

**MEETING: The Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Advisory Council**

**DATE: 01-16-18 Time: 10:00am – 1:00pm**

**Attendee Committee Members: Rebecca Chalmers, Keri Darling, Linda Hazard (Chair), Sharon Henry, Bill Hudson (Vice Chair), Susan Kimmerly, Cindy Moran, William Pendlebury, Sherry Sousa, AJ Van Tassel, Spenser Wepler, Jen Bostwick, Laura Siegel (for Elena Shapiro, VAD),**

**Conference Phone: Deb Charlea Baker**

**Additional Attendees: Patricia Thompson (minutes), Kelly Decker (interpreter), Kristal Hayes (interpreter)**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 10-1 - AHS - WSOC Oak 49 RmA283**

**WEBSITE LINK - <http://healthvermont.gov/family/health-care/hearing-health>**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	DECISION
<b>Welcome- Linda Hazard and Bill Hudson</b>	Linda and Bill verify attendees on conference phone and captioning link working. Linda let others know some attendees are running late. Linda and Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
Disability Awareness Day. Council represented? What is the message? – Bill Hudson	Disability Awareness Day – Wednesday, February 28 at 8:00 AM - 6:00pm  Where - <a href="#">Vermont State House</a> 115 State St Ste 4, Montpelier, Vermont 05602	

	<p>Opportunity for –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council have a booth</li> <li>• Share the work the council has done</li> <li>• Reinforce advocating</li> <li>• Represent the broad range of people with hearing loss; Deaf/Hard of hearing/DeafBlind; the children and the elderly.</li> </ul> <p>Develop 1 page fact sheet – Will, Deb and Keri work on a 1 page fact sheet, approved by the council members prior to Disability Awareness Day.</p> <p>Available for Disability Awareness Day-</p> <p>Keri will be present at Disability Awareness Day for her job.</p> <p>Will Pendlebury will check his schedule, Bill Hudson will be a back-up for Will.</p> <p>AJ Van Tassel will check his schedule. Rebecca will be his back-up.</p>	<p>Will, Deb and Keri work together on a fact sheet and share with council members.</p>
<p>Status of interpreter guidelines – Jen Bostwick</p>	<p>Met with Agency of Education-</p> <p>Not feasible to go for a Licensure option now.</p>	

*Licensure through the AOE might be a challenge but that we are going to meet with Colin Benjamin from the OPR to discuss how they may be able to help us, either with a registry or with a license through their office.*

Possibly set up a Registry

Who would oversee a registry?

*The board was really encouraging the committee to work towards some type of licensure, certificate, registry, etc. in order for it to have more merit with the schools.*

Have a draft for the entire interpreter guidelines by June of 2019.

- Already started
- Modeling it after New Hampshire guideline which are comprehensive.

Meeting with Susan Edelman to see how to work with DeafBlind in the document.

*We met with both Emma Nelson from the Vermont Sensory Access Project and Susan Edelman to discuss how to incorporate standards for people working with D/B children*

<p>Retreat in May: expectations of outcomes – Linda</p>	<p>Retreat Meeting with Susan Edelman- Tuesday, May 22, 2018 10am – 4pm AHS - WSOC Oak 49 RmA283</p> <p>All council members commit to attend in person.</p> <p>Goal – to come out of the retreat with a “Shared Vision.”</p> <p>3 positions that have to be filled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Audiologist – professional</li><li>• DeafBlind Community member</li><li>• Deaf Community member or Hard of Hearing Community Member</li></ul> <p>Elena stepped down but Laura is here today replacing Elena. She will have to go through application process.</p> <p>Hope to have all positions filled so that we have a full council on Retreat Day, May 22.</p> <p>Linda Hazard and Bill Hudson will be stepping down as Chair and Vice Chair at the end of May and in September selecting a new Chair and Vice Chair.</p>	<p>Send application to Laura.</p> <p>All council members be thinking about your interest in Chair and Vice Chair.</p>
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<p>Deafblind assessment need: Old report needs to be updated - Will Pendlebury</p>	<p>Updating the DeafBlind Assessment – not much has been done in the 10 years since the last assessment was done.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find more data as to the number of people that are culturally deaf and blind.</li> <li>• What are the numbers for each age group?</li> <li>• Have a current assessment that will eventually lead to goals for a future report to the legislature and set some goals for the council.</li> </ul> <p>Reach out to DBVI (Division of the Blind and Visually Impaired) and the Department of Health for data.</p> <p>Report back to the council with the data and progress and then as a council, look at the needs going forward.</p>	
<p>Hearing aid bill.....Health Equity hearing coverage: - Rebecca Chalmers</p>	<p>Bill 242- Should the council send someone to testify on behalf of the council?</p>	

	<p>AJ Van Tassel, Rebecca Chalmers, Spenser Weppler and Deb Charlea Baker create a fact sheet for testifying.</p> <p>Motion – A member of the council represents the council for testifying in support of Bill 242. – AJ Van Tassel  2<sup>nd</sup> the motion – Sherry Sousa  All in favor – all  Motion passed</p>	
<p>Public Input: Monica, Bill and Linda need to leave to give testimony.  We will need a volunteer from the council to facilitate the final half hour.</p>	<p>The International Meeting for Congenital CMV (Cytomegalovirus) is being held in Burlington, Vermont on September 23-25, 2018.</p> <p>All encouraged to attend.</p> <p>Hearing loss is one of the many issues that can arise in children who have CMV. Work is being done throughout the country on Awareness and Prevention. CMV is preventable.</p>	<p>Send a “Save the Date” to the council members.</p>

<p>Council Updates and Other Business</p>	<p>All members received the email with the final version of the legislative report.</p> <p>Birth -3 – Identify a new Chair. All groups can continue to look at data and identifying goals.</p>	
	<p>Motion to Adjourn– AJ Van Tassel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion – Keri Darling All in favor – all Motion passed</p>	