

Please Note: This is an approved copy of the minutes for the 7/14/09 meeting of the Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

## Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Tuesday, July 14, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

**Commissioners Attending:** *Travis Zellner, Ed Rawlings, Lisa Sack, Jack Ronan, Jordan Sack, Suzanne Goldenberg, James Compton, Mary Wambach, John Dunsmore, Christine Thompson*

**Commissioners Absent:** *Andrew Knight*

**Public:** *Sean Gill*

**Staff Attending:** *S. Florio (Exec. Director)*

**Communication Accommodations: CART and ASL Interpretation**

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The meeting was called to order by the Chair Travis Zellner at 6:05 p.m., in Conference Room B of the Administration Building, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI.

The meeting minutes from May 26, 2009 were reviewed and corrected. Mary Wambach made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Tina Thompson seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**CHAIR'S REPORT:**

Chair Travis Zellner reported on the progress of the Strategic Planning Committee from the Rhode Island School for the Deaf (see attached sheet). There will also be a Commission Orientation this fall.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

See attached report highlighting news from the CDHH office as well as activities and meetings happening in the community.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Postponed until the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1.) Follow up on the RICDHH position on HB 5703, mandatory insurance coverage specifically to cochlear implants - the bill will be reviewed again next year. The Commission will establish a subcommittee to review cochlear implants for both legislative issues and to provide information for a manual on the cochlear implant. Lisa Sack was appointed to Chair this committee.
- 2.) Tina Thompson's presentation on "Trivison" - ways to identify and promote the "Tivision" at CDHH was postponed until the next meeting.

Mary Wambach made a motion to go into closed session to interview the applicant for one of two Deaf Commissioner seats. John Dunsmore seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting went into first closed session at 7:30pm.

The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:40pm to announce approval of Travis Zellner's reappointment for Deaf Commissioner seat.

Tina Thompson motioned to go back into closed session to interview the next applicant for second Deaf Commissioner seat. Mary Wambach seconded the motion; it passed unanimously. The meeting went into second closed session at 7:45pm.

The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:55pm to announce approval of Sean Gill's appointment for Deaf Commissioner seat.

Suzanne Goldenberg motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm, Jack Ronan seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Commission then had a light supper celebration honoring Suzanne Goldenberg and Jack Ronan for their service on the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Sack, Secretary