

File

**W.A.V.L.I.
Annual General Meeting
October 3, 1998
MINUTES**

Present: Barb Mykle-Hotzon, Deloris Piper, Suzie Giroux, Vicki Yee, Tarren McKay, Sheri Burtnick, Amy Bahr, Andrea Majer, Karen Fran, Jami Nystrom, Eli Casey, Karen Malcolm, Sue Harry, Caroline Ashby, Sara MacFayden, Corinna Salvail, Ellen Story, Todd Legree, Jennifer Beauchamp, Sue Fraser, Susan Fritz, Ava Hawkins, Ali Rodney, Caroline Leadbetter, Liz Duclos, Janette Champagne, Kristi Falconer, Mary Warner, Leona Parr Hamel, Susan Masters, Cyndi Marrington, Diane Pattison, Laura Shepherd, Tasha Guerra, Marna Arnell, Estelle Blazicka, Jane Pannell, Catherine Matheson, Lianna True, Michelle Decaire, Andrea Thompson, Tracey Block, Donna Deacon, Bryan Stankevicious, Natalie Smith, Sheryl Smith, Anne Bryant, Joanne Behenna, Kathy Bettanin, Carmelle Cachero, Kerry Foster, Linda Jenkins, Jen Komzak, Brandi Smithson, Joy Mercado, Leah Reid, Colleen Bellehumeur, Kimi Kajiwara, Dani Grassi, Tania Beaudry, Tania Bailey, Trisha Griffoen, Renae Harman, Sandy Roberts, Kimberly Bateman, Carmen Srdanovic, Jeanie Morrison

Regrets: Cheryl Palmer

1. Call Meeting to Order

- 9:10 a.m.
- welcome to students from Douglas College
- introductions of new members to the Board (Sarah MacFayden, Corinna Salvail, Caroline Leadbetter)

2. Approval of Agenda

- added new business items (written on white board)
- motion to approve agenda (Deloris); second (Amy)

3. Time Items of Agenda

- five to ten minutes will be allotted for each report or business item, with the exception of the Professional Standards report which will be longer

4. Accept Minutes from April 25 AGM

- no changes
- motion to accept (Ava H.), second (Sheri B.)

5. Executive Reports

5.1 President

-no written report

-motion to accept report (Deloris P.), second (Barb M.)

5.2 Vice President

-no report

5.3 Treasurer

-written reports given out; questions which arose at the last general meeting were addressed in this report

-motion to accept report (Suzie), second (Andrea M.)

5.4 Member at Large

-three hundred water bottles were ordered and are now for sale at \$5 ea.

5.5 Past President

-no report

5.6 Secretary

-a list of executive meeting dates is on the front table. If members wish to attend, they are welcome.

6. Committee Reports

6.1 Newsletter

-Jami N. advised members that the next issue of the Ripple will be out in a couple of weeks

6.2 Professional Standards

a) Licensing: there is a possibility of being able to liaise with STIBC for obtaining a provincial license. Barb explained the difference between licensing and protection of title again to clarify. The report from the Professional Standard committee's meeting with George Bryce (professional regulation specialist lawyer) will be in the Ripple.

Motion (Barb Mykle-Hotzon): I move that WAVLI dedicate a sum of not more than \$750 to hire the professional regulation specialist, George Bryce (or his representative) to research and present at the Spring AGM on the ramifications of affiliating with STIBC, and the definition of protection of title vs. licensing. Second : Jami Nystrom. Vote: All in favour. Motion carried.

b) Legal Ad Hoc Committee: Ava H. read the draft for the letter to be sent to Bev Clark (copy included with the minutes). Explanation of the process by which the committee came up with the letter. Discussion about who should sign the letter. This letter will be shown to accredited members. AVLIC grievance procedure was reiterated (in regards to a

question of whether we should name the offenders in the letter). A suggestion was given to deal with this problem at an administrative level. The court clerks who are calling interpreters to do the hiring are not aware of the problems. Discussion about whom the letter should be specifically sent to.

Motion (Ava Hawkins): I move that the letter to the courts be sent to Bev Clark, the Attorney General, and whomever else is deemed appropriate and signed by the President. Second: Sue Harry. Vote: All in favour. Motion carried.

c) Business Practice Sub-Committee: This committee is comprised of Caroline Ashby, Laura Shepherd, and Liz Duclos. The Professional Standards Committee asked them to look at business practices for the edification of hearing and Deaf consumers. eg. sub-contracting. This committee is thinking of producing a pamphlet to educate members and consumers. They are planning on distributing questionnaires to gather data. Communication between committee members has been mostly through email so far. They encourage more discussion via email.

Motion (Caroline Ashby): I move that the ad hoc committee on business practices continue with their work and will develop a survey/questionnaire and be brought back. second: Andrea Majer. Vote: All in favour. Motion carried.

Sarah MacFayden mentioned that the DHH program/Sign Language department at VCC is hiring a part-time assistant. This person needs ASL and computer skills. The deadline may have been yesterday {:)}, so contact Carol Harrison (last name may be changed now) asap. Due to the specific duties of the job, it is geared towards a hearing person.

6.3 Professional Development

A flyer was handed out for a "Classifiers" workshop which will be held on November 21 (Vancouver), and November 28 (Vancouver Island). The cost will be \$35 and registrations are being accepted now. The follow-up dates for the "Going Forward With Focus" workshops were reiterated. If there are any changes in these dates, participants will be notified.

6.4 Care Committee

Members of this committee provided goodies (muffins, etc.) for this meeting. A list was passed around for volunteers who wish to do some baking for the next meeting. You will be called as a reminder before the next AGM.

6.5 Membership

We currently have 74 Active members. A new "Deaf Interpreter" category of membership is in the works for next year. Stay tuned.

6.6 Fundraising

The fundraising committee needs help this year. Please contact Leona. The auction continues to be the strongest money-making event. The auction will be held sometime after Christmas. A raffle will be held at the break today for a bag of bath items.

6.7 Web Committee

The Web committee has been researching a new server to house our website. We will be able to solicit advertising and sell items under a new server (for the purpose of raising funds). Also, we will have a much shorter (easier to remember) web address. ACRID has a new website which is very similar to ours (same design program was used). WAVLI will be updating the design of the web page very soon. Tarren noted that the Vancouver Film School will design free webpages for non-profit organizations. It was also mentioned that there is a "counter" on our site to track the number of visitors.

Motion (Todd Legree): I move that WAVLI put \$180 US to get a new server for the website. Second: Jennifer Beauchamp. Vote: All in favour. Motion carried.

7. Old Business

(there were no items under this category)

8. New Business

8.1 Web Page

(items were covered under the Web committee report)

8.2 Douglas College Update/Medical Interpreting Program

Douglas College: there will be a Douglas College update in the upcoming Ripple. There are 13 first year and 10 second year students. A few are attending part-time. All of the students are women. The first year students are doing observation right now, in a variety of settings. If you are working at a site that could have observation students, let Karen know. The students volunteered at a Deaf baseball tournament in Everett, Washington. There were over 1000 Deaf people at this event. Douglas College was personally invited to volunteer because of their prior experience at Timberfest. The 2nd year students are doing community volunteer work, and they are receiving enormous amounts of requests for interpreters. Karen is spending a lot of time calling people

back. The second-year students will be on practicum in the new year. JJ has left her job with the Douglas College program to work at WID as the coordinator of medical interpreting.

Medical Interpreting Program: the new program was not ready this fall to start, so the start date will now be as of January 1999. Karen handed out a list of courses/dates/times, etc. The cost of each course will be around \$200. The correspondence courses may have an added cost for audiotape materials. Entrance requirements have not been fully determined. They are looking at requiring a combination of 4 years education and experience. AVLIC membership may be another prerequisite. Entrance levels will not be as hard as exit, to allow for members in outlying communities to join the courses. The advisory committee for the medical interpreting courses includes Linda Desrosiers, Dave Still, Jennifer Edgar, Debbie Russell, Marie Magirescu. WIDHH will be involved also. We don't know what kind of certificate will be given at the completion of the program. There are concerns about people who exit this program, because they will still only have the minimum standard of skills to interpret in medical settings. If you have any ideas for the program, contact Karen Malcolm. Karen passed around a mailing list for people interested in getting information about the medical interpreting course sent to them.

8.3 Interpreting Services Project - Marna Arnell

The feedback sessions which were scheduled for Wednesday nights have been cancelled. There will now be individual feedback given on the videotapes regardless of passing or failing. The colleges are happy with the lists of people who have passed. There are 36 people on the Jobsline. There have been only a few problems in classes so far (not skill based), but everything seems to be working out alright. The Jobsline is working moderately well. They are now working with a commercial jobsline. Voicemail is telling people if jobs have been listed/posted. This means a smaller volume of calls for the colleges. Karen Poirier will be soliciting feedback. This is encouraged to be done through email, and the WAVLI webpage. The dispatching is working well. The interpreters can choose their own schedule, and it is free to the colleges to post messages, etc. and request teamers. This project has given \$2500 to WAVLI to assist with professional development. There have been workshops on the island and in Prince George. The ministry is still committed to this kind of support. Marna's involvement with the screening process is almost complete, and Douglas College will fully take it over from here. If you have not been getting calls from the Jobsline, let Marna know. Karen's phone #, etc. 604-451-6933. email: kpoirier@bcit.bc.ca.

There have been questions about pay cuts. The unions are very stubborn about raising the pay rate for interpreters. Marna is going to the island for meetings with the ministry about their guidelines for pay cuts (Nov. 2/3). The last time there was a pay raise was in 1991.

8.4 Directory Committee-Deloris Piper/Cheryl Piper

The committee is looking at the following issues: changing the cover, paper, font, names, adding colour, content, process. There have been concerns about the directory not looking professional enough. ACRID has also borrowed our idea for the directory. They have also been looking at the process for the producers of the directory (how to get the names in on time, etc.). The committee has a mock-up including areas people would be willing to work in (adopted from the redbook of medical practitioners). This also includes times NOT available. A copy of the draft was handed around for feedback. This information will apply to those living outside the Lower Mainland also. Another option is a GVAD insert (simple one page format?). This will include a contact number if people want the full directory. Questions about whether this will actually meet the needs of the Deaf community (or if they would prefer something different eg. pictures). This smaller version may be just as intimidating. A head count was done to see if we still have quorum...yes. There was an informal vote as to what we want the directory to look like. The members agreed to go ahead and put a condensed version in the GVAD news.

8.5 Medical Interpreting Services -Susan Masters

The announcement of this service and phone numbers were passed around. Janice Jickels has been hired as the coordinator of this service. Tarren McKay is the interpreter. Marilyn Barber (a VCC graduate) is the program assistant. The program has recently started to run from WIDHH. They are calling interpreters for work who are registered with the SLIIP program. If you would like to have your name registered to be called, let them know. MIS has sub-contracted with WIDHH to do the calling from there. The standard rates for the province are \$35/hr. They will have people working on call from 4:30 pm to 8:30 am and for statutory holidays (for emergency appointments only). Their definition for emergency is "any condition if left untreated will lead to death/disability". This is the provincial definition. The rates for the on-call interpreter are \$50/hr with a three hour minimum (and travel time/mileage if it is over one hour). Right now they are using the most qualified people in the given area. Outside of the Lower Mainland they may need to fly/transport more qualified people in. They encourage everyone to take the medical interpreting program (not required though). Stringent criteria will include a screening (hopefully by November or December). The first time taking the screening will be free. Debra Russell is developing the screening

tool. The desire was to have live scenarios (focusing on medial situations)...but it most likely will be on videotape. Contact the program if you want to be screened. Invoices for medical interpreting done from October onwards should be sent to WIDHH. Assignment forms need to be signed by the doctors. This is to track if doctors are continually making people wait. Maybe this can be expediated somehow. There have been complaints about having to carry around the forms. (too cumbersome). Request to collectively say "no" to the forms. Susan explained that accountability is a big deal with the ministry of health. WE need to be patient for the first couple of months. They would like a WAVLI member to sit on their board (\$50 honorarium per meeting). There are representatives from other communities (Deaf, Deaf-Blind, medical personnel). The screening will set a minimum standard for employing interpreters.

8.6 Meeting Times-Kristy Falconer

Question about whether we can start the meeting at 10am to accommodate those coming from the island. Discussion about this issue.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting(tentative date): Saturday, April 10, 1999. 10am-3pm (with a lunch break)
The executive members will do a phone tree to confirm this.