

**Oregon Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services Program  
Meeting Minutes  
August 14, 2006**

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**Participants:** (X = attended, A = absent; E = Excused) – August 14<sup>th</sup>

| <b>Members</b>  |                       |   |                |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| x   | Eleni Boston          | E | Robert Pope    |
| x   | Renwick Dayton        | x | George Scheler |
| x   | Genie Ott<br>Mendiola | E | D. Wayne Seely |
| x   | Margi Morgan          | x | David Viers    |
| x   | Alice Pakhtigian      |   |                |
| <b>Staff</b>  |                       |   |                |
| Morgen Brodie, Bentley Fink and Wendy Russell<br>Lisa Crawford, Chris Keen and Kathleen Wallace<br>interpreters, Debra Cheyne from LNS Captioning |                       |   |                |
| <b>Public/Guests</b>  |                       |   |                |
| Damara Paris, Georgia Ortiz, Sherry   |                       |   |                |

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**Barbara Roberts Human Services Building  
Room 137 C & D**

**Call to Order 1:11.**

**1. Review of June Minutes – Motion:** to accept minutes from June as written. George/Margi. Passed.

**Staff Updates –**

**2. Contracts-** Continue to have contracts with 8 agencies. The quarterly reports have gone out. Employment is getting their numbers in a statement since they are already paid in full.

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**3. SPD LTC-**Morgen gave some background of the community forums that the Governor's Commission on Senior Services held throughout the state and the workgroups for the future of long term care needs and issues. A new workgroup has been formed that will consider issues affecting people with disabilities and people who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. ODHHS has been invited to participate. The first meeting is September 8<sup>th</sup> 1-5. Morgen will email out information to members this afternoon.

**4. Information and Referrals (I&Rs)-** The e-mailing list for the newsletter was lost and Morgen is asking committee members to send staff any e-mail lists they may have of people in the community as well as agencies that would be interested in receiving it. [**Note:** Mailing list has since been recovered by computer technical staff.]

There has been a huge reduction in I & R's. Due to change in staffing the workload regarding I & R's have been divided between Wendy, Jeff and Ben.

**5. Interpreter and ALD Requests-** Jeff passed out a paper that explains why more than 2 interpreters are required for meetings such as this with many deaf people. It is felt that communication is more effective. Jeff asked for input regarding the third interpreter, if it makes the meeting more effective.

Jenna, who is the intern working with Jeff, has been loading the new database with lots of test data and should be able to start testing next week. The database is loaded with only test information; it does not contain any production data at this point. The old database is unable to produce accurate statistics so Jeff figured out the total numbers for July manually. They were -- 187 interpreter requests for a total of 424.5 hours, and 8 Real Time Captioning requests for a total of 19.5 hours. We had a 100% fill rate on these requests. The requests are made through governmental bodies, although the services are provided for individual people.

## **6. New Requests**

- a. City of Beaverton Police Department-** Ben has been discussing a TTY training for the city of Beaverton. This could lead to other types of trainings such as with the police department and a possible contract.
  
- b. Department of Corrections-** The request for services from Corrections are starting to pick up but there are still not a lot of requests. Irmgard, Bob and George talked with the Director of Department of Corrections regarding inmate rights. There has been a change in leadership and so the group will need to reconnect.

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training is moving to Salem and George is on a committee regarding the training program. It will be extended 8 more weeks to include issues of people with disabilities training program. When the group starts meeting again George will share the information with Morgen.

## **7. Develop Guidelines for Committee Operation –**

- a. Motion:** to set up an Ad Hoc committee to develop guidelines for Advisory Committee operation. George/Alice. Passed. George, Alice and Margi will be part of that committee. Morgen will send an email on some of the questions that came up in the Executive committee.

**8. Adding New Members –** An application for membership on the ODHHS committee was sent in the packet. Genie adapted the form from one used in Washington state. George felt that questions about voter registration and congressional district could be dropped. All agreed. Suggestions and comments were made.

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- a. Motion:** to take out legislative and congressional district, PSE and the exact English and also remove “attach a current resume” George/Margi. Passed.
  
- b.** There was an **addendum** to the motion, to change “close up” to “low vision.” Alice/Renwick. Passed.
  
- c.** There was another **addendum** motion to rephrase the form to read “check special skills and strengths” as well as interests. Alice/Eleni. Passed.
  
- d.** Finally there was the **motion** to accept form as amended. George/Alice. Passed.

The form will be available electronically next week.

**9. Committee Assignments** – Some people were not at the retreat in June so they were unable to sign up for the various committees. CEPIN will be put on hold since it will be coming to Seattle next year. The guidelines committee will make sure that the rest of the standing subcommittees will be ones that the full committee wants and Georgia’s name will be removed from all of the committees.

**10. A/C Meetings** – It was agreed that there should be a total of 4 Interpreters, real-time captioning and the loop system at all meetings. Water will be provided.

The committee meeting schedule for the following year is as follows:

November 2<sup>nd</sup> in Portland,  
February 1<sup>st</sup> in Salem,  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> in Portland and on  
August 2, 2007 in Salem.

## **11. Staffing and Hiring**

### **a. Creating feedback loop on staff performance--**

Morgen requested that there be some sort of feed back loop so that members and contract agencies have a way of letting staff know if any mistakes are being made so that staff can correct them.

- i. Motion:** Staff will develop a feedback mechanism to determine client satisfaction. This will include both state agencies and deaf and hard of hearing people who come in to access those services. George/Margi. Passed.

**b. Review task lists--**The list shows what is being taken care of and what ODHSS has the options of doing. Morgen would like to have more customized contracts. They need to be renewed in July of 2007. ODHHS also needs to set up meetings with other parts of DHS.

**c. Discussion options--**Decision does not have to happen today but do need to think of the future. Would like to know the difference between a manager and a coordinator.

- i.** Move that Morgen to send the board members the descriptions between a manager and a program coordinator before the next meeting. George/Alice. Passed.

## **12. Public comment-**

Damara was here as community observer and spoke of her disappointment that Georgia was let go.

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Sherry spoke of the difference between how fortunate the Deaf in America compared to those in Europe. In Europe, Deaf are very underemployed and they do not have interpreters, CART, etc.

Georgia spoke of Oregon, Minnesota and Wisconsin that have no direct services for deaf and hard of hearing. She feels these states are 20 years behind in advocacy and services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Morgen spoke of HB3230 and the needs of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities.

Georgia -how many programs does DHS have on their list for people with disabilities? Include VR, OMAP, Public Health, Children Adults and Families. Morgen - DHS has over 200 advisory groups that work with them in various capacities. Eight of the mandated groups will be part of ODC. ODC intends to identify issues that each group could bring forth and all could endorse, as well as cross disabilities issues.

Margi went to Eugene to visit deaf people and asked where help is for communities outside of Salem area.

Genie reminded the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to vote.

Adjourn at 4:00.