

Arizona Chapter
Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
General Membership Meeting
Friday, 22 March 2002
5:25 pm – 6:35 pm
Phoenix College, Willow Room

Minutes

Board members present:

- Debbie Lindsay, President and Chair
- Dawn Schoenberger, Vice President
- Victor Brown, Secretary
- Michelle Caplette, Treasurer
- Deb Stone, Member-at-large, CDI
- Michelle Wasisco, Member-at-large, Sign
- Jeremy Brunson, Immediate Past President

Quorum for the board met. Quorum of members not met.

Minutes take by: the Secretary

Members: Gino Gouby, Elita Harvey, Andrea Heisler, Kay Hilder, Ray Horn, Joni Horn, Colleen Lynch, Lillian Meriwether, Teddi von Pingel, Helen Young, ACDHH (Rob Voreck), Others.

Guests: Senator Larry Chesley, Claudia Foy, EH

Interpreters: Denise Wetzler and Jim Merrell

Approve Minutes

Approved as corrected.

Introductions of Committee Chairs

Legislation, Marie Stewart; Nominations, Teddi von Pingle; Bylaws, Jeanette Mare Packard; Grievance, Cindy Volk; Membership, Sherri Schripsema; Professional Dev., Holly Wilson; Hospitality (co-chairs), Angela Gilpatrick and Monica Camona.

President's Report

We are trying to get a firm foundation set with our board. We appreciate your patience with us. We have had some organizational meetings. We are trying to get into the community more. We have large issues coming up for the profession, and we need to prepare our organization. I am pleading with you to get involved. These future issues will impact our profession and we need to be working together.

Vice President's Report

I've contacted the chairs of the standing committees asking for information. We are now in the process of getting "ready".

Secretary's Report

Thanks for Michelle Wasisco's help with updating the email addresses. Thanks to Sherri Schripsema's husband for working with AzRID and setting up a database for our membership information and reporting needs. Thank you to the National Board for helping me understand my purpose and for some ways to improve my tasks.

The Chair added a thank you to Victor because she is in the middle of a move and he has helped keep things organized.

Treasurer's Report

Current balance for the general fund is \$3,908.00. We are now in a quarter system. The other fund has a balance of \$11,300.42. That is monies that can be used this year and next year or as seed monies for a future conference.

The budget proposal process has started. We will vote on the new budget at the Business meeting.

Thank you to Colleen Lynch for her work with the silent auction at the State Conference. We raised \$1,587.

The Chair adds a thank you for the report and to the past board for all that is done behind the scenes.

Member-at-large's Report, American Sign

It was a benefit to see the National Board run the meetings. I'm on the Membership committee. It will have a benefit for notifying people. We have been in contact with new people that have not been involved in the past.

Member-at-large's Report, Oral

Debbie Lindsay explains in Suzi's absence. Suzi is on the board to represent Oral interpreters.

Member-at-large's Report, CDI

ACDHH will be providing 4 workshops related to CDI (certified deaf interpreters) and is interested in AzRID recruiting more deaf people to join.

Legislation Committee Report

The Chair in Marie Stewart's absence. Senator Chesley was invited to with us about the current bill on the floor. The bill was talked about this morning. American Sign will probably not be recognized in high schools. The Senator explained, in 1994 a bill was passed, but there was no funding, so high schools will not be "required" to do anything. Universities and Community Colleges, will NOT be required, but if they do offer courses, it will be by certified teachers, and it will count as a foreign language credit. Amendments to bills can happen.

The Senator offered his time on the following Monday to come by his office for a short briefing of the bill procedure. He recommend having about 8-10 people arrive on Monday and fill out speaker slips, but only 2-3 of actually speak. The slips are a part of the record. Form letters to the legislator have little impact. Showing up and the speaker slips have more weight.

Information about bills can be found at www.leg.state.az.us.

Comment: Tucson is really excited that AzRID is coming together.

Membership Comm. Report

Michelle Wasisco in Sherri Schripsema's absence. We are building a database and we've updated the membership application form so the different pieces of info are easier to track and enter. We want to improve the email system. Possibly set up a yahoo group. We are trying to find all the information about everyone. we are comparing what we have with the National List. New and interested people can contact the hotmail account.

Publications Comm. Report

Victor Brown because there is no Chair. We have been discussing having committees be responsible for their respective web pages. It is important to us to have others supplying information. We are looking at a similar approach for the Newsletter. Victor is technically able to do the uploading of pages but AzRID want others to be involved with the content. Technical ability should not be a deterrent to being on this committee. AzRID wants to involve members.

Professional Dev. Comm. Report

Deb Stone in Holly Wilson's absence. We are working on workshops for this spring. Go ahead and contact Holly with ideas.

Scholarship Comm. Report

The President explains, this new standing committee will help AzRID fund and get money for helping (mostly new) members with testing fees for the national test.

Evaluation/Certification Comm. Report

The President explains, this new standing committee will be knowledgeable about testing, what it takes to become certified, and to encourage membership development and further certification.

Conference Comm. Report

The President explains, this new standing committee is for when we decide to have a conference, we would appoint a committee chair and be ready to "act". The money from the past state conference can be used because those monies belong to the AzRID organization.

Recognition & Appreciation

- To Holly Wilson and all those involved in making the State Conference a success. The four interpreters that did the membership meeting. A basket has already been given to Holly Wilson from AzRID.
- To Joy Plote who help with coordinating.
- To Senator Larry "Lucky" Chesley for his time and directing us. He was given an AzRID certificate and a gift certificate to a bookstore.
- Thanks to Elita Harvey for doing a de-briefing after the state conference. She ran the meeting and provided us with a summary of what was learned.
- So many to thank.
- To Kay Hilder for setting up this location and volunteering her time so we can be here.
- Congratulations to the newly certified members. To Andrea Heisler, CI/CT; Victor Brown, CI. Gino Gouby, CDI.

- Kay Hilder thanked three of the Board who have gone to Phoenix College to talk to the students.

The New Paradigm: A Presentation of the AzRID organization

The diagram showed some things where we can see clear boundaries; the AzRID organization, other organizations and entities. The board, committees, and members within AzRID. Other boundaries are not as clear cut. (This is reality.) The diagram is a way to represent how information moves back and forth, not as a chain of command. Nor is it meant to say that there isn't direct communication from say, a board member and a member of an agency.

The diagram tries to show that the board can't possibly know all that goes on and AzRID relies on the committees and members to share with each other. It doesn't show the real AzRID; for example there are only 5 circles for the board, or in the future there may be a sub-committee.

Color is used as a way to show levels of commitment. The circles that represent the Board for example are more yellow (like the RID entity). Non-members are blue. Members are green. There are some red circles dispersed, (even in the organization), to represent those who don't always "play along". SMILE.

This is a way for us to envision AzRID and talk about how we relate to each other, to other entities, and how we find out and share information.

The President added: We are saying we have to be in it together. Clearer roles and responsibilities will come in time. Thank you Victor.

New Business

ACDHH-

Rob Voreck, The Licensing & Certification Coordinator at ACDHH explained his new position is responsible for the licensure, by 2007, of interpreters in Az. He expects AzRID will be involved in the process. ACDHH is re-writing the rules for interpreter certification procedure and most of the ACDHH procedures and rules. He explained that (formal, parliamentary-type) meetings occur at the Court, Civil, Police, State, and County levels and could possibly need to be using certified interpreters. A letter and a copy of Statute 12-242 was sent out to the courts (request a copy of these from the AzRID Secretary).

The Certificate of Competency (COC) could be a minimum to get other certificates or licensure. ACDHH is thinking because there are three main areas we could have three COCs. It needs to be written up. Rob would like AzRID to be involved in that process. The ball will be rolling. ACHDD is at the end of the fiscal year.

It could be confusing if there are multiple certificates, but at the same time, a percentage of the interpreting community may be left out if there is only one COC. For example, some interpreters may not choose to work in an area and shouldn't be required to have that base if they never do that type of interpreting. ACDHH is thinking CI/CT and one of the three areas is the way to go. Or use a minimal COC as a base then supplemented by one of the

three. There are different issues to consider.

ACDHH will notify everyone about the Summer Rules Review process this summer; deaf and hearing consumers, agencies, interpreters, etc.

The President adds, AzRID wants to be involved. We appreciate you wanting us to be involved. Further discussion will happen.

Announcements

Kay Hilder: A Phoenix College student, Gretchen Proch, has been selected to be our representative at the Region V conference.

President: I'd like to explain that I wrote two articles for the Views that have been on hold at the national level. They will be printed eventually. You are being represented at the national level.

President: The Region V Presidents have suggested that AzRID have a student representative on our board.

Elita Harvey: Perhaps this is putting you on the spot... Would each board member be willing to make a statement about the new vision? It would help me, and the membership, to know what each member of the board sees as the future of AzRID.

President: I would like to put that on the agenda for the next mtg.

President: Thanks to the two interpreters who volunteered their time tonight.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April. Date, Time, and Location TBA.

The General Business Meeting is being scheduled for either May, a week before Memorial Day weekend or in June the third weekend. In Phoenix. Date, Time, and Location TBA.

Adjourned