

# Maine RID Board Meeting Minutes

October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 6:30p-8:30p

Present: Jillian McLaughlin, Lisa Masure, Karla Doucette, Vicki Munro-Ludders, Sarah Hill, Regan Thibodeau, Roseanne Ryerson, Ann Swope, Kelly McCormick

## **General Topics:**

This May there will be 6 members leaving. We need to actively recruit 6 new members who are motivated to join the MaineRID board. Hopefully this spring we will be able to have a 1-2 month overlap between the old members and new members to help make the transition go smoothly. If anyone has any other ideas to help make the transition smoother please speak up.

## **Bylaws:**

There was concern expressed that the proposed amendments to the bylaws meant that all specialty positions (especially Educational Interpreter) were going to be eliminated from the Board. This is not the case. It seems that the wording of the amendment needs to be re-worked to make this clear to everyone. The issue is that the legal/medical specialist title seems to be a title with little action behind it.

It was suggested that maybe a way to remedy this issue is for Roseanne and Ann to switch positions.

It was also reiterated that in order to vote to amend the bylaws at the general meeting November 7<sup>th</sup>, one must be in good standing with both the National RID and Maine RID.

## **New Interpreter Group:**

Sarah and Regan are working on setting up the schedule –bimonthly? **Remember to be aware of Foundations the weekend of November 17<sup>th</sup>.**

Hopefully the schedule will be announced at the workshop/meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

It was suggested that some of the meetings feature a presenter and some be a discussion.

One of the proposed topics is on how to best explain/describe H1N1/regular flu issues/symptoms/treatments.

**Accreditation Team:**

The CTI accreditation team will be coming to USM November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. They will want to interview a few people – perhaps Sarah H, Jillian and Regan.

Betty Colonomos will also be here during that time; it will be a busy week!

**Region I Conference:**

Right now we really need to focus on getting Maine organized before committing to out-of-state things at the moment.

For those who want to attend the Reg I conference, there will be a Deaf/Blind workshop.

The Activity Group will email Esther Lee-Samia at the Linguistics Office regarding booking rooms for upcoming meetings.

**General Meeting/Workshop:**

General Meeting (11am, set-up 10:30am):

- Discussing/voting on the proposed amendments to the bylaws
- Recruiting new members to join the Board in May
- Announce that nominations for the Betsy Reifman Award (Spring 2010) are needed soon.
- Small workshop/activity on how to create and set up a workshop, including how to get it approved for CEUs.

-Attendees will split into groups according to what kind of workshop they would like to see set up (legal, medical, teaming etc.)

-Groups will then work on actually creating a workshop

-Now that the workshops have been created and the preliminary paperwork is done, hopefully people will be willing/able to be involved in making them happen.

Lunch Break: Send out emails (somehow let attendees know) that we would like this meeting/workshop to Be Green – please bring own cutlery, cups and plates. \*Ann will be in charge of this.

Workshop:

-Tax workshop.

Workshop will end around 4:30/5pm.

We have 2 rooms booked in Payson Smith on the USM Portland campus for this day.

### **EIPA Workshop from Boystown:**

Each module of the workshop costs \$1,500 and there is a \$375 fee for each site presenting the workshop (so if module one is offered in Bangor and Portland the charge will be \$375 X 2).

The workshop is made up of 3 parts: 1) the EIPA testing process, 2) classifiers and 3) voicing.

So far 6 people have expressed interest from Portland and Northern Maine areas. Vicki has recently contacted Tracey Frederick to help set this workshop up, as she has been very involved with the EIPA. Hopefully this workshop can be set up in January.

### **Workshop with Cheryl Spera:**

Cheryl is a life coach who also presents workshops. Hopefully this workshop will include role-plays and presenting times for the Deaf public and interpreters to attend. The prospective date for this workshop is April.

### **Betsy Reifman Award (Spring 2010):**

Nominations need to be submitted soon to be processed for the spring.

Lisa will train Roseanne to take over this process.

### **Other Scholarship Issues:**

Karla is working on these. There seem to be problems with people not submitting all the necessary information, and Karla having to chase them down to get it. Lisa suggested adopting a policy similar to that of insurance companies who send back all paperwork with a coversheet stating that the paperwork cannot be processed without *all* information, which also includes a list of the missing items.

It also seems that people (applicants and reviewers) are unclear as to requirements and why things are being submitted to both Karla and Roseanne - article or certificate?

### **Recent Legal Workshop:**

There were many issues this September regarding the Legal Workshop held at the Eastland Hotel here in Portland. It seems that the contract with the hotel was not read carefully before it was signed several years ago. There were also issues with the hotel staff, but the workshop itself was wonderful.

It was suggested that any future workshops not be held at the Eastland Hotel, but at another hotel or even at USM, with attendees from out-of-state billeted out to willing families, which would also allow for ride sharing.

### **Membership Cards:**

New membership/ID cards are in the works. They will also include discounts at local businesses. With any luck the cards will also have pictures of the carrier on them.

The cards will eventually be used to help with the voting process.

Vicki suggested that PATHS might be able to help create the badges/cards – she will check with them.

Lisa is working on contacting local businesses to see if they're interested in supporting/offering discounts to card-carrying MaineRID members.

### **Miscellaneous Topics:**

Jillian is working on the Policy and Procedure Manual.

Topics for future workshops were suggested:

-Facebook etiquette/boundaries; 'friending' consumers, posting about assignments etc.

Creating an anonymous blog to help with 'sticky' situations was also suggested. Maybe this could have a monitor so ensure confidentiality is kept. It could be similar to a 'Dear Abby' format.

The board has an LCD projector now for future use.

If anyone hears people putting down the MaineRID board ("What do they do for us?" "I don't feel any support from them" etc), ask them what they would like to see from the Board, what do they need, any suggestions and if they'd like to be involved to help make these things happen.

Putting pictures/articles in the newspaper (local or interpreting-related?) to educate people about MaineRID and what we do, as well as for recruiting purposes.

Contact Ann Swope if interested in interpreting for No On 1 Campaign volunteers.

**Motions:**

None were made at this meeting.