

# Maine RID Board Meeting

Monday September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014

6:25-8:00pm

Location: GBSD Tandberg Conference Room.

In Attendance: Maura, Cid, Fred, Ann, Alyssa, Sarah, Nick, Polly, Dan & Anna (via Face Time).

Absent: Margaret

## Meeting Agenda

1. Region 1 Conference (post-update):
  - 2 USM students were involved as support staff, plus Nick (Good Maine representation).
  - 4-5 MeRID Members, more attendance encouraged from Maine to Regional Conferences.
  - Lot of talk about CDIs and how we could/should promote more work for them.
  - Hot topic (annually): Language Access, goal is to make conferences totally ASL friendly
  
2. Region 1 Rep Request: Top 2 challenges in each state...
  - National Certification standards (pass/fail rate is way off, roughly at 70% fail, 30% pass)
  - National Office staff don't seem to reply to emails, calls, etc. in a timely manner or at all.
  - Complaints from each region (including Region 1 Conference)
    - about lack of signing staff at national office; want to improve this.
  - List of other region's challenges, to follow: Maura will email Nick.
  - Minimum standards for Licensure, should they change? Increase the requirements?
  - National certification is already difficult and unattainable for many new and/or pre-certified interpreters, May be easier to focus on local licensure instead for now.
  - Should Maine implement some kind of State Screening?
  - Skill level should be more strictly enforced and screened on an agency-by-agency basis.
  - Interpreters and Deaf community members have a responsibility to speak up when an interpreter is unqualified / unskilled / unprofessional.
    - Additionally, we don't want to offend our team if the CPC says "respect for colleagues". Sticky situation that perpetuates "not my place to..."
  - Could offer a community forum as an outlet for discussion on interpreting standards,
    - Perhaps a joined meeting with MAD & MeRID.
  
3. Workshops:
  - Anna Perna has submitted the CEU paperwork to Cid for approval to host her "Evaluating Our Work as Educational Interpreters" & "Language Sharing: ASL & English" meetings.
    - \* Anna has allowed MeRID to use her format to host group meetings in Southern Maine.
  - Ann Swope can host group meetings in Southern Maine on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month.
    - CEU submission needs to be sent ASAP.
  - Group meeting topics need to be set in advanced for enough time to plan and promote.
  - When Deaf community members attend language access will convert fully to ASL.
  - MeRID could charge a nominal fee for attending these groups and offer member discounts.
  - If Tanberg conference system can get up and running, could connect all regions of Maine.

4. Betty Colonomos – Foundations:
  - Still on hiatus. No set dates for when she'll be here for Foundations.
  - Judy Shepard-Kegl tends to arrange an annual Foundations Series weekend.
  - MeRID could offer to help with the planning and hosting to lessen Judy's work load.
  
5. David Evans Workshop Weekend:
  - ETNA Weekends: 1/29-2/1, 3/26-3/29, 5/14-5/17, 6/25-6/28
  - Goal: To coincide with a weekend before/after ETNA to save on presenter travel costs.
  - Nick will get in touch with David about choosing a specific weekend.
  
6. Student & Educational Rep Positions:
  - **MOTION: Alyssa motions to instate Anna Perna as the Educational Rep.** Polly seconds, 6 in favor, 2 absentees. **MOTION PASSES.**
  - **MOTION: Sarah motions to instate Danielle Albee as the Student Rep.** Ann seconds, 6 in favor, 2 absentees. **MOTION PASSES.**
  
7. Donation Request from Boston University:
  - Boston University (BU) is requesting a donation for their “Building Your Comunidad I.Q.”
  - GBSD is struggling financially, in lieu, MeRID abstains from donating to BU at this time.
  - MeRID wants to thank GBSD for allowing us to use the Tanberg Conference room.
    - How? (brought to the parking lot)
  
8. Membership Secretary update: 79 total members.
  
9. Maine Deaf Culture Festival
  - Table reserved for MeRID.
  - Nick will “man” the table for most of the festival, with the exception of conflicting time slots.
  - Alison Jacoby, Meryl Troop, & Margaret have volunteered to man the table when needed.
  - Leftover “Interpret Maine” water bottles & T-shirts will be sold at the table.
  - Membership registration/renewal forms will be available for members on site.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:02 pm**

**Minutes By: Nick Dionne**

**Parking Lot (Discussions for next time) :**

- How to thank GBSD for allowing MeRID Board to use their facility and technology free?
- Professional Development/Workshops:
  - \* Presenters: David Evans Weekend, SAW (Shane Westmoreland)  
Betty Colonomos: Foundations I & II? III & IV?
- Do we have a professional development chair? (Alyssa)
- Policy and Procedure Manual - sub committee to update information and share with Board/ Membership. (Maura)
  - break into two groups - 30 minutes on Bylaws and Minutes. Switch, 30 minutes more.
  - Report back- need more time/ work?
  - The problem of pre-certified- do we want to change the bylaws to allow pre-certified to be on the Board?
- Attaining a statewide connection using the Tanberg Conference system.
- More discussion for the ongoing dialogue groups.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:02pm**

**Minutes By: Nick Dionne**