

## MEETING MINUTES

### NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

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#### Opening:

The regular meeting of NCAD duly called and held on Saturday, November 19, 2016 at the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf, 1311 US-301, Wilson, NC 27893 at 9:36 AM.

Present were:

President – Craig Blevins  
Vice President – Donnie Dove  
Treasurer – Martina Moore-Reid  
Secretary – Jaime Marshall Staley  
Regional Representative – Donna Platt  
Regional Representative – Christa Copley

Absentees:

Regional Representative – Kyle Kiser

Guests: Linda Nelson (Co-Coordinator of Legislature Deaf Day and Training)  
Jan Withers, Director of NC DHHS

With the approval of the board members present, President Blevins acted as Chairman of the meeting and Jaime Marshall Staley recorded the minutes.

#### Presidents Report:

A summary on the Legislature Deaf Day and Training will be led by Linda Nelson and Julie Adam.

January 2017: Training will be given at both residential schools (NCSD & ENCSD)

February 2017: Adult training will be given at the State Capital.

March 2017: Legislature Deaf Day will be held at the State Capital on a Thursday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Dove proposed that we financially support the Legislation Training by offering a budget up to \$1,000. Moore-Reid seconded. Passed.

President met with the North Carolina Interpreting / Transliterating Licensing Board (NCITLB) on November 18, 2016 and made four suggestions on the behalf of NCAD:

Here is NCAD's suggestions to the NCITLB were:

- 1) All Licensed Interpreters are to add information on how to file a complaint on the back of their business cards along with their License #. It should also be a mandatory that

Interpreters are to submit their business card to every client they serve.

2) Since there is no information on their website on what tests Interpreters took (NIC, EIPA level, SC:L, et cetera). That information should be made available to the public.

3) Credentials are to be categorized on their website. Ex: Educational Interpreters only, RID certified Interpreters only, Legal Interpreters only.

Note: Educational interpreters have interpreted in the court rooms. Court clerks would look up NCITLB website and assume that all licensed interpreters are qualified as there are no "categories" on the NCITLB website.

4) Violations should be shared with the public (posted on their website). RID, on a national level, publishes violations in their quarterly magazine, the VIEW.

5) Assistance on how to file a complaint should be available particularly over the Videophone (similar to a 800-hotline number). President made the recommendation that NC DHHS gets involved by using a common Purple VP number where NC DHHS Interpreting Services Specialists can rotate, answering phone calls from 8 AM to 5 PM during the week.

President discussed merging summer conference - NCAD and NCRID. The date is set for June 22 – 24, 2017 in Winston Salem. Joni Hedrick, RID Board Member, is the coordinator of the conference.

Copley proposed a keynote speaker: Marvin Miller from Deafhood. Secretary seconded. Passed.

President explained that the contract on the Tillinghas Apartments will be renewed in April as the contract ends in May. President will meet with John Nichols and James Wilson.

President mentioned that Christina Bryant Moore, appointed by NCAD, is still serving on the NC Council for the Deaf and Hard of hearing (NCDHH) although she has missed two consecutive meetings due to having a newborn.

- 1) President will ask C. Moore to invite Sherri Vernelson before the NCDHH to explain why the State Advisory Group Meeting regarding EIPA (Educational Interpreting Proficiency Assessment) was shut down after 6 Deaf individuals pre-registered.
  - a) State Advisory Group Meeting was shut down on Monday, November 14 after 6 Deaf individuals pre-registered. Exactly five days before the meeting was scheduled for Friday, November 18, 2016. The advisory group meets every three months.

- b) Vernelson's response: "We've decided to form a smaller implementation team."
- 2) President will ask C. Moore to discuss before NCDHH Board Members about how school districts spends funding on D/HH students in public school.
- a) School districts get a X amount of money to serve a D/HH student (approximately 20k per mainstream students including Medicaid).
  - b) However, the state fund (intended for D/HH mainstream students) is not restricted to the D/HH mainstream students' needs and services.

President commented that in 2014 there were 6 D/HH statewide consultants and 5 Visually Impaired consultants working under Sherri Vernelson. Currently, there is only 1 D/HH consultant and 1 VI consultant.

### **Vice Presidents Report:**

Vice President shared that he also holds a position on the NCITLB – North Carolina Interpreter & Transliterator Licensing Board.

Vice-President shared that the number of complaints filed with NCITLB average between 5 to 7 per year. 2014, 2 complaints were filed. 2015, 4 complaints were filed.

Vice President commented that there's 513 licensed interpreters in the state of NC. Secretary mentioned that there's 215 educational interpreters.

Vice-Presidents asked the board if all CEUs (for licensed interpreters) can be earned online. Historically, ½ of the CEUs can be taken online and the other ½ must be earned by attending workshops or training. NCAD Board vetoed the proposal of earning all CEUs online.

### **Secretary Report:**

Secretary acts as a NCAD representative for the State Advisory Group Meeting regarding EIPA (Educational Interpreting Proficiency Assessment) criteria. Proposed changes were:

- 1) that Language Facilitators be restricted to spoken languages only
- 2) that the EIPA score for educational interpreters is to increase from 3.0 to 3.5
- 3) that Educational Interpreters' supervisors are RID certified.
- 4) all educational interpreters are to have at least a 2-year college degree

Secretary contacted 5 other Deaf people to pre-registered for the Group Advisory Meeting on Friday, November 17 after being the only Deaf participant at the last Group Advisory meeting on August 1, 2016. Sherri Vernselon cancelled the meeting on Monday, November 14 after 6 Deaf individuals pre-registered. Naturally, concerns from the board arose.

1. President suggested that the NC Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing invites Sherri Vernelson from NC DPI to address NCAD's concerns.
2. Presidents asked that Secretary meets with Rachael Ragin, former NC DPI employee and Tovah Wax to develop a formal letter to Bill Hussey, Director of Exceptional Children.

Secretary discussed the agenda for the Officer and Liaisons' Day on December 3, 2016 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing of the Davidson County Center, 8 Franklin St, Lexington, NC 27292.

- 1) Alana Beal will be the facilitator. Secretary mentioned that we will have representatives from 20+ organizations/clubs in attendance.
- 2) Each organization and club will have the opportunity to answer questions:
  - a. When did your organization start?
  - b. What does your organization do?
  - c. What are your goals if any?
  - d. What kind of change do you want to see happen?

### **Finance Report:**

CPA, Todd Caswell, has resigned. CPA, Leslie A. Lannucci, will do our bookkeeping. The annual fee has increased from \$250.00 to \$300.00

Moore-Reid covered NCAD's expenses from June 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Platt proposed that the balance sheet be re-categorized, showing revenues, credits, expenses, et cetera. Dove seconded.

Travel reimbursement forms are to be submitted within 90 days according to the date of receipt.

Balance shows \$10,802.16

### **Break:**

11:52 AM – 1:16 PM

**New Business:**

President shared that our membership has climbed from 14 to 200+ since August 2016.

President mentioned that Kevin Earp, an ENCSD Alumnus, will be actively involved with the NCAD Youth Leadership chaired by Kyle Kiser.

President discussed the need to update our NCAD website.

President is still seeking a social media representative for NCAD.

President mentioned that an Awards Committee is much needed.

Next NCAD Board Meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2016 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM.  
Location: Communication Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. (CSDHH), 1175  
Revolution Mill Dr. Suite 15, Greensboro, NC 27405.

Marshall Staley proposed to adjourn the meeting. Dove seconded.

**Meeting adjourned:**

2:55 PM