

General Business Meeting  
Michigan Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf  
Fall Conference  
November 14, 2015  
Max Colley Performing Arts Center  
4451 Hunsberger Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI

In adherence to the Bylaws which state:

Article IV. Section 5. A quorum for a business meeting shall consist of a majority of the dual status members registered to attend the workshop in conjunction with the general business meeting.

Quorum was not met. Thirteen Dual members were required and only 11 Dual members were present.

Board Members present: President Naomi Gotlib, Vice President Andi Chumley, Treasurer Shawn Spearman, Secretary Mitch Holaly, Deaf Member-at-large Kat Vogtmann, Member-at-large (appointed) Ge Moody, Incoming Treasurer (appointed) Bethany Spencer, Publications Manager (appointed) Laura Gonzalez. Member-at-large Stephen Decator was excused.

Meeting was called to order at 6:58pm. President Naomi Gotlib presided over the meeting and Secretary Mitch Holaly recorded the minutes. President Gotlib announced that in the absence of quorum no formal motions could be made.

President Gotlib opened by welcoming and thanking the members in attendance. She also notified that she was not present during the professional development portion of the day due to religious reasons.

President's Report - Naomi Gotlib

- Currently in a membership lull although numbers are recovering. Previously MIRID had about 300 members and at their lowest membership totaled 70. After a Board membership drive, consisting of telephone calls, and the transition to new website with electronic application and member management features, membership is currently at 140.
- Following elections of 2 new Board members at the 2015 Spring Conference in Livonia, both Board members-elect decided to resign due to personal reasons. Additionally, a sitting Board member fulfilling the Member-at-Large position also resigned due to personal reasons. In the absence of these Board members, the Bylaws authorize the President to appoint temporary Board members until the membership can vote at the next General Business meeting. Due to the lack of quorum, no vote could be taken and the three temporarily appointed members will remain until the Spring 2016 General Business Meeting. These appointees include: Ge Moody - Member-at-Large, Laura Gonzalez- Publications Manager, and Bethany Spencer - Treasurer

- MIRID was made know of the RID certification testing moratorium during the RID National Conference in New Orleans. Following the announcement, MIRID has been in contact with the Michigan Division on Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing to assess the impact in our state. MIRID will continue to dialogue with National RID and inform the membership of any news related to the moratorium.
- MIRID's 2015 Spring Conference in Livonia was a huge success. The Board thanks the presenters, interpreters, support staff, attendees, sponsors, and the National Association of Social Workers for their involvement.
- Planning for the 2016 Spring conference is already underway. MIRID sent President Naomi Gotlib and Vice President Andi Chumley to the RID national conference for the purpose of networking and bring reassures back to Michigan. In that vain, MIRID has contracted one of the presenters from the national conference to provide a two-day seminar in the Spring of 2016.
- MIRID has been providing and plans to continue the series of mini-workshops throughout the state. The intent of these workshops is to provide 2-3 hour workshops in a variety of geographical locations. Conscious effort has been made to host workshops relevant to the three endorsements outlined in the administrative rules of Michigan's Deaf Person's Interpreter Act.
- MIRID continues to provide Ethical Discussion Groups at Madonna University. These sessions are free to members and CEUs are awarded. MIRID would like to expand these offerings to other locations and is looking for members who would be willing to facilitate.
- As announced during the 2015 Spring Conference, a new scholarship, the MIRID Lifetime Achievement Award: Testing Scholarship has been adopted to supplement the cost of certification testing. Information on how to apply can be found at MIRID.org.
- MIRID is a member of the Michigan Coalition for Deaf and Hard of Hearing and will be working with the coalition members to address issues in the state.
- MIRID had the opportunity to be involved in a work group discussing criteria and implementation of endorsements that will be overseen by the DODDBHH
- After a successful motion, MIRID now has a non-voting seat on the DODDBHH Advisory Council
- MIRID hosted a booth at the 25th Anniversary of the ADA event in Detroit.
- MIRID made a financial contribution to support the annual Michigan DeafBlind Workshop.
- MIRID also provided financial support in the form of a stipend for seven Deaf Michiganders to attend the first ever Deaf Interpreter Conference in Minneapolis

#### Treasurer Report - Shawn Spearman

- During reconciliation a \$2 discrepancy was found. The bank was notified and is correcting the issue.
- Current account totals:
  - Checking \$13,699.16
  - Savings \$26,100.68
- An internal audit was done

- Taxes will be submitted on time
- Last fiscal year resulted in a \$3,800 loss. However, this loss reflects a few things:
  - \$900 was spent on marketing materials that will not be an annual cost
  - \$500 was spent to pre-pay for 2 years of the website. This was done to lock in a discounted price.
  - Two separate financial contributions (totaling \$6,000) that were pledged to sponsor 2015 Spring Conference were not received in time to post them to this fiscal year.
  - Due to a scheduling change, sponsorship to DeafBlind Workshop made twice in the same fiscal year.
- Bylaws dictate that an external audit must be complete every two years. This coming year an external audit will be done.

#### Publications Manager - Laura Gonzalez

- Hopes to assemble a seven-member publications committee to bolster MIRID's media presence in the community. If any members are interested, please contact Laura at [publications@mirid.org](mailto:publications@mirid.org)

#### New Business

- MIRID has a mentoring fund currently totaling around \$3,000. These monies have not been utilized in a few years and the current Board will be working on how to take advantage of this resource in the coming year.
- Secretary Mitch Holaly announced that MIRID will begin an initiative on social media and MIRID's website to educate members regarding the Deaf Person's Interpreter Act administrative rules.
- Announcement was made to save the date for the 2016 Spring Conference. April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Presenter, Holly Thomas-Mowery, will be presenting on domestic violence and sexual violence.
- Five upcoming dates (January- May) for Ethical Discussion Groups at Madonna University were displayed. Dates can also be found at MIRID.org
- President Gotlib made a call to the membership to get involved in MIRID. If members are interested, contact [president@mirid.org](mailto:president@mirid.org).

All attendees were gifted a MIRID bag with a few items to show gratitude for their involvement. A raffle was drawn and a tablet was awarded to one attendee.

The Board also announced their appreciation for the presenter Trudy Suggs, the two interpreters present, and support staff that helped to make the day a great success.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm

Mitch Holaly, Secretary