Maine RID Board Meeting

Monday May 5th, 2014
6:00-7:40pm

Location: GBSD Tandberg Conference Room & Northern Tandberg Conferencing location.

In Attendance: Maura, Cid, Nick, Kristin, Danielle Albee (Student Rep Candidate), Margaret Haberman (member) *No quorum present for voting, see Addendum.

Meeting Agenda

1. Elections:
   - Bylaws state that elections were supposed to be held in April.
   - “A call for nominations shall be made to the membership no less than 60 days (via electronic and USPS mailings) prior to an election.” -MeRID Bylaws
   - Initial request for nominations will go out by this Friday May 9th (Post & email)
   - Lisa Trainor has shared the ballot template used in last year's board election.
   - Board will shorten nominations period for this election to 2 weeks for nominations submission
   - Nick & Alyssa will contact nominees to see if they're interested.
   - Ballots need to be mailed out with 30 days to submit a vote
   - Must inform election winners within 14 days of the close of voting.
   - Non-Executive Board Members.
   - An announcement for the MeRID general membership meeting at Meryl's Conference (Friday June 27th) should be included with the mailed paper ballots (paper slip flyer/reminder).

2. Student Representative Position:
   - Currently 2 individuals interested, one of them, Danielle Albee attended this meeting.
   - In choosing the student rep should MeRID Membership, MeRID Board or USM decide?
     - Will follow-up with this discussion via board email vote.
   - How do we solicit nominees from USM?
   - Should not be the ASL Club President, no consistent president in charge of the ASL Club and too much additional responsibility for them.
   - Nick would like to make a motion to change the Student Rep position into a yearly turn-over position. Will follow up with other board members via email vote.
   - Term Idea: Vote for student rep could happen in spring (May), the term could start in Fall at the beginning of the new school year (September).
   - Possible role: to solicit interested candidates to replace student rep at the end of their one year term; students who will be continuing on for at least another year and who express interest.
   - Application Process Idea: Student could write two essay questions regarding their interest in the Student Rep position on the MeRID Board.
     - Maura will follow-up with other board members about this via email.
   - Need to determine a date for applications to be due, and decision for the board.
     - Possibly applications due one week before the June board meeting.
   - We need the Student Rep role to be more defined, current Bylaws are vague about this.
     - Act as a Liason between local ITP (USM) and the MeRID Board.
     - What can the student bring to the board?
     - Fundraising Experience? Ideas?
- Will follow up with board via email about a vote to get a quorum for executive board to pick a Student rep.

3. **State Licensure for Interpreters:**
   - Conrad Strack and PEP NET have shifted their focus to another topic and have since abandoned the idea to pursue changes to the licensure laws.
   - Currently, no group/organization has taken the leading role on enhancing the Maine laws.
   - Board meeting in Bangor seemed to show a lot of support for making changes to the licensure laws to enhance them.
   - Can establish sub-committees (north & south?) to discuss how to reach out the the state of Maine to find out their views on licensure laws.
   - Susan has expressed interest in being involved or leading a sub-committee to manage this.
   - Need to identify state-wide stakeholders and get an idea of their views & perspectives.
   - Need to figure out the timeline for bill submissions for the state of Maine.
   - Will need statistics and information regarding statewide support for law changes.
   - MeRID could lead an online Poll to get an idea of state-wide perspective on this topic.
     - This duty can be given to a sub-committee, Susan will head the sub-committee.
   - Background of current law (Margaret Haberman):
     - Current laws were a compromise between Maine stakeholders and hospitals because some powerful stakeholders did not want to limit the pool of statewide interpreters.

4. **MeRID General Meeting:**
   - Date & Location: June 27th @ Meryl's Conference?
     - Maura will confirm with Meryl Troop.
   - Date Change? If need be? July 21st? Used for board turn over transition meeting.
   - August Meeting canceled? Can determine at a future board meeting.
   - Next Meeting Date: Monday June 2nd 6:00-8:00pm.
   - USM graduates have received a free one year MeRID membership in the past.
     - Not an official policy yet, Will need a board vote to approve.
       - Maura will follow up with other board members via email vote.

5. **Brenda Cartwright Bangor Workshop Wrap-Up:** (Margaret Haberman)
   - Overall good workshop & positive feedback.
   - Some members felt it was identical to the Sorenson sponsored workshop in Portland @ USM.
   - Communication about interpreting services should be improved: Volunteers or Paid?
   - Finances: Either broken even, or profited. Can follow up with Sarah Littlefield about numbers.
   - Interpreters for future MeRID sponsored workshops may benefit from establishing a flexible policy regarding cancelation fees.
     - Goal: to allow for Deaf community members to sign up for the workshop in advanced or at the door without limiting their ability to do so.
   - Board should plan around interpreting needs for the workshop and develop a way to compensate them.
     - Stipend? Hourly? From workshop profits?
6. **MeRID Bylaws:**
   - Not approved by national RID. Should consider submitting them to the national office.
   - Unsure if a Deaf MAL is a necessary position since a qualified Deaf interpreter/member can be hold any position on the board.
     - Possibly added during the last (unapproved) revision of the bylaws by the previous board.

7. **RID Region 1 Conference:**
   - Conference is still happening regardless of difficulties and delays.
   - Maura has emailed conference chair(s) to express interest in Hospitality, no response.
   - MeRID is uncertain whether or not to be involved due to the current disorganization.

8. **Maine Center on Deafness Request:**
   - MCD Board wants Facundo Element to come to Meryl's Conference to host workshop series.
   - MCD is requesting funds from MeRID to support the workshop.
   - No financial breakdown given to MeRID as of yet from MCD board.
     - Contribution is due on May 15th.
   - Possible Motion: $200/$250 donation, will discuss with other board members via email vote.

**Meeting Adjourned**

7:40pm

* **Addendum:** No quorum in attendance. Voting on the following issues took place via email quorum.

  #1 TLC request  
  #2 Building the Comunidad October weekend  
  #3 CDI course sponsorship  
  #4 Deaf Culture Festival Sponsorship  
  #5 Be the change award- I need suggestions  
  #6 Donation to 2014 Region 1 Conference.

**Discussions for Next Time (parking lot):**

- Professional Development/Workshops:
  
  * Presenters: SAW (Shane Westmoreland), David Evans?  

  Betty Colonomos: Foundations I & II? III & IV?

- Board Retreat - sub committee to discuss options and make proposal

- Agency Education on CDIs (Susan)

- Work group for standard practice paper/ workshop/ education for interpreters working with outside agencies (VRI/ National spoken language companies) (Lisa)

- Time keeper - discussion lasting more than 15-20 min lead to motion or sub committee? (Alyssa)
- Social media chair, perhaps this falls into place if when we decided to do something with the website - to be lumped in with the website subcommittee (Alyssa)

- Do we have a professional development chair? (Alyssa)

- Policy and Procedure Manual - sub committee to update information and share with Board/ Membership. (Maura)

Minutes By: Nick Dionne