

ATEL Committee Meeting

Public Utilities Commission

March 10, 2016

9:00 am

Attendees:

Denise Corson, Pam Kling, Courtenay St. Germain, Ellen Smith, Joe Pereira, Terrie Mancoll, Harry Mancoll, Melissa Rosenberg and Cart Reporter.

1. Review minutes - minutes were reviewed and accepted, motioned by Pam Kling and seconded by Ellen Smith.

2. Legislative update – Denise stated the bill unanimously passed in the House last night! Senator Coyne is now working on getting it passed in the Senate.

3. Cellular devices, Apps and Accessibility - Denise stated when you wear a hearing Aid, you should look for M/T rating with M4/T4 is the best. Greatcall provides a few great phone options with this rating like the Jitterbug5 and the Jitterbug Touch 3. Denise also has been researching Smartphone Apps in preparation of the bill passing this session. Terrie and Harry Mancoll attended the monthly demo last night in which we discussed Apps for iPhone/iPad. Denise explained the following Apps:

o Hamilton Captel: this App makes using your iPhone/iPad like using the Captel phone but on a cellular device.

o IP-Relay: IP Relay operator receives a message from the Deaf and

HOH and voices it to a hearing person.

o Subtitles Viewer- can select certain movies/shows that are available in its library, that you can watch the captions on your iPhone/iPad.

o Live Caption- you can talk to a Deaf/HOH individual and they can read what you are saying on your iPad/iPhone.

o FEMA and Emergency by Red Cross - Apps to keep you safe

o FaceTime and Skype- HOH individuals can benefit from voice + lip reading and facial expressions to understand conversation, Deaf individuals can sign to one another.

o P3Mobile- Video Relay Services on the go

o TV Louder- use with headset and make your TV louder by adjusting the volume on iPad/iPhone.

o Tap Tap and Otosense –alerts you of sounds in your environment

o Accessibility features on smart phone- like font size, Siri and alternative alerts (flashing, vibrating)

4. Open discussion-

O Courtenay is looking for nominations for HOH individuals and those with speech disabilities that have volunteered in their community for Hamilton's Better Speech and Hearing Month by April 1st. Denise will email application to committee members

O The Committee shared different places individuals can get help with computers and/or iPad/iPhone training: URI Cyber Seniors, SBVI offers free classes to the blind and those with vision disabilities, the Apple Store, N. Providence and Johnston Senior Centers and the VA offers classes in accessibility.

5. Next year's quarterly meetings were scheduled at 9am- 11am at the PUC: June 9th, September 8th and December 8th.