



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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MINUTES

Standing Committee on Communication Access Meeting

Location: Kamamalu Building
1010 Richards St., Room 118
Honolulu, HI 96813

Date: September 7, 2017
Time: 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Ed Chevy, Nikki Kepoo, Board Members; Francine Wai, Kirby Shaw, Colin Whited, Peggy Liang, Staff

ABSENT: Misella Tomita, Chairperson

SIGN LANGUAGE

INTERPRETERS: Sarah Comerford, Michele Morris

GUESTS: Mala Arkin, Heather Benjamin

I. Call to Order

Board Member Ed Chevy called the meeting to order at 11:11 a.m.

II. Introductions

The attendees introduced themselves.

III. Approval of August 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The Committee approved the August 1, 2017 minutes (M/S/P Chevy/Kepoo).

NOTE: The minutes were written in the order the items were shown on the agenda, not as they were discussed at the meeting.

IV. Old Business

A. Hawaii Quality Assurance System – Update

Staff reported that there are currently 31 interpreters enrolled in the HQAS Continuing Education Program. Four (4) interpreters possess a current HQAS credential, but are not enrolled in the CEP program. Staff also reported that DCAB is still awaiting the results on one test.

B. HQAS Continuing Education Unit Workshops

It was announced that DCAB is co-sponsoring CEU workshops hosted by the Hawaii Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (HRID). These workshops will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 15 – 16, 2017 at Kapiolani Community College. The Friday (9/15) workshop – “Technology for Interpreters” – is being held from 6-9 p.m. The Saturday (9/16) workshops – “Social Media and Ethics” and “Vicarious Trauma and Burnout” – are being held from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. All workshops will be in Leahi Room 104. Currently, 20 individuals have signed up to attend the workshops.

C. Amend Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 218, “Communication Access Services for Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind” – Continued Discussion

Staff distributed two handouts: A “clean format” (without Ramseyer) of Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 218, “Communication Access Services for Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind,” and a summary of the overall proposed concept for HQAS and state credential changes in the administrative rules.

There were questions from guests revolving around the name used to describe the three different credential levels issued by HQAS. It was indicated that when arranging the levels from highest to lowest, using ascending numeric order (1, 2, 3) would be more confusing than using descending numeric order (3, 2, 1). Staff commented that nothing has been made final, and that this issue will continue to be discussed.

Additional questions from guests centered on the parity of HQAS credentials, and whether DCAB could realistically issue an HQAS credential to an interpreter who possesses a credential from another jurisdiction. It was mentioned that for interpreters possessing a credential from another jurisdiction, the need for parity arises because the DCAB Recommended Fee Schedule for Interpreters impacts job placement and pay rates. After further discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: DCAB shall establish a provisional category for interpreters with credentials from other jurisdictions, provided that the credential is current and issued within the past two years. This provisional credential will be valid for only one (1) calendar year (M/S/P Chevy/Kepoo).

- Staff will provide new language in the next draft.

D. Senate Concurrent Resolution 32 Working Group

Staff announced that the Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 32 Working Group, tasked with examining the need for regulation of sign language interpreters and sign language interpreter referral agencies, will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, September 12. There was no money given with SCR 32, which made the scope of the resolution too large given the limited timeframe and staffing (or lack of it). The group will focus on identifying concerns or problems that the community has encountered relating to the provision of interpreter services. Toward the end of December, an

informational meeting will be held at the Legislature to discuss the progress of the Group.

Staff added that if anyone wishes to be a part of the SCR 32 Working Group mailing list, they should contact DCAB Program Support Technician Kamaile Hopfe at (808) 586-8121 or kamaile.hopfe@doh.hawaii.gov.

E. Communication Access Fact Sheets

DCAB Practicum Student Peggy Liang provided an overview of the various fact sheets she has been developing as part of her projects. She also provided updates on the vlog versions of the fact sheets being developed for the community. Per feedback from the previous CAC meeting, she distributed copies of a fact sheet on persons who are Deafblind, which was obtained from the Hawaii and Pacific Deaf-Blind Project.

V. New Business

A. Legislation on Open Captioning and Audio Descriptions at Movie Theaters

Staff announced that DCAB has finalized the proposed bill and justification sheet for open captioning (OC) at movie theaters. Three major changes made are: (1) eliminating the sunset date for the bill; (2) increasing the number of OC showings to 2 per week; and (3) removing language allowing "lightweight eyewear" as a substitute to OC showings. The bill is currently being reviewed/edited by other Departments before submission to the Governor.

VI. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at 1010 Richards Street (Kamamalu Building) in Room 118.

VII. Announcements

There were no announcements.

VIII. Open Forum:

There were no comments from the public.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

NOTE: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,



COLIN M. WHITED