Maine RID Board Meeting
Monday September 8th, 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 3rd 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:
   - 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 Communidad 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