

Interpreters with Deaf Parents
Member Section Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2009
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

In attendance: Debbie Hartman, Kelly Decker, David Evans, Darlene Ensenat, Billy Collins, Marian Lage, Rebecca Kindblade, Amy Williamson-Loga, Janie Powell, Holly Miles, Thomas Walker, Heidi Zoldowski, Helsa Borinstein, Dan Fisher, Sue Nace, Ashely Ryan, Angie Nielson, Sunny L. Heller-Browne, Lillian Beard, Bill Moody (with Lillian Beard), Diana Friesen, Roy McCrory, Sarah Yates, Leo Yates, Jr., Susan Leitson, Pam Snedigar, Beverly Burton, Julie Bertsch, Sally Guajardo, Lloyd Stout, Jenny Blake, Claire Childress, Betty Colonomos, Christine Adzema, Cathy Boardman, Su Isakson, Lewis Merkin, Mariann Jacobson, Judy Ingram, Deborah Gunter, LaVona Andrew, Alan Champion, Trudy Schafer, Jan Harwick, Chasity Quiles, Karen Dishno, Laurie Nash

- Laurie Nash opened the meeting welcoming all who came including Ms. Lillian Bearc whom we were delighted to have with us. Introductions were not done for the sake of time
- Admittedly, the time assigned for the IDP Member Section meeting was not ideal. Laurie shared that requests were made to move the time (especially since the initial request for time and space was that the meeting be concurrent with other MS meetings and not conflict with workshops). Laurie shared that there were roadblocks and difficulty with planning IDP events this year (e.g. the room assigned for "Bring Back the Old Signs" was restrictive).
- Laurie thanked the sponsors of "Bring Back the Old Signs" (Sorenson Communications) and "IDP/Deaf Caucus Community Forum: What's Our IQ (Impact Quotient)"? (Kemi Productions, GURC, NYC Metro RID, LIRID, IDP, Deaf Caucus, DHIS and Sign Language Resources).
- Laurie thanked the outgoing Regional Reps of IDP (Laura Jones Hartness, Trudy Schafer, Simon Martinez, Holly Miles, Ann Topliff and BJ Thrash)
- Laurie thanked the following people:
 - Kelly Lee Decker - for consolidating our various IDP membership lists
 - Leo Yates - for serving as Webmaster of our IDP website and Google Group coordinator
 - Laura Jones Hartness for her work with registration for the IDP Pre-Conference
 - Keith Wann - for his energy, support and generosity
 - Ron O'Bray - for his generous contribution to keep our website up and running
- Lewis Merkin shared that he has been voted in as the Deaf Member-at-Large of the RID Board. He suggested that RID consider having a CODA "member-at-large" position on the board.
- Laurie presented the existing names of candidates for IDP Council members for the 2009-2011 term as well as solicited candidates from the attending membership and asked for membership approval of the following slate (slate approved):
 - Chair - Laurie Nash, NY
 - Vice Chair - Holly Miles, FL

- Treasurer - Leo Yates, Jr., DC Area
- Secretary - Karen Lefebvre, NY (upstate)
- Region Reps:
 - Region I Amy Williamson-Loga, VT and Thomas Walker, PA
 - Region II Susan Leitson, VA and Angie Nielson, GA
 - Region III Lloyd Stout, IN and Sue Nace, OH
 - Region IV Janie Powell, LA and Judy Ingram, OK
 - Region V LaVona Andrew, ID and Lynne Shields, ID
- Laurie shared that council position descriptions will be shared with new council members and regular conference calls will be held. Additionally, Regional Representatives are responsible for planning and hosting IDP Member Section forums/workshop at their respective RID Regional Conference.
- **Issues/Comments from IDP Membership in attendance:**
 - Betty Colonomos - suggested that IDP come up with a way to approach RID with ideas for a more culturally diverse and sensitive way to conduct the organization's business (example from RID Business Meeting of this morning). IDP should develop a position paper and submit to RID on a variety of issues (conference planning, voting, etc.) and encouraging a bicultural/bilingual approach to such. Does IDP want to take this on? Majority of hands support this endeavor.
 - **Diversity and Outreach** - Helsa Borinstein - pointed to the lack of diversity in the IDP section meeting/membership. We need to draw a more diverse group from the membership. Suggestion was made to contact other Deaf and Interpreting organizations (NAOBI, NAD, etc.) and establishing an IDP section within each organization. This idea was presented as a motion and approved by membership. It will be an action item for the IDP Council to discuss at the first conference call of the term. **Ashley Ryan** offered to work towards this goal and contact a variety of organizations on behalf of IDP.
 - Member comment was made about "...remembering our roots" when becoming involved at the RID level.
 - Karen Dishno from Wisconsin shared that a CODA presence is needed at NAD. Karen has served for a number of years on the NAD board and has tried to urge a closer relationship between NAD and CODAs. Holly Miles and Lewis Merkin shared with members that Nancy Bloch, Executive Director of NAD, was present at the IDP/DC Community Forum. There is an effort to make a stronger connection between NAD and CODA/IDP
 - Laurie shared that we need to remember that CODA and IDP are distinct organizations. Respectfully, CODA members are not all interpreters as are IDP members. IDP is a member section of RID and, as such, open to anyone who is a member of RID (do not need to be MFD to be member of IDP).
 - Billy Collins, TX, stated that the Texas Association of the Deaf (TAD) includes CODAs at their conferences (hearing and Deaf CODAs). They

had a CODA panel and the Deaf LOVED it and wanted more. It was TAD's most popular workshop.

- Laurie Nash shared with members her recollection of a CIT motion several years ago that addressed the issue of native signers in the ITP classroom. Pam Snedigar shared with members her understanding of the status of that issue - seems CIT reached out to CODA and invited president (who lives in Australia) to meeting. Issue seems to have faded. There has been a history of misunderstandings with the CIT board and inaction on CIT commitments. IDP may consider reaching out to CIT to revitalize this issue and offer support/expertise. Pam shared that IDP and CODA need to work together to begin that work
- **Alternative Pathways to Certification** - several members shared comments on this issue. Marian Lage, MI, mentioned how important to CODA's the issue of alternative pathways to certification is. Betty Colonomos and Trudy Schafer will review the proposal from RID regarding the alternative pathways to certification and will develop a position paper for IDP consideration.
- **Best Practices** - why do CODA interpreters tend to "hide" their best practices in handling cross-cultural mishaps (especially in VRS work). Seems what we do as an inherent approach to resolution may be perceived as "against the grain". Rather than conceal what we do naturally and effectively, how can we influence the profession in a way that these inherent practices may become deliberate practices in our field?
- **Lillian Beard** - we were fortunate to have Lillian join our IDP Member Section meeting. She was especially interested in observing our meeting and took some time at the end to answer questions and share stories.

Summary compiled by Susan Leitson, Kelly Lee Decker and Laurie Nash