

APPROVED

**DODDBHH Advisory Council Minutes
Friday May 12, 2017 10:00AM – 3:00 PM
Troy Community Center
3179 Livernois Rd
Troy, MI 49546**

Council Members Present

Jill Gaus, Chair
Miriam Horwitz
Chris Hunter
Elizabeth Kobylak
Ann Liming
Katlyn Maviglia
Todd Morrison

Council Members Excused

Elizabeth Bystrycki

DODDBHH Staff

Annie Urasky, Director
Karen Bailey, Rights Representative
Jeannette Johnson, Rights Representative
Alayna Zerlentes, Secretary

MDCR Executive Staff

Dan Levy, Director of Law and Policy, MDCR

Interpreters

Veronica Balcarcel
Katie Fitzpatrick
Jeannette Gladstone
Stacey Hachey
Janie Hernandez
Erin Parrish
Lisa Rowinski
Bert Schwartz
Ann-Marie Shibley
Shelley Tocco

CART Provider

Sue Deer Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER

Jill Gaus, Division on Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing (the Division) Advisory Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:22AM and welcomed everyone. Chair Gaus reviewed the Communication Policy. Alayna Zerlentes explained the hands-down rule for the interpreters and reminded everyone about protocol for public comments. Roll call was taken by Director Annie Urasky. Seven Advisory Council Members were present, one Council Member had an excused absence and there was a quorum to hold the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND AGENDA

Council Member Hunter made a motion to approve the September 2016 meeting minutes. Council Member Morrison seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Council Member Liming made a motion to approve the February 2017 meeting minutes with one correction. Council Member Horwitz seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Council Member Hunter made a motion to approve the May 2017 agenda. Council Member seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Urasky introduced the two new Division employees, Karen Bailey and Jeannette Johnson and asked them to speak about their positions. Director Urasky reported on second quarter interpreter test results and activities for the Division. Division staff attended different meetings during the second quarter which included the Michigan Coalition for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in March 2017 and the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Board meeting in April 2017. For training, all Division employees attended a two day agency training in March 2017 for all employees of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR) and during this training, the Department filmed a video for the Michigan State Police 100 year anniversary which was shared on social media. In April 2017, the Division provided a three hour training for the Michigan Rehabilitation Services Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing cadre. In April 2017, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission held a meeting regarding the amicus brief filed with the United States Supreme Court in regards the Flint Water Crisis and the emergency management law. In May 2017, Director Urasky was asked to participate in a roundtable workshop for Project CLIMB. Director Urasky also discussed future projects which includes the needs assessment and several videos.

4. COUNCIL REPORTS

Chair Gaus

Chair Gaus reported that the DeafBlind Workshop will be at Holley Family Village on August 10 through 13, 2017.

Council Member Bystrycki

There is no report from Council Member Bystrycki.

Council Member Horwitz

Council Member Horwitz reported on her concern about the gap between graduating interpreter training program students and obtaining their initial interpreter certification. She requested clarification about the memo of understanding specifically for certified interpreters in the community who act as mentors, and to the agencies who might be pairing mentors and mentees and asking for various positions from the deaf community and the hearing community consumers. Council Member Horwitz also asked whether the Division could influence or set higher expectations for interpreting agencies in Michigan in terms of accountability for the screening process for the interpreters the agencies hire.

Council Member Hunter

Council Member Hunter reported he is happy to hear about the needs assessment and is very curious about how the survey will work with the various technological advances that exist today which is vastly different compared to his experience with the 1989 survey.

Council Member Kobylak

Council Member Kobylak's indicated she had no report but would report on HLAA-MI activities in the ex-officio report for HLAA-MI.

Council Member Liming

Council Member Liming reported on advocacy efforts on the state and national level for HLAA-MI. Council Member Liming spoke about upcoming state legislation related to the cytomegalovirus infection bill and also on the national level, the upcoming Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Bill and the Over the Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017. On May 17, 2017 at 8PM, HLAA will host a captioned webinar about upcoming legislation for the Over the Counter Hearing Aid Act which will also be archived for future viewing.

Council Member Maviglia

Council Member Maviglia reported on the Over the Counter Hearing Aid Act and the need for further details about the Act. She also reported she attended the coffee hour with State Representative Robert Kosowski, who is the lead sponsor for the cytomegalovirus infection bill.

Council Member Morrison

Council Member Morrison reported on the activities from the grassroots group who is trying to educate the communities on the intent behind the language acquisition bills for deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing students which will most likely be introduced to the legislature in the fall.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Gaus indicated a three minute timeline will be set for each person providing public comment, and four people requested to speak.

6. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

President of MDA

There was no report provided from the President of Michigan Deaf Association (MDA).

President of SHI-MI=DB

Arizona Welch, President of Self-Help for Independency in Michigan Equalizing the DeafBlind (SHI-MI=DB) provided a report. President Welch reported the SHI-MI=DB Board approved expenditures related to angel pins and donations for a French deafblind artist to visit the United States for a Deaf arts event. She also announced she will be moving out of state, so the current Vice President, Karen Bailey may become the temporary president. The executive board will have elections on August 28, 2018.

President of HLAA-MI

Council Member Kobylak read the HLAA-Michigan report in the absence of Kim Koglin, President of the Hearing Loss Association of America, Michigan State Association. HLAA-MI had their annual spring meeting on April 29, 2017 with exhibitors and guest speaker, Tina Childress. HLAA-MI also elected two new Board of Trustee members, Nancy Cluley and Karen Young. May 20, 2017 at 10AM is the 11th Annual Walk4Hearing event at Kensington Metro Park at the west boat launch pavilion. The National HLAA Convention will be in Salt Lake City from June 22 through 25, 2017. The next two Board of Trustees meetings are scheduled for July 16, 2017 and October 14, 2017 at the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition office in Lansing.

President of MIRID

Council Member Morrison read the report from Michigan RID Chapter President, Andi Chumley in her absence. I apologize for not being able to attend today's meeting, and please accept this as my written report. On April 29 and 30th, MIRID held their annual spring conference featuring internationally known CDI Christopher Tester. He provided excellent presentations on ethics and legal interpreting. We were also pleased that Director Urasky and Representative Johnson were able to come and talk to our membership. During the conference, we also conducted a general business membership meeting that included elections and bylaw amendments; one of which revised our mission to state "The mission of the organization shall be to promote the profession of sign language interpreters to ensure effective collaboration with Michigan Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing communities and promote an inclusive environment within MIRID."

It is with renewed effort that the MIRID Executive Board looks forward to fulfill this mission. We know that collaboration with the Division, the Advisory Board and its partners is essential. MIRID continues to provide free ethical discussion groups in four different locations around the state. These groups allow members to talk about issues through structured facilitation and develop solutions to issues that arise in their daily work. MIRID will be sending representatives from the Board to the RID 2017 Lead Together Conference on July 20th through 24th, 2017, in Salt Lake City. The conference is geared towards voluntary leaders who are willing to invest time and energy into identifying innovative, creative and fiscally responsible recommendations and solutions to the challenges faced by RID and the interpreting profession at large. We hope to bring back novel ideas to apply to the Michigan community and improve service provision for all Michiganders. Lastly, the MIRID board will have a retreat in June to welcome incoming Board members and have thoughtful discussion about our goals for the year. If any member of the Advisory Board have particular issues you would like to see MIRID

tackle, please feel free to contact me at president@MIRID.org.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Subcommittee on Feasibility of Mentoring and Training Program

A future meeting has been scheduled for the subcommittee.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Horwitz made a motion that the Division look into the current MOU and revise it in regards to mentoring, mentorship and student interpreters, and that this revision would take place before the upcoming school year. Council Member Hunter seconded the motion. During discussion, additional clarification was requested of Council Member Horwitz. Council Member Liming made a motion to close discussion. All in favor, motion passed.

8. GUEST SPEAKER

Director Urasky introduced Teddy Dorsette, the current President of the Detroit Black Deaf Advocates (DBDA). Teddy spoke about his goal of being a liaison for his community and as President, he wants to increase communication and visibility for DBDA. He spoke about the importance of accountability. DBDA meetings take place on the second Saturday of every month at the John A. Dingell Auditorium in Detroit.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Gaus indicated a three minute timeline will be set for each person providing public comment, and two people requested to speak.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Morrison made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Liming seconded the motion. The motion passed. Chair Gaus thanked all of the accommodation providers today. Director Urasky announced the next meeting will be Friday September 8, 2017. The meeting adjourned at 2:05PM.