

PARID Annual General Membership Meeting
May 6, 2006
Hilton Valley Forge – King of Prussia, PA

The annual General Membership Meeting of the Pennsylvania Registry of the Interpreters for the Deaf was held May 6, 2006, at the Hilton Valley Forge in King of Prussia, PA. President Cindi Brown called the meeting to order at 9:25 am after determining that a quorum was present. The minutes of the previous meeting (June 4, 2006) were approved as read. The standing rules were approved.

PARID Board Member Attendance:

President	Cindi Brown	Present	District 1	No representative	
Vice-President	Cindy Allen	Present	District 2	Fran Whiteside	Present
Treasurer	Melanie Holmes	Present	District 3	No representative	
Recording Secretary	Brian Smith	Present	District 4	No representative	
Corresponding Secretary	Beth Setley	Present	District 5	Melissa Reihart	Present
PSAD Liaison	Jeff Yockey	Absent	District 6	Stephanie Ellison	Present
ODHH Representative	Vance Coover	Present	District 7	Carin Stevenson	Absent
			District 8	Nichole Wade Megan Meiris	Present Present

36 individuals attended. 29 voting members were present.

Executive Officers' Reports

President's Report – Cindi Brown, CI and CT

President Brown presented a year in review report of the activities of the PARID Board

- Melanie Holmes was appointed as treasurer.
- A Mentorship Committee was established.
- The PARID Board developed a position statement on Act 57.
- The PARID board provided comments to the RID board regarding the EIPA and RID discussion.
- PARID coordinated the interpreters for the 2005 PSAD conference and will coordinate the interpreters for the 2006 PSAD conference being held at the end of July in Philadelphia.
- The PARID board approved that the parid.org DNS be hosted by godaddy.com to make a searchable database possible.
- The Policy and Procedure Manual is being developed and updated.

- The ODHHS Library is now in the process of being made available at the Hiram G. Andrews Center via Access PA .
- SWAP Program – Tara Potterveld is the coordinator. 14 WWWorkshops were lent. 10.5 CEUs were earned. PARID received a donation of CDs from Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services of Lancaster.
- CMP Sponsor – Stephanie Ellison is the coordinator. CEU processing was made a membership benefit by instituting a fee for non-members. PARID processed 54.325 CEUs.
- PARID held an NIC Knowledge Exam Workshop in 5 districts.
- PARID began the Pennsylvania CDI Training Initiative. \$7,900 has been donated by PARID local chapters, PSAD, PSAD chapters, interpreter referral agencies, Centers for Independent Living, and other organizations.
- PARID worked with the local district chapters to investigate 501(c)(3) status for the local chapters.
- PARID made a donation to Creative Access.
- PARID placed an advertisement in the PSAD Conference Newsletter.
- The PARID board revised the membership form.
- The PARID board decided to purchase a permanent mailing address.
- PARID members are coordinating the Audio Visual Equipment, Business Meeting, CEUs, Interpreters, and Website for the Region I conference in Rhode Island.
- Seats are available on the following PARID committees: Fundraising, Legislative, Mentorship, Policy and Procedures, Professional Development, and Public Relations.

Treasurer's Report – Melanie Holmes

- **Current Membership Demographics:**

61	Educational interpreters/ transliterators	22.0 %
136	Freelance interpreters/ transliterators	49.1 %
20	Students	7.2 %
29	Blank or more than one choice marked	10.5 %
30	Other	11.2 %
277	Total	100.00 %

- There are 15 new members (5%). All but 27 are dual members with a local district chapter.

- **Current Totals (3-31-06)**

Savings Account:	\$ 12,910.27
Checking Account:	\$ 3,983.60
<u>Outstanding Checks:</u>	\$ -494.29
Total	\$ 16,399.58

- **Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006**

Total Income	\$ 18,143.21
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 8,316.81</u>
Income over Expenses	\$ 9,826.40

District Reports

District 2 – Fran Whiteside, CT and NIC

- Started to offer FREE 0.1 CEU at each meeting
- The meeting place was changed to a more centralized location
- New communication policy was instituted at meetings
- Treasurer banking fees were eliminated
- Finances were modernized and mirror those of PARID
- Online minutes of all meetings available
- Online notes from after meeting workshops available
- Bylaws were updated in June
- Website was used to poll the membership on a variety of issues
- A corporate member letter was drafted
- The CCAC non credit program was developed and implemented
- New legal workshop course with study groups was started
- Meeting was held with Ken Puckett to answer Act 57 questions

District 5 – Melissa Reihart, NAD IV and CT

- Developed Brochure highlighting SEPARID
- Held NIC written test workshop
- Donated five interpreting reference books to ODHH library in Johnstown, PA
- Currently beginning the process to obtain 501(c)(3) status
- Preparing to offer a workshop to help interpreters prepare to take the performance aspect of the certification test
- Raising funds by selling interpreter decals for \$3.00

District 6 – Stephanie Ellison, CT

- Membership Meetings are held quarterly in Berwick, Pennsylvania with 10-15 members in attendance.
- NEPARID is working to store its documents electronically. A work session was held to gather and sort “old” NEPARID related documents. IMR will be scanning the documents and writing them to a CD that can be searched several ways.
- Extensive research has been done regarding obtaining 501(c)(3) Status. NEPARID has been working collaboratively with the other local PARID chapters and PARID toward this goal.
- NEPARID hosted the January 2006 PARID quarterly board meeting in Bloomsburg by providing meeting space, lunch/refreshments, and coordinating interpreters. Several local interpreters and interpreting students attended the meeting.
- NEPARID developed and submitted a proposal to the PARID board to start the CDI Training Initiative. NEPARID then funded the first CDI Informational Day in Allentown with 23 participants. Jim Lipsky was well received as the presenter. The workshop received rave reviews and the participants are eager for more in depth training. PARID was instrumental in organizing the fund raising efforts with local chapters, PSAD and its local chapters, interpreter referral agencies, and other organizations.

- Notepads are still available for sale at \$1 each with three styles to choose from. They are available here at the PARID conference and the 2006 Region I conference this coming July.
- NEPARID made several monetary donations in support of various activities such as the CDI Training, PARID Conference, and Region I Conference.
- Officer elections will be held at the June 2006 meeting.
- The NIC Written Exam workshop will be presented in the Williamsport area in the fall of 2006.

District 8 – Nichole Wade – CI, CT

- Preparing and hosting the 2006 PARID conference – WELCOME
- Working on our Policies and Procedures
- Hosting Cindy Allen's NCI workshop
- Reconstituted our PDC – hope to be offering wonderful workshops soon
- Starting the process to become 501(c)(3) tax status
- Membership approved money to support the CDI training held across the state.

Other Reports

ODHH Representative – Vance Coover

- ODHH has a new resource directory located on their website. This document is not finished and suggestions and input are welcomed.
- The ODHH library is now in the process of being made available at The Hiram G. Andrews Center.
- The regulations for Act 57 are now drafted and are in the Signature Process. ODHH is considering developing a group of about 6 stakeholders to evaluate the regulations and give feedback from various perspectives.
- The office is investigating getting Video Phones and Blackberries for the each of the regional representatives.
- ODHH is developing an informational brochure which will highlight the Office and the many services it provides.
- Some of the areas in which the office has been providing advocacy on behalf of the Deaf or Hard of Hearing include the Department of Corrections, Emergency Preparedness and Mental Health situations.

RID Region I Report - Rachel Coppelli CI and CT

- The Region I conference will be in Providence, RI, July 20-23, 2006. Sponsors are still being sought for this event. The conference will feature a tract offering in depth CDI training. As of this time approximately 180 individuals have registered for this conference.
- West Virginia RID is the newest affiliate chapter in Region I. Kansas has also added an affiliate chapter. Because of these additions, RID now has affiliate chapters in all 50 states.
- RID's legal counsel has responded to PARID concerning the reporting related to Act 57. This situation is not unique to Pennsylvania. Other states have this concern as well.
- RID now has over 12,000 members.

- The 2007 RID Conference will be in San Francisco. A theme related to the 60's has been chosen. A Spanish language coordinator as well as a Diversity coordinator have been added for this and upcoming conferences.
- RID's webpage is in the process of being updated. This upgrade will require an investment of at least \$200,000. Money for this upgrade has been budgeted and set aside for this expense.
- RID is in the process of updating the rules and policies for Member Sections. Member Sections were formerly referred to as Special Interest Groups (SIGS)

Pennsylvania Court Interpreter Program

- Mr. Osvaldo Aviles gave a brief presentation about the new Interpreter Certification Program being established in Pennsylvania. The main goal of this program is to provide a statewide roster of qualified and certified interpreters as well as assisting the sixty judicial districts in the creation of effective management strategies for their interpreter services. The interpreter certification process will consist of several steps. These steps are summarized in the numbered list below. How this Certification program specifically affects Sign Language Interpreters is addressed in the Summary.
 1. Candidates must attend a two-day orientation workshop where they will receive instruction about the organization and functions of the Pennsylvania judicial system. This workshop will also cover legal vocabulary, types of cases, professional ethics, interpreting skills, and the requirements for becoming a professional interpreter.
 2. The second step will be the administration of a written examination with a translation component. To move onto the third step a candidate must achieve a score of 80% on this exam
 3. The third step consist of a three-part oral examination consisting of simultaneous, consecutive and sight portions which will evaluate the individuals' interpreting skills and command of their foreign language. The passing score for the oral examination will be 70% for each section.
- With regard to sign language interpreters, it is required that they be certified through either the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID), or the National Association of the Deaf (NAD). If certified through RID they must possess at minimum a Generalist Certificate (Certificate of Interpretation/Certificate of Transliteration – CI/CT) or preferably a Specialist Certificate in Legal Interpretation (SC:L). If NAD certified, they must possess at least a Level IV (Advanced) certificate or preferably a Level V (Master) certificate. All will also be required to take the training workshop and pass the written examination. Proof of any certifications must be provided in writing. In addition, all sign language interpreters must comply with the requirements of Act 57 and register with the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) in the Department of Labor and Industry.
- Successful candidates must also comply with continuing education requirements. All court certified interpreters will be required to take sixteen (16) hours of continuing education units (CEUs) within the compliance period of every two (2) years. This can be achieved by participating in training workshops sponsored by various educational and professional organizations or by taking academic courses in accredited interpreter programs or institutes. All

CEUs must be approved in advance by the program administrator. Interpreters must also maintain an active membership in at least one professional organization and pass a background check.

- Implementation of this program will begin as soon as relevant pending legislation is passed (SB669 and HB886), or the Supreme Court issues a rule mandating compliance. For further information on this program please contact Mr. Osvaldo Aviles at osvaldo.aviles@pacourt.us

New Business

Bylaws revisions

Motion # 2006 - 26. To amend the PARID bylaws Article V, Section 1, E Treasurer, by striking the line "The treasurer shall receive all applications for membership and chair the membership committee" and inserting the line "The Corresponding Secretary shall receive all applications for membership and chair the membership committee" into Article V, Section 1, D Corresponding Secretary. If amended the new sections will read as follows:

D) Corresponding Secretary

The Corresponding Secretary shall take care of all the correspondence of the organization. S/he shall report all communications to the Board of Directors and to the organization when so ordered. S/he shall perform such other duties as the organization or the Board of Directors shall, from time to time, direct. The Corresponding Secretary shall receive all applications for membership and chair the Membership Committee.

E) Treasurer

The Treasurer shall supervise the receipt and safekeeping of all funds of the organization and deposits that may be designated by the Board of Directors. Those funds shall be paid out only on checks of the organization signed by the President, Treasurer or by such officers as may be designated by the Board of Directors as authorized so to sign them. Two signatures are required for disbursements. **Rationale:** Currently, the Membership and Treasurer duties are excessive for one person to manage. This change is consistent with the distribution of duties under Roberts Rules of Order and consistent with the practices of other affiliate chapters. **Fiscal impact:** Approximately \$20 per year in postage and mailing. Moved by the PARID Board. **Motion Carried.**

Motion # 2006 – 27. To amend the PARID bylaws Article VII, Section III to add membership Committee to the list of standing committees.

Rationale: Since the Membership Committee is currently referenced in the duties of the membership chairperson this change will make the bylaws consistent. **Fiscal impact:** None
Moved by the PARID Board. **Motion Carried.**

Motion # 2006 – 28. PARID moves to request an RID review of the Suggested Study Materials for the NIC Performance Test. **Rationale:** Many of the titles listed are out of print or otherwise unavailable. **Fiscal impact:** To be determined by RID. C. Allen/F. Whiteside. **Motion Carried.**

Announcements

- 2005-2006 PARID members who earned their first certification were recognized.

Marty Andras, CT
Lynette Jones, CI
Karen Maguire, CT

Lori Carlson, NIC
Jan Kozakowsky, CT
Dana Sambora, CT

Allison Carr, CI
Cathy Lynch, NIC, CT

- 2005-2006 PARID members who earned a subsequent certification were recognized:
Arlene Inch-Wilson, CT Darlene Karaffa, CT Becky Kovach, CI
Jessica Knoche, CT Fran Whiteside, NIC

Upcoming Events

- RID Region I Conference – July 21-23, 2006 at the Providence Marriott Hotel
www.ridregion1.org/ri3
- Mental Health Workshop – June 19-23, 2006 in State College, PA
- The 2007 National RID conference – August 3-8, 2007, in San Francisco, CA
- The 2009 National RID conference – August 1-6, 2009, in Philadelphia, PA
- Upcoming PARID meetings are:
 - Board Meeting August 19, 2006 9am Central Pennsylvania
 - Board Meeting October 28, 2006 9am Western Pennsylvania
 - General Membership Mtg. Spring of 2007 TBA Location to TBAElection of officers will occur at this meeting.

President Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:23am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brian Smith, Recording Secretary