

**Indiana Association of the Deaf - Biennial Conference Day 2  
(April 10th, 2021) Hosted via Zoom, Live Streamed via Facebook Live**

**Attendance:** All board members (President Charleen Sculley, Vice-President Gary Olsen, Secretary Beth Pickering, Treasurer Brett Mellon, and Members-at-Large Barb Gantt, Natalie Hendrix-Evans, Candice Lisenby, Danny Lucero, and Janis Tester) were present. Parliamentary Mary Dall was also present. A total of 31 IAD members were present via Zoom.

**Minutes:**

Per April 2019 conference General meeting minutes, there were some missing documents with some motions. Previous secretary Janis Tester stated there were 19 motions but only 7 of them were documented.

Susan Hocker (Andy Leffler) moved to approve the 2019 biennial conference minutes as corrected. Motion was carried

**Financial Reports:**

Brett Mellon corrected the information from members' feedback the previous night and the information was posted on IAD website. Steven Stultz expressed concerns that there is no liability insurance policy on IAD and its board and general members. Steven Stultz emphasized the importance of getting liability insurance in case of any legal actions taken against IAD board members. Brett Mellon will continue searching for the right insurance company for IAD.

Steven Stultz suggested the new IAD board work together to develop a budget plan for the next two years.

Barb Gantt (Susan Hocker) moved to accept the 2019-2020 IAD financial reports. Motion was carried.

**Committee Reports:**

*Youth Program – Natalie Hendrix-Evans*

I was able to successfully partner with and include Indiana School for the Deaf Jr. NAD for 2 events in 2019 at the Deaf club. I also attended the leadership conference hosted by NAD in October 2019 and went to six workshops which applied to the youth. After that conference, I was able to create a social media planning sheet, but we have not yet used that. I reached out to NAD for more information on starting a state Jr NAD so that mainstream Deaf students can have that option. Lindsay Darnall Jr. has had success in another state with this type of group. I would like to try and get ISD Jr NAD to join the meetings with the board so they can see how we run things, and we did try one time but that fell through for some reason. I also reached out to a few individuals to consider running for the Youth Ambassador Program but to no avail but that fell through too due to Covid 19.

## *Fundraise Committee – Barb Gantt and Janis Tester*

Barb Gantt and Janis Tester reached out to Marcela Matovcikova for fundraising with IAD candles. For the past year, the Deaf community had minimal networks due to COVID-19. Now, we believe it's time to reconvene to find ways to solve some of our financial issues. We believe if we join together and become united, it will benefit our local Deaf communities.

## *Legislative Committee – Holly Elkins*

### **Public TV CC Bill**

- HB 1261 passed in the House's Commerce, Small Business, and Economic Development committee; HB 1261 failed at the House of Representatives floor; therefore, the bill has died. The committee members has a meeting scheduled on April 13 with the Indianapolis mayor's disability office staff to explore public captioning options at the local and county level

### **Captioning Campaign**

- Confirmed funds totaling approximately \$3,500 were received from allied partners:
  - LUNA Language Services (\$1,000)
  - Indiana Relay (\$500)
  - Sorenson (\$500)
  - Hear Indiana (\$500)
  - ICRID (\$500)
  - ISDAA (\$500)
  - HLAA (\$100)
- Tentative plan to shoot captioning video campaign in late Spring

### **Parents with Disabilities Act:**

- Call to action ASL video on SB 259, narrated by Jay Krieger, was posted on IAD's Facebook page and IDN500 newsletter on February 17, 2021
- Holly Elkins provided in-person testimony on March 18, 2021 in support of SB 259 before the House's Family, Children, and Human Services committee alongside with other disability organization representatives
  - IAD letter was sent to the committee members urging them to vote in favor of SB 259
  - Holly Elkins provided an update via ASL vlog through IAD's Facebook page and IDN500 newsletter

### **Interpreter Bill**

- The committee held its first meeting of 2021 on March 9, 2021
- Committee members: Holly Elkins, Jay Krieger, Roger Kraft, Billy Schwall, and Lena Van Manen· Will meet on a monthly basis throughout 2021 to prepare for the next legislative cycle

## **Indiana Disability Rights**

- IDR and IAD has partnered to collect direct feedback and input from members of the Deaf and hard of hearing communities in Indiana to assist the IDR commission members in developing their Priorities & Objectives plan
- First time in IDR's history to solicit feedback directly from the disability and Deaf community instead from the commission board members
- IAD convened four separate listening and learning sessions during the month of March to early April.
  - A written summary of recommendations from IAD will be provided to IDR by April 9, 2021 · IDR commission board members will review all of the feedback from various disability groups during this Summer . The P&O plan will be in place for a three-year cycle in which IDR staff will be directed to carry out those objectives.
  - P&O action items will be effective on October 1, 2021 with expected completion date at the end of September in 2024

## **Old Business:**

No old business was made at the conference.

## **New Business:**

Janis Tester (Barb Gantt) moved to have an assistant for the IAD secretary assistant if needed for future conferences. **Carried**

Steven Stultz (Danny Lucero) moved to have the IAD secretary type the biennial conference minutes and send them to members who registered within 30 days after the conference to add and review as needed, but not finalized until the next biennial conference. **Carried**

## **Nominations for Board of Directors:**

IAD Nomination Chairperson Valeria Vaughn opened the nominations. Voting was done by electronic polling:

Beth Pickering-Yaste was voted as IAD President

Candice Lisenby was voted as IAD Vice-President

Donald Brooks was voted as IAD Secretary

Brett Mellon was voted as IAD Treasurer

Natalie Hendrix-Evans, Danny Lucero, and Gary Olsen were voted as Members-at-Large

## **Awards:**

President Award: President Charleen Sculley made a recognition of the certification of appreciation:

- 2021 IAD Conference Chair Greg Gantt for his hard work during the conference.
- technical team, Jennifer Friede, Bradley Gantt, and Ryan, and Mary Dall.

President Charleen Sculley also wanted to thank the following people for their work:

- Holly Elkins for legislative. She went beyond her effort into legislative committing to succeeding within the legislative for the Indiana Deaf community.
- David Geeslin for bylaws chair. The bylaws committee led a wonderful effort into changes and Charleen Sculley was inspired by the teamwork.
- Valeria Vaughn for being the nomination chairperson as she made a wonderful effort and her hard work succeeded.
- Various sponsors. Everybody Counts (Teresa Torres for donating money for the conference as it paid for equipment needed), Relay Indiana, Sorenson Communication, and Indiana School for the Deaf.
- Language Translation Center (LTC) for allowing IAD to host the virtual conference due to the significant amount of room for everyone to use practicing social distance.

Greg Gantt thanked those for attending the virtual conference and hoped to see everyone in 2023.

Newly elected President Beth Pickering-Yaste and newly elected Vice-President Candice Lisenby closed the conference with the signature slogan “We unite, we learn together, we educate together!”

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Brooks  
*IAD Secretary*

