MEETING MINUTES

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Opening:

The regular board meeting of NCAD duly called and held on Saturday, August 28, 2020 via ZOOM (online streaming) at 9:04 AM.

Present were:

President – Craig Blevins
Vice President – Meredith De Naples
Treasurer – Martina Moore-Reid
Secretary – Jaime Marshall
Western Regional Representative – Dayamarali Espinosa
Central Regional Representative – Linda Nelson
Eastern Regional Representative – Mike Lupo
Social Media Coordinator – Theresa Moss

The last face-to-face NCAD board meeting was scheduled for March 21, 2020 at NC School for the Deaf in Morganton was cancelled due to COVID-19. The NCAD Board had invited Diane Doak, Director of Beginnings, and Marcia Fort, Director of EHDI, to discuss statistics and language acquisition.

Because 2020 has been a very unprecedented year, the board quickly resorted to online meetings. Informal discussions took place over the summer. No motions were made as the board shifted their focus on making the necessary transitions:

Treasurer Moore-Reid, representing NCAD, recorded a response about the board's position regarding the Black Lives Matter movement. The video was posted on OurNCAD.org website and Facebook page.

Former Vice-President Dove has resigned. President Blevins appointed Central Regional Representative, Meredith Kaplan, to serve as an interim Vice-President until the next election (Note: Meredith Kaplan has remarried and is now Meredith De Naples).

Representative Nelson has changed regions, from Eastern Region to Central Region.

Mike Lupo, a new board member, serving as Eastern Regional Representative.

Dayamarali Espinosa, a new board member, serving as Western Regional Representative.

Presidents Report:

President Blevins shares that Mr. Donnie Dove continues to represent NCAD, serving on the NC Interpreters & Transliterators Licensing Board. NCITLB's meeting minutes shares some statistical information on current licensees:

(NCITLB's Central Office Report from May 20, 2020)

Type of License	Current Number of Licensees	Percentage
Full	356	66%
Grandfathered	42	8%
Provisional	150	27%
Total Number of Current Licensees	548	100%

Secretary Report:

Secretary Marshall shares that Mr. David Rosenthal, representing NCAD, continues to serve on NC Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The council has appointed our NCAD representative, Mr. David Rosenthal, to chair the council meeting.

Secretary Marshall reports that she and Mr. Rosenthal has re-visited the topic of Educational Interpreters.

> NOTE: The push to increase the EIPA (Educational Interpreters' Performance Assessment) score was tabled when NC DPI and NC DSDHH established a mentorship program for educational interpreters four years ago which has shown a very little success. After pairing the educational interpreters with mentors and working together after a year, the interpreters are tested to see if their EIPA scores have improved. After four years of the Mentorship (Pilot) Program, it is reported that there is an average of 0.2 increase on the interpreters' EIPA score.

Secretary Marshall has been in discussion with the NC ASL Teachers' Association (NCASLTA) President, Mr. Bob Moore.

NCAD is optimistic as there are other organizations that will support the potential EIPA Bill that has not yet been proposed to the legislation. Other organizations are: NC Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, NCASLTA, NC Black Deaf Advocates and NC Deaf-Blind Associates.

NCAD is proposing that:

> Grandfathered Educational Interpreters can keep their position with their current pay. If they want an increased pay then they can meet the requirements below which is what NCAD asking for:
>
> NEWLY HIRED Educational Interpreters are to have:
>
> - Minimum EIPA score of 3.5 before hiring and 4.0 EIPA score by the third year of employment
>
> - 2-year college degree or 60 semester credits of study or 90 quarter credits before hiring
>
> - Licensed with the NC Interpreter and Transliterator Licensing Board
>
> (currently, the NC Interpreter Licensure Law does not include K-12 educational interpreters including educational interpreters at college level)

Representative Lupo shares his concerns that the NC DPI continues to use language facilitators as educational interpreters and that they do not qualify. Language facilitators are hired by the school system because they are cheaper. Secretary Marshall responds, stating that the proposed EIPA bill is to include descriptions of the title: Educational Interpreters. The proposed bill will include a section explaining that all spoken languages are to be restricted to communication / language facilitators only and all visual language (manual) interpreting must be restricted to Educational Interpreters.

NC Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Chairperson Rosenthal will add "Educational Interpreters & EIPA" to their agenda after January 2021.

Social Media Coordinator Report:

Coordinator Moss continues to work on NCAD's monthly E-Newsletter via *Constant Contact* website service. The number of subscribers has significantly increased which means our next contract with *Constant Contact* would involve a higher monthly service. The board can either choose to make a monthly payment of $45.00 or a one-time payment fee of $378.00 (with 30% off, bringing down to $31.50 for each month). Our last year contract was paid on December 4, 2019. A new contract will be made at the end of December 2020 for 12-month website service (January 2021-December 2021).

AGENDA TOPIC: NCSD Foundation's Bears Classic Golf Tournament Fundraiser

Motion: We, the NCAD Board, donate $75.00 to sponsor the Golf Tournament Fundraiser.

Motion By: Representative Linda Nelson

Seconded By: Treasurer Martina Moore-Reid **Vote Count:** Majority

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Meeting Adjourned: 10:13 AM