



DHHCAN Meeting

November 4, 2020

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.*

**ROLL CALL**

Voting Members	Organizational Partners	Others
Zainab Alkebsi, NAD	Neal Tucker, RID	Mary Beth Morgan, Interpreter
Eric Kaika, TDI	Eric Raff, NASADHH	Jayne Tubergen, Interpreter
Marcia Zisman, GUAA	Barbara Raimondo, CEASD	Natalie Ennis, CART Captioner
Lise Hamlin, HLAA	Davin Searls, CSD	Dawn Watts, Interpreter
Mark Hill, CPADO	Caroline Pezzarossi, ADARA	Brittany Watts, Interpreter
Al Sonnenstrahl, DSA		Elaine Navratil, DSA
Art Roehrig, AADB		Michele Mulligan, CPADO
		Kota Takayama, Gallaudet University Department of Social Work Professor and Students

Communication protocols were shared. Attendees introduced themselves.

Meeting called to order: 12:03p.

Quorum: Met

### **Chair's Report**

- Zainab welcomed the Gallaudet University social work students who every year in November observe our meeting. Also thanked everyone for showing up today, the day after Election Day when results are still unknown and our minds may be elsewhere.
- Several webinars are scheduled - November 17th, she will be copresenting with a colleague at the National Deaf Center about automated speech recognition (ASR) and why universities should not be relying on ASR. There will be a demonstration and the audience will be asked to answer questions on the presentation to give them a hands on experience.
- On December 3rd there will be a panel on hiring practices, and tips and strategies for hiring during the pandemic. Two panelists represent corporations, another from Gallaudet and one from NTID. The NAD is working with CSD, Gallaudet, and NTID to plan this panel.
- More information on the webinars can be found on the NAD and CSD websites.

### **Vice-Chair's Report**

No report.

### **Secretary's Report**

- We need to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2020 meeting. Mark (sec) moved to accept the minutes of the October 7th meeting. PASSED
- Marcia thanked our captioner, Natalie for providing captions and the meeting transcript.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- The balance as of October 31st was \$26,370.76.
- Membership renewals have been sent out. There are several organizations who have not renewed their membership for some time. These are National Deaf Black Advocates (NDBA), American Society for Deaf Children (ASDC), Deaf in Government (DIG), Alexander Graham Bell Association (AGB), and National Cued Speech Association (NCSA).
- In the interest of diversity, we should continue reaching out to these organizations. Zainab has contacts at NCSA and CueSign and will reach out to them.

## **POLICY REPORTS**

### **CIVIL RIGHTS PROTECTION AND ENFORCEMENT**

- There are two additional position papers being worked on: 1) Access at marches, protests and rallies and 2) Automated Speech Recognition (ASR) - its quality and appropriate usage. There is increased usage of ASR especially in colleges and universities, television shows and company meetings and events. It's not always appropriate to use ASR.

## **EDUCATION**

- A follow up meeting has been set up with Mark Schultz, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services who they met with on September 30th.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

- Davin reminded us about the CSD hosted webinar that Zainab previously mentioned. It will take place on December 3rd at 1:00p EST.

## **HEALTH CARE**

No report.

## **HOUSING**

No report.

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION SERVICES, AND VIDEO PROGRAMMING**

- There were no filings during the month of October. There was one ex parte, about the Competitive Carriers Association's (CCA) request for "temporary" waiver on Real Time Text (RTT). This was already mentioned in last month's minutes, another ex parte is happening tomorrow about the same issue and will reshuffle it at our meeting next month.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

- There will be a meeting of the Air Carrier Access Act Advisory Committee next week.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- No additional feedback was received on the draft amendments to the bylaws, which is a good sign. We'll be voting on the proposed bylaws at our December meeting. Members may review the October meeting minutes for details.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Art proposed educating DHHCAN members on ProTactile ASL (PTASL). Zainab supported Art's idea and suggested doing something in early 2021, perhaps January or February. She will coordinate this with Art offline.

Mark brought up sharing information on mobility disabilities as well and will follow up offline with Zainab.

Eric announced that TDI's annual holiday party will not take place this year due to the pandemic.

Zainab thanked our service providers who helped make communication access possible for our meeting. Again, thanks to everyone who showed up to this meeting in the aftermath of Election Day. She will meet with the social work students after the meeting is adjourned to answer their questions about DHHCAN.

Michele asked Eric to expand on what RTT is all about. RTT is text transmitted instantly as it is typed or created. Recipients can immediately read the message while it is being written, without waiting. RTT is used for conversational text, in collaboration, and in live captioning.

The next DHHCAN meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 2nd.  
The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.