

**October 5, 2008**  
**Maine RID General Meeting**

Present: Board except Deb Myers, Ann Swope, Joe Weiss, Meryl Troop, Stacey Bsullak, Cid Pollard, Karla Doucette, Cynthia Young, Mauritta Marr, Jennifer Jacobs, Gayle Shaw, Vicki Munrow-ludders, Jane Gammon, Deborah Reynolds, Tracey Frederick, Charles Halligan, Judy Kegl, Kirsta McElfresh

**Licensure:** June 2009 begins degree requirements. Hearing interpreter will be required to have an associate degree or higher. By the year 2012 hearing interpreters will be required Bachelors Degree. Deaf interpreters will be required to get an Associate degrees. Roseanne is LTA. The last PAPER written test for NIC will be given in Dec 2008. After that it will be computerized only. One testing site is Windham HS. You can choose this site thru the RID website when registering for taking the test. Handouts are available by Roseanne but also off the RID website. The last CI/CT performance

**Update on NIC test at USM**

NIC test seems to be up and running without the same serious technical difficulties as before. Judy also stated SHE RECEIVED A BRAND NEW CD AND hopes that all the problems are solved. She has not had a chance to test it yet.

**Vote to membership regarding issues of Licensure:**

Question: Do you think the requirements for Limited Licensing should be increased? Currently the requirements are 100 hours of ASL and 100 hours of interpreting. Passed unanimously.

Question: Licensing currently allows for unlimited number of years once obtaining a "Limited License." Do you feel there should be a cap on the number of years one holds a Limited License before obtaining Certification? Yes, but membership needs more time to come to agreement.

**Member Surveys:**

Reagan presented the results

**Membership Activities**

It is very important that Members get involved. Clarification on Board responsibility regarding workshops: It is not Board members who are responsible for putting on the workshops. It is the members' responsibility. If you are interested in setting up a specific workshop please contact Ann Swope or Stacey and we will go thru the ck list of how to set up a workshop together.

**Ann: How to set up a workshop:** Most importantly is that folks allow three to four months prior to the preferred time to set up the workshop. RID has their own process in

order to allow CEU's so this process should be started way in advance. Flyers also require specific logos and other characteristics in order to satisfy RID requirements. Errors occur when folks send out an advertisement prior to getting approval then later participants may be disappointed to discover that their CEU's would not be recognized by National RID for their necessary hours.

If Maine RID sponsors a workshop that means they are accepting the financial risk. ONE person cannot set up a workshop and advertise it as a Maine RID workshop since our money is actually approved and spent on by the board. It is a voting process that takes time. In the event the Board turns down a workshop request you will be given a reason. The request will first go to Ann or Stacey. They will filter out any issues prior to the Board voting.

Maine RID does not approve INDEPENDENT STUDIES. That is a responsibility of another individual which Ann can send you the paperwork and contact name if you are interested in setting that up yourself.

**Lending Library:** We will be updating the library. That is a work in progress. Anyone who is interested to weed through things please let Jillian know.

**Distance Learning:** We would like to get rural interpreters involved in workshops and trainings.

**Website:** This is also in progress. We will have MEMBERS ONLY place. You can change your contact information. Events will be listed. You will be able to sign up for workshops and pay online instead of the old fashion way of mailing a paper check which we feel may inhibit a few people and keep our participation in workshops low.

**Web site:** We have a volunteer doing the work and this is always a time limiter. But plans are up and running for "new and improved" site.

**Badges:** Common problem when working in public arenas is the confusion of WHO we are and being asked to do others responsibilities. Judy offered her equipment if we pay for materials. This will continue to be a work in progress.

**Betsy:** We would like to Honor Betsy Reifman by setting up a Leadership Award. Members who are involved with the organization and show outstanding leadership skills will be given a workshop award for one year. This is work in progress.

**Vacancies on the Board:** If you are interested in the position or want to know more about it please contact a board member and then you can ask questions and get more information. There is a possibility position that MAY be available should that person move on to a different position within the board.

**Bakeoff/Cookoff:** Please vote on the food.

**Scholarship money and voting process:** Should board member qualify for Scholarship money? Members voted. Clarification was offered about the \$100 yearly stipend for Board member is used toward MaineRID workshop. Scholarship money is a check mailed back to the person after the workshop is complete and the article written for the newsletter. Passed unanimously.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Stacey: National agencies looking for interpreters for local jobs. They do not have knowledge of the area or the interpreters or the clientele. A couple of different national agencies have contacted Maine Interpreters for local work. One of the companies focuses mainly on written translation and spoken language interpreters. The goal for bringing it up is to keep us all aware that we need to have standards for the state and to be sure that we do not accept less from someone outside our state than we expect within our state.

USM is applying for accreditations to be officially labeled an "ITP Program." Expect Ann to contact you for her "information gathering" phase of this application process.

Lois will be given a Life Time Membership award and plaque thanking her for all her years of service.

Wrap up: reminder to vote, suggestions in box, and keep an eye on the web.