

**ILLINOIS ADVISORY BOARD FOR SERVICES FOR
PERSONS WHO ARE DEAF-BLIND**

February 5, 2015

Center for Sight & Hearing
8038 Macintosh Rd
Rockford, IL
Tour 9:00-9:45
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members in Attendance: Shelle Hamer, Robert Griffith, Catherine Klein, John Jun, Rose Slaght, Derrick Phillips, Jeffrey Bohman

Members Absent: none

Members Attending by Phone: Rebecca Patton, Marcia Breese (left at 11:00), Eliza Ellett

Regular Attendees Present: Elizabeth Klein, Michelle Clyne, Joann Rushing, Jessina Williams, Cathy Rajan (CRT), Donna Stanton & Karen Jenssen (interpreters)

Regular Attendees Attending by Phone: Lori Clampitt, Cookie Thigpen

Guests Present: Diane Costas (CPS Vision Impaired Program), Doris Williams (CPS Hearing Impaired Program)

10:14 Shelle Hamer moved to open meeting, (due to Governor's executive order, those Members on phone will be voting members as there were restrictions placed on travel) second by John Jun.

I. Minutes of December Meeting were accepted by unanimous vote of the Board. Moved by Rose Slaght, second by Catherine Klein.

II. Old Business

1. Bemyvoice web site- Elizabeth Hasselman will put bemyvoice.com on ISBE website. Eliza Ellett received an email and has not heard back. Michelle Clyne asked if ISBE could change our platform to allow a parent (Eliza Ellett) to be able to make changes easily on website. Bob Griffith will follow up.

2. Open Board position- Marcia Breese has retired and resigned the Board. A new Board member will be pursued.

3. DeafBlind representatives for ISVI & ISD Advisory Board-Marcia Breese-

ISD has a parent of a student with USHERS Syndrome; ISVI does not have anyone currently to represent DeafBlind. RoseSlaught made a motion that Bob write a letter asking both schools to have DeafBlind representatives at both schools. Second by Jeff Bohman

4. PRC Strategic Plan- Michele Clyne- Strategic Plan progressing in a forward motion

III. New Business

1. Communication-All participants need to identify themselves by name throughout the IABDB Board meeting. All written material needs to be distributed prior to all meetings electronically. Do not send anything directly to ISBE, send all information to Bob Griffith. Lori Clampitt wants to be removed from all distribution lists but agenda/minutes.

2. IABDB meeting dates – April 2, 2015 meeting will be held at DRS office in Downers Grove. Discussion and vote will take place during April meeting to schedule the next year's Board schedule.

3. Appointed Board Members- Secretary Saddler appointed Marcia Breese, Derrick Phillips and Jeffrey Bohman to the IABDB-. Mr. Bohman gave a brief background (he recently moved to Chicago from Ohio, prior 21 years ran statewide services to consumers who are DeafBlind, travelled around state to provide services. Funding ended and program closed; he is currently retired & a consumer).

4. CPS Presentation to the Board- Diane Costas (VI Coordinator), Doris Williams (DHH Coordinator)- 62 students in CPS have dual sensory loss, DeafBlind, (8 students who attend DHH cluster program and receive VI support from TVI, 2 students who are in vision resource room with HI services from HH, 3 at Center for Deafness, CLH, Childrens Habilitation, 2 attend private schools, 2 long term homebound, 2 at PRC, remaining 43 attend general education classes with support from itinerant teachers.) The CPS coordinators talked about: sample IEP goals & related services, typical accommodations seen, collaboration between TVI/DHH, transition- job training, partnering with the Mayor's office, college & career readiness. Flashdrive of the presentation will be shared with IABDB. Rose Slaght asked about entrepreneur opportunities. Michele Clyne expressed CPS staff work collaboratively with her. Much discussion... and sharing of resources both ways.

5. New Legislation- A Bill was proposed which asks insurance agencies to

pay for hearing aids-more information will be shared in April.

6. Ethics Training- Michelle Clyne completed with all Board members.

IV. Standing Reports

1. **Le COBDA report** distributed 1/16/15. Next meeting Feb 14th, meet monthly (exception January/June)
2. **SSP Taskforce** no report. Looking for funding (support service provider)
3. **IDHHC** no report
4. **IABD** Rose Slaght reported IL Advocates for DeafBlind, family support group, are selling candy as fund raiser. March 7 in Peoria for the annual family conference. David Pitonyak is speaker on behavior, Philip Rock is supporting families to attend, IADB will support members to attend. Training is on first 100 signs. A person with DeafBlindness will be speaking of her experiences.

V. Agency Reports

1. **HVEIO-** report distributed 1/24/15
2. **ISBE-** waiting to see what happens
3. **PRC/Project Reach** waiting to have ISBE approve language to allow out of state students to attend. All activities reported in December are continuing. Getting new modules up and running.
4. **DHS/DRS** no update, funding at a standstill
5. **DHS/OMH/ODD** division of mental health: new brochure for distribution, should be available for April meeting, new position-Individual Placement & Support (MHCCI) Employment Specialist, Jessina Williams will provide the job posting.
6. **DCFS** Becky Patton- trying to query numbers of DeafBlind, deaf (currently labels ear infections). She has been to all field offices. Hoping to have a parent training for sign... asked for VI category to be added, none currently

7. ICRE-Wood more training needed for staff. 3 DeafBlind individuals are enrolled who require a longer time for training. Ingrid is working to train, Helen Keller agency will come to make ICRE accessible for Deaf Blind. Hoping to transform 2nd floor for training DeafBlind. Average DeafBlind individuals come 3-4 times for training.

8. CLH DeafBlind Program- Joann Rushing- updates re: HKC personnel. Bob Griffith will reach out to Brian Yunashko, to attend IABDB meetings

VI. 2014-2015 Meeting Dates

The remaining meetings for the year are as follows:

April 2, 2015

Joh Jun motioned to adjourn the meeting. Shelle Hamer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Recorded by: Shelle Hamer, Secretary