

**Interpreters with Deaf Parents
Member Section Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2010 - 8:00 - 9:15pm**

In attendance: Chair: Laurie Nash, NY, Treasurer: Leo Yates, Jr., MD, Secretary: Karen Lefebvre, NY. Regional Reps: Region I: Amy Williamson-Loga & Thomas Walker, Region II: Susan Leitson, Region III: Lloyd Stout & Sue Nace, Region IV: Janie Powell

Prior to the IDP Council Meeting, Laurie disseminated copies of the Agenda along with Conference call information.

Council Reports

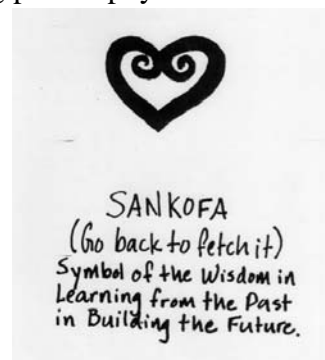
Chair:

Laurie opened the meeting asking IDP Council members to share with the group the other “hats” they wear related to RID or the field of Interpreting. For example, LaVona Andrew, Region V Rep. shared with Laurie prior to the meeting that she is President of Idaho RID, Co-chair of the Interpreting Committee for the Region V Conference and sits on the board of the Deaf Center of Idaho. In addition, to chairing the IDP Member Section, Laurie is also President of Long Island RID. Several of our IDP Council members serve on their regional conference planning committees or do work for their local chapter. Others are presenters and educators. The purpose for this sharing was to get a sense of where there is involvement (input) from CODAs within the professional organization. Laurie shared her passion, as chair of IDP, to see IDP representation on various RID, Inc. committees to include regional, state and local arenas. A recent look at the make-up of the RID Diversity committee, for example, did not confirm any members who are of Deaf parentage. There are, however, members from other Member Sections serving on that Committee (ITOC and Be LEGIT). Laurie expressed that she would like to find out where IDP members may be involved ~ what committees are they serving on? Where is their influence in setting policy, protocol and trends in our field? Do we want to “go there”? The profession was established on the backs of “home grown” interpreters and it seems that WE (CODA interpreters) have less and less impact on the direction of OUR field.

Laurie shared with the group how Deaf members of RID were ultimately able to create a seat on the RID Board of Directors – “Deaf Member-at-Large”. Should a “seat” be designated for someone of Deaf parentage? What do we bring that others may not? Leo suggested that, if we are to pursue a “designated seat” on the RID Board, we develop a solid rationale to support such a movement (why do we need representation? What value do we offer?). The bottom line is, anyone can be considered for a position on the board (national, local, and regional) as well as national committees. Interpreters with Deaf parents are not specifically sought after to serve on committees simply because they are of Deaf parents. Identification of current committee members, task force members, etc. of RID who are of Deaf parentage would be important to know.

Laurie attended a workshop by Dennis Cokely who shared the following philosophy and seems applicable and appropriate for our members:

Sankofa can mean either the word in the [Akan](#) language of Ghana translates in English to "go back and take" (Sanko- go back, fa- take) or the [Asante Adinkra symbol](#). It is often associated with the proverb, "Se wo fi na wosank ofa a yenkyi," which translates: "It is not wrong to go back for that which you have forgotten."¹¹



Treasurer:

Leo Yates Jr. reported the national office is slow in responding to his request for copies of checks from individuals who have donated or new members of IDP. He allows a two week turn around time. His goal is to receive the list of the names, addresses and amounts.

Member Services Department, Ryan Butts indicated to Leo, in order to receive this list, the requests must go through Matthew O'Hara, Director of Finance and Administration. Because of the difficulty in getting national to send us these items, Susan Leitson, Region II Rep., who occasionally works at the national office volunteered to make contact. Leo will send Susan the e-mail contact notes in order to brief Susan prior to her visit to the national office. Amy Williamson-Loga, Reg. I Rep. will telephone as well in order to assist in the process.

During the council discussion of IDP representation becoming more visible and why a CODA be represented on the RID Board, Leo suggested we develop a solid rationale for this goal.

Another point Leo mentioned was developing a template of possible workshop topics that can be used (& tweaked) by those representing IDP at various conferences. Workshops offered with educational objectives in order to earn CEUs would be good.

Leo's final point was the deadlines for an IDP workshop/meeting proposal at various conferences is looming and proposal should be sent now.

Secretary:

Karen Lefebvre sent an e-mail request for the IDP membership list to national office, Ryan Butts, Members Services Department, per our last Council Board meeting. Upon receipt of the names and addresses of the IDP RID members, the secretary then sent it to the Chair.

Presently, Karen is working on using the RID, Inc. IDP membership list of names and addresses of 440 individuals to clarify the Google IDP membership list. Laurie wishes to identify the RID, Inc. members who are on the IDP Google list. Sue Nace has categorized the RID, Inc. IDP list according to Regions. This will be very helpful to IDP Reps. when they wish to contact their membership.

RID National Office Updates/Information

- **Contracts:** Member sections are not allowed to enter into any binding contracts. The National Office may do this on behalf of Member Sections (Ryan Butts, Director of Member Services).
- **Correspondence:** The chair sent a letter in January to Ryan Butts, Director of Members Services w/cc to Cheryl Moose and Lewis Merkin regarding the issues of not receiving financial statements and lists of new members and the names of individuals along with their donations for recognition of their contribution and a welcome from our members section.

Regional Report and Conference Updates:**Region I:**

Amy spoke on the upcoming Region I Pre-Conference workshop sponsored by IDP being held in Albany, NY on August 12 & 13th. Amy has sent out a 'Save The Date' for this event of Betty Colonomos presenting a 10 hour 'Teaming' workshop. Registrations are limited to 50 individuals.

Sign Language Resources contributed a donation of \$250.00 for this event. Vermont RID, Inc. is sponsoring the ceus for this workshop.

The Region I Conference program scheduled, Sunday morning, August 15th, for IDP member section with a two-hour block of time led by Molly Wilson leading a forum discussion. Molly, a CODA, has developed a wonderful workshop 'Beyond Hearing and Audism', how this is intellectually internalized, living oppression and how Audism plays out in our interpreting field'.

Region II:

Susan Leitson has sent e-mail contact out to Anne Tomlinson, of the Region II Program committee regarding putting together something for IDP. Susan has not had a reply but is sending out another email. She noted according to the form, they are past the due date for submission. Susan and Leo are looking for ideas, talking points and a social at the upcoming conference. Angie has offered to attend the conference and wants to be involved that's great News! Susan and Leo will be in touch with her. They appreciate all the help they can get. The conference will be held in Chattanooga, Tn., July 29-August 1st.

Region III:

Lloyd Stout will be in attendance at the upcoming Region III conference in Minnesota on July 21-24. Susan will be heading out to the CODA conference being held at the same time. Lloyd discussed the possibility of a forum at this event for IDP. He was looking for the 'Hot Topic', Experiences with Non-CODAs or Talking points for this meeting.

Sue Nace will be heading out in May to the Ohio state conference, May 14-16 to show an IDP presence there. Ben Hall will be presenting a three hour workshop at this event. Sue also sent out a 'Survey Monkey' to the IDP members in her region and received 85 responses thus far. Sue sent the Survey Monkey to Laurie which can be adapted and used by the other regional reps to make contact with CODAs. Also, sent along to the Council a copy of the IDP Members list set up by Region

Sue also suggested IDP have a link to the state RID, Inc. web sites for visibility.

Region IV:

Janie Powell reported the new Regional Rep is Chris Grooms from Texas and they bid farewell to Amy Seiberlich. The Regional Conference will be in Omaha, Nebraska, August 5-8th. Plans are underway to do IDP outreach at this event. The Committee for the conference has sent a 'Call Out' for presenters. One of the suggestions was to have a "Sit Around and Lets Discuss It' table for IDP.

Region V:

LaVona Andrew reported they requested a one to two hour block of time (commensurate with other member section meetings) during the upcoming Regional Conference. To date, it has not yet been formalized for time and day. The conference will be held in June 16-20th in Salt Lake. The Conference Interpreting Committee is headed up by Debbie Petersen and LaVona Andrew, members of IDP. She is looking for topics, 'Speaking Points' for this forum.

Publicity

- It was suggested IDP place ads in Program Books of upcoming conferences with notes or comments regarding what IDP can offer and to include the logo, etc.
- The council concurred with placing an ad in the NAOBI program booklet of their Biennial Professional Development Conference in Phoenix, AZ on June 24-27.
- It was suggested, IDP, send articles for the 'On-line Views' newsletter for outreach.

Alternative Pathways to Certification

- Laurie reminded the council on Trudy Schaefer's offer to mentor individuals looking into meeting the qualifications under 'Alternative Pathways' to certification. Again, Laurie expressed that Trudy's reasonable required donation to IDP of \$25.00 for this guidance will provide an investment for these people. The chair will post an "advertisement" for Trudy's offering through Google.

Miscellaneous

The Survey Monkey was sent and the next IDP Council conference call will occur on Tuesday, May 11th at 8:00 EST. An agenda and call information will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lefebvre, IDP Secretary
March 25, 2010