

Deaf& Hard of Hearing Services
Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 17, 2011
4:30 p.m.

Meeting Facilitator: Emily Smith-Lundberg

Volunteer for note taking?

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll call
- III. Approval of minutes from last meeting (Additions & Corrections)
- IV. MCDHH Report – Michelle Isham
- V. Regional Update – Diane Leonard
- VI. Regional Update – Rich Diedrichsen
- VII. Regional Feedback - All
- VIII. New business
 - a. Membership recruitment for January 2012
- IX. Announcements or Information Sharing – All
- X. Adjournment, next meeting: September 20th

MINUTES

EAST CENTRAL DHHS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, May 17, 2011, 4:30 – 6:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ernie Watson, Jody Gerken-Teter, Michele Isham, and Brenda Hommerding

STAFF PRESENT: Diane Leonard

INTERPRETER: Michael Horman

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND CALL TO ORDER

Minutes from last meeting were approved.

COMMISSION OF DEAF, DEAFBLIND, AND HARD OF HEARING MINNESOTANS UPDATE – MICHELE ISHAM

- The Executive Committee meeting was held three weeks prior.
- Tom Anderson resigned as Chair and moved with his family to Austin, TX. Michelle Isham has been appointed as the new Chair for the Commission. Michelle is a D/HH Teacher; she's active on an EHDI Team and the Advisory Committee for MN Resource Center: DHH, and is hard of hearing herself.
- The contract of the Oral/Deaf History was approved and will be funded by the Historical Society.
- Mary Hartnett shared the goals of the Commission. *Handouts
- Lobby Day was a success with about 400 people in attendance. Michele spoke at the Lobby Day.
- The Commissioner of Health and Commerce spoke at our last Commission meeting.
- Mary Hartnett also discussed trying to reinstate the GMAS program. She is looking into how many children benefited from this program so that she can go to legislature with this information.

DHHS REGIONAL UPDATE – DIANE LEONARD

- Diane participated by providing a presentation at the Communication Tools for Diverse Population conference on April 28th for CentraCare Health Systems. They focused on how to help participants effectively communicate with various populations; i.e. Somalia, Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, Latino. Beth Schultz and Marty Barnum of CSD were co-presenters with Diane.
- Diane attended a workshop presented by Anita Buel. The workshop focused on informing health care workers on the importance of effectively communicating with deaf individuals. Anita Buel is a Certified Health Care Worker.
- Diane coordinated with Anita Buel and Nancy Meyers in presenting the film documentary "Sign On" at the CentraCare Clinic. The film focused on deaf women dealing with breast cancer.

- On May 17th, a “Lunch and Learn” was set up at the St. Cloud Hospital.
 - Deaf Island booths were set up at three locations in the hospital auditorium: triage, admissions, and pharmacy.
 - Hearing staff were not allowed to use their voice.
 - Deaf volunteers were on-site to help facilitate the “Lunch and Learn” by role reversal situations.
 - Staff was able to voice any frustrations, anxieties, fears or feelings about the role reversal situations afterwards.
 - We are looking at doing the same type of “Lunch and Learn” at the following hospitals: CentraCare Plaza clinic in St. Cloud, Melrose, Paynesville and Long Prairie.
- Public Access Video (PAV) was demonstrated at the St. Cloud Hospital after the “Lunch and Learn” by the deaf volunteers and CentraCare ITS staff. The PAV is located by Door E. Feedback and ideas regarding the PAV were given.
 - PAV is also installed at Central Lakes Community College in Brainerd and one at the CentraCare Plaza.
 - We are currently checking with Rosemond Owens, CentraCare Health Literacy/Cultural Competency Specialist, about getting another PAV for the St. Cloud Hospital, in the emergency room.
- The MADC conference will be held on June 24th and 25th at St. Kates University in St. Paul.

DHHS REGIONAL UPDATE – RICH DIEDRICHSEN (VIA DIANE LEONARD)

- The St. Cloud office has interviewed and will be filling the Administrative Assistant position soon.
- Currently there are four people active in the Deaf Mentor Program and five in the DeafBlind Consumer Directed Service Program for the St. Cloud office.
- Funding cutbacks continue to be a concern. Rich has assumed greater responsibilities for clients in the west and Diane has also added more counties to her work load.
- October 8th, 2011 will be the parent workshop put on by HLAA at the Holiday Inn.
- October 1st, 2011 is the “Walk for Hearing”.

To review - ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER TERMS

- Members with second term expiring at the end of this year:
 - Jody Gertken-Teter
 - Linda Henrickson
 - Beth Schultz
 - Ernie Watson
- Members with first term completion at the end of this year:
 - Jolynn Larson
 - Emily Smith-Lundberg

- Michele Isham
- Recruiting new members is a priority.

MINNESOTA HANDS & VOICES – BRENDA HOMMERDING

- MN Hands and Voices will be holding their annual picnic at the Outback Steakhouse in Inver Grove Heights in August.
- SNAPS Family picnic will be held in Becker on June 23rd.
 - Flyers were distributed.
- SNAPS event at Kim Konerza's hobby farm will be held on October 15th in Becker.
- MN Hands and Voices's website recently won a contest, please check it out.
www.mnhandsandvoices.org

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deaf Night Out (DNO) has started meeting every second Saturday of each month. They are currently looking for the best location to meet, but usually pick a restaurant/bar. All deaf and hard of hearing individuals are welcome to attend. Other interested parties are also welcome.

Our next Advisory Committee meeting date is September 20, 2011.