the mayor's office and office of people with disabilities. Now they would like to set up a meeting with the office of court administrators. We would like the topic of unqualified interpreters to be brought up which Chris can do, but with agencies it can become sticky and hard to enforce. If OCA doesn't have criteria to be followed then what is done? Chris said that is part of the discussion now. Prior discussions have been focused on government and it is the hope that it trickles down to the agencies.
- 5. Interpreters for meetings** - Sam - re: getting interpreters - can be difficult and can create a problem if the meeting is cancelled. Perhaps a good idea to avoid meetings in January and February because of weather. We are only required to have 1 general meeting per year and right now we have 6 (as we previously thought was required) so maybe we should have less general meetings. This may also motivate people to attend more. Perhaps 3 meetings with workshop and then 1 meeting for nominations. This year's board will pass down a list of feedback for the next board.
- 6. Scholarship** - We still have stipends for National. Early bird fee is typically the reimbursed amount. Sarah will let Lu know and then it will be announced and people can "apply" for the scholarship.

New Business:

- Articles of incorporation - Kathy found something online and we can purchase a copy for \$10. Kathy will check with Jen and Chris to see if we already have that document first. For bylaws purposes we may need to change the address.

- We passed a motion to donate \$100 to MADA - let Jen know the information and she will send the donation.

- We have really spent no money so far. There is still \$3,000.00 in the emergency fund. If someone donates to the EF and we already have 3K in there the board needs to decide what to do with the money above the 3K. Chris suggests we have a separate line item for donations. This could then be there to replenish the 3K when it is depleted. We will have to have a motion at one of the meetings to add a line item for donations.

Meeting adjourned 3:30pm