

UNAPPROVED

**DODDBHH Advisory Council Minutes
Friday January 26, 2018 10:00AM – 3:00 PM
Suburban Collection Showplace
46100 Grand River Avenue
Novi, MI 48374**

Council Members Present

Jill Gaus, Chair
Elizabeth Bystrycki
Chris Hunter
Elizabeth Kobylak
Ann Liming
Dr. Michael McKee
Todd Morrison

Interpreters

Tana Hardenburgh
Theresa Hill
Veronica Rasmussen
Lisa Rowinski
Bert Schwartz
Stacey Hachey

Council Members Excused

Katlyn Maviglia

CART Provider

Letty Fox

DODDBHH Staff

Annie Urasky, Director
Karlee Rose Gruetzner, Rights Representative
Jeannette Johnson, Rights Representative

MDCR Executive Staff

Dr. Agustin Arbulu, Executive Director, MDCR
Dan Levy, Director of Law and Policy, MDCR

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 10:09AM and welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken by Director Annie Urasky and seven Advisory Council Members were present and there was a quorum to hold the meeting. Chair Gaus reviewed the Communication Policy and explained the hands-down rule for the interpreters and reminded everyone about protocol for public comments. Chair Gaus requested a moment of silence for former Michigan School for the Deaf Principal Cecelia Winkler, a strong advocate for students who are deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND AGENDA

Council Member Liming made a motion to approve the September 2017 meeting minutes with corrections. Council Member Morrison seconded the motion. All in favor; the motion passed.

Council Member McKee made a motion to approve the January 2018 agenda. Council Hunter seconded the motion. All in favor; the motion passed.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Urasky reported on the Executive Order related to interpreter certification; MDCR and LARA have worked together to ensure a smooth transition of services and staff members of the Bureau of Professional Licensing from LARA were in attendance at the Council meeting. Director Urasky shared an announcement regarding the appointments to the Michigan Board of Interpreters for the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing. Director Urasky also discussed the 2018 State of the State broadcast; the address was deployed on a simultaneously-streamed Internet broadcast with sign language interpreters visible during the entire speech. The Division launched an email newsletter which will focus on Division activities and information for the deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing communities. ASL videos with the Director reports for Council Meetings will be included in the e-newsletter.

The Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing Census and Needs Assessment project steering team is meeting regularly to provide recommendations about both the content and distribution of the census and needs assessment survey. The Division anticipates receiving final recommendations on the needs assessment survey in March 2018 before deployment occurs. With consultation from the steering team, Not Without Us has been selected as the project name and the project website will be updated in advance of launching the survey. The website will be used to provide access to the survey, announce community discussions and share updates.

Director Urasky also discussed legislative updates regarding Senate Bill 400 and House Bills 5158 and 5159. Director Urasky announced the Division will host four townhall forums to engage with the deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing communities about

Division goals and to engage with community members on current issues. The forums will be held at the following locations and on these dates: Farmington Hills on Saturday February 10, 2018 from 10am to 12pm; Flint on Saturday February 24, 2018 from 10am to 12 pm; Battle Creek on Wednesday March 14, 2018 from 6pm to 8 pm; and Wyoming on Saturday March 24, 2018 from 10 am to 12pm. The next two meetings scheduled for the DODDBHH Advisory Council are to be on Friday May 4, 2018 and Friday September 7, 2018.

4. COUNCIL REPORTS

Chair Gaus

Chair Gaus reported the 22nd annual DeafBlind Workshop will be August 9-12, 2018 at the Carls Family Village in Brooklyn. Interpreters, interpreter training program students, CART providers and deafblind individuals with diverse needs should think about attending. Further details on workshops and mentors are forthcoming. DeafBlind Central is currently conducting a census for deafblind children and young adults in Michigan aged zero to 21. If you know someone who should know about the deafblind census, please contact DB Central at Beth.Kennedy@cmich.edu. DeafBlind Central is also collaborating with DeafBlind projects in the Midwest to provide a post-secondary transition camp in Wisconsin from June 28-July 1, 2018 for DeafBlind teens who are interested in going to college and for the competitively employed. The DeafBlind Intervenor program is recruiting people who would like to be interveners. Online classes begin in August 2018 and there are jobs available for interveners in Michigan. To learn more, please contact Beth Kennedy at Beth.Kennedy@cmich.edu.

Council Member Bystrycki

Council Member Bystrycki reported that this spring or fall 2018, dancers from Gallaudet University will be in Kalamazoo for an event.

Council Member Hunter

Council Member Hunter requested a representative from LARA to attend all future meetings to report on activities related to sign language interpreters.

Council Member Kobylak

Council Member Kobylak reported on several state events for HLAA-MI. A kickoff meeting for the next Walk4Hearing event will be on March 25, 2018 at 1PM at the CK Diggs Bistro in Rochester Hills. HLAA-MI will host their annual state meeting on April 21, 2018 at the Michigan Historical Museum and Library. Dr. Kara Leyzac from the Kresge Hearing Research Institute will present on various research projects related to hearing loss. The next annual Walk4Hearing will be May 19, 2018 at Kensington Metropark at the west boat launch and this year, there will be a van there to conduct hearing screening tests.

Council Member Liming

Council Member Liming reported on what HLAA is working on at the national level related to captioned phones. With the increase of users who use captioned phones, the amount of funding for this program could decrease, causing concern funding could run out. The FCC is looking at potential changes which is a concern for HLAA if there are limitations set on who can qualify for captioned phones. There is also concern on technological progress with voice recognition software and the lag time with captioned

phones. Once the FCC develops proposed revisions for rules, input from captioned phone users will be requested. Anyone can sign up for bimonthly e-newsletters on the website www.hearingloss.org.

Council Member Maviglia

Council Member Maviglia indicated she had no report.

Council Member McKee

Council Member McKee is team member of the Not Without Us Census and Needs Assessment project steering committee, and he reported they are meeting regularly and are checking with Oregon who recently conducted a survey with similar approaches to find out what worked and what did not work well when conducting their survey.

Council Member Morrison

Council Member Morrison indicated he had no report.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Gaus indicated a three minute timeline will be set for each person providing public comment, and two people requested to speak. Linda Clewey from LARA provided introduction to several staff members who attended and spoke about updates related to interpreter testing. Deb Atwood from Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services asked questions about interpreter CEUs.

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

Director Urasky read a report in President Karen Bailey's absence. SHI-MI=DB held a potluck social in November 2017 and the numbers were small due to weather and a conflicting event happening at the same time. There was not a quorum for the board meeting so a facilitated discussion took place about deafblind needs and ideas for future events. SHI-MI=DB will host monthly tactile coffee events at various locations starting in April 2018. These coffee events are for any individual who wants to practice tactile sign language in a casual, social environment but all communication will be tactile and no interpreters will be provided for non-signers. President Karen Bailey will be working with Jill Gaus and Izzy Florence on a March 2018 event focused on deafblind use of haptics. SHI-MI+DB is working on a grant proposal to help support one year of a Support Service Provider (SSP) program. More information will be shared if the grant is awarded.

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. The annual HLAA national convention will be from June 21 through 24, 2018 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. HLAA is currently updating their website and will introduce a new logo. The HLAA member magazine has been renamed as Hearing Life, The Magazine for Better Hearing. The website www.hearingloss.org will include translation of over a hundred languages and it will be more user friendly for mobile device users.

President of MIRID

Michigan RID Chapter President, Andi Chumley provided a report. MIRID has worked hard on renovating their website and a new calendar of events has been added. Individuals or organizations can share event details for posting by sending an email to publication@mirid.org. MIRID and their student committee wants to engage with interpreter training students on their needs and there are scholarships available for interpreter training students. Scholarships are also available for working interpreters related to interpreter testing. The current Ethical Discussion Groups, free to MIRID members, are scheduled throughout Spring 2018. The MIRID Spring 2018 Conference will be May 19-21, 2018 in Mount Pleasant. Please keep an eye on MIRID's website for further updates. During the business meeting at the Spring Conference, elections will take place for the Board positions of vice president, treasurer, member at large, and publications. Madonna University is no longer approving RID CEUs due to changes to their programs and if you are looking for CEU sponsorship assistance, please contact MIRID for referral to other entities who can process CEUs. Region Three now has a new region representative, Byron Behm from Indianapolis. The Region Three Conference will be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from August 2-5, 2018. Concern from MIRID members include uncertainty about the transition to LARA and what information they need to know about their Michigan certifications. MIRID will be meeting with LARA and continues to work with the Division.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Subcommittee on Feasibility of Mentoring and Training Program

Advisory Council Members discussed options for the subcommittee and elected to have Chair Gaus contact former Council Member Horwitz to discuss next steps for the subcommittee and to report back to the Council.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Draft Document

Director Urasky mentioned that after extensive discussion with Division staff, MDCR Department Leadership, and initial feedback from Advisory Council Members, the Division is requesting feedback on the proposed draft document related to Division functions and structure. Several Council Members provided additional feedback and some Council Members requested one-on-one conversations with Director Urasky. Director Urasky will continue to update Council Members regarding this document.

8. GUEST SPEAKER

Chair Gaus introduced Nan Asher, a program consultant with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program. The goal of EHDI is to maximize linguistic competence and literacy development for children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Nan Asher spoke about the programs and services offered for newborn screening. Michigan mandates universal newborn screening and testing for fifty disease but follow ups after screening are not mandated.

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. Charlyss Ray from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services spoke about mental health grants provided

by SAMSA and recently produced videos. Deb Atwood from Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services asked questions about the Interpreter Board and announced that her agency has received two small grants to set up a mentoring program.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Gaus and Director Urasky introduced MDCR Executive Director Arbulu. Director Arbulu provided several MDCR updates. MDCR recently created a position for a Department Racial Equity Officer, which is the first of its kind in any state department in state government. On January 16, 2018, Alfredo Hernandez joined the team, filling this position. The racial equity officer will lead Department's efforts to build on, align, and further the work in advancing racial equity, eliminate racial inequities in the communities MDCR is working with while identifying and leveraging opportunities that are likely to have the greatest impact.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member McKee made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Bystrycki seconded the motion. The motion passed. Chair Gaus thanked all of the accommodation providers and members who attended the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:41PM.

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