

Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)
Meeting Minutes Summary
June 23, 2015

At end:

Public comments were received from

- Bill Mulligan, who offered thanks to the DAC for its work
- Shane Dundos
 - VRS 911 through apps, inclusion of the blind community
 - SOA
 - Captions and video description accessibility for the deaf blind community – FCC noted the need for rulemaking on this issue (C Vogler has videos how it works)
- Michelle ____ (CPADO)
 - Possible roundtable on the ability of deaf people with CP to access 911 and other services
 - Assured that this is in the works

Support for a revised SOA

25 yeah
7 abstentions
0 opposed

Abstentions on relay issue

Matt Gerst (CTIA); Alex Reynolds (CEA); Josh Pila (NAB); Diane Burstein (NCTA); Ann Marie Rohaly (TIA); Jeff Kramer (Verizon); Helena Mitchell (Wireless RERC).

Introductory remarks were provided by the following individuals: Kris Monteith, Commission Acting Chief of Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB); Karen Peltz Strauss, Deputy Chief of the CGB; Gregory Hlibok, Chief of the CGB Disability Rights Office; Elaine E. Gardner, DAC Designated Federal Officer (DFO); and Andrew Phillips, DAC Chair. The DAC members then introduced themselves; the names of the attending members are listed in Appendix A. The agenda is attached as Appendix B.

Paula Silberthau, an attorney with the Commission's Office of General Counsel, provided an overview of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and protocols for the DAC as a newly founded Federal advisory committee. For any further questions, contact Elaine Gardner, as the DAC DFO, at dac@fcc.gov.

Elaine Gardner, DAC DFO, provided an overview of DAC, and its new website, www.fcc.gov/disability-advisory-committee, where many supporting documents may be found. Karen Peltz Strauss welcomed attendees. She noted that many extremely qualified people

applied, and that the contributions of those who are serving on subcommittees are just as valued as those serving on the full DAC.

Commissioner O’Rielly provided welcoming remarks to thank the group for their service, noting that their work “can be an amazing equalizer in today’s society.” The Commissioner highlighted the need for the DAC to review issues within the context of the entire communications sphere; hence the need to consider the ultimate cost to the American consumer of any recommendation. He also stressed that DAC members must understand the Commission’s past work and rules, and its limitations on jurisdiction, and urged members not to underestimate the benefits of incremental improvements to users.

The meeting paused at 11:45 AM for lunch and four subcommittee meetings.

DAC reconvened at 3:45 PM to share the top three priorities of each subcommittee, as follows:

- Relay/Equipment Distribution Subcommittee co-chaired by Brenda Kelly-Frey and Angela Officer (absent), and facilitated by FCC staff Caitlin Vogus and Gregory Hlibok.
 1. Recommendations for improvements in technology with considerations of interoperability, reliability, quality, and use of off-the-shelf equipment.
 2. Recommendations for quality of service needs (including research into the human factors such as usage, demographics, and also quality needs for different relay services).
 3. Recommendations for equipment availability and training.
- Communications Subcommittee co-chaired by Susan Mazrui and Mark Richert, and facilitated by FCC staff Rosaline Crawford and Eliot Greenwald.
 1. Data – learning more about consumers with disabilities, the technologies they use and the technologies they need, to increase consumer engagement and adoption
 2. Cross-agency Leadership – exploring how the FCC can build and strengthen connections with other federal agencies that are engaged in communications and technology-related activities.
 3. Interoperability – ensuring that converging and emerging technologies have the underlying structure they need to be interoperable.
- Video Programming Subcommittee co-chaired by Lise Hamlin and Thomas Wlodkowski, and facilitated by FCC staff Suzy Rosen Singleton and Rosaline Crawford.
 1. Identify priorities and recommendations for captioning.
 2. Identify priorities and recommendations for audio described programming.
 3. Education and awareness: review best practices, evaluate the exchange of information among manufacturers, consumers and industry, and encourage consultation of people with disabilities in the development of products.
- Emergency Communications Committee co-chaired by Toni Dunne and Richard Ray, and facilitated by FCC staff Cheryl King and Suzy Rosen Singleton (who was facilitating a concurrent meeting.)
 1. Identify gaps: evaluate existing recommendations from similar committees, and the status and needs of any new or proposed standards.
 2. NG 911: explore interoperability, video 911, N-11 number accessibility, and Media Communication Line Services (MCLS).
 3. Emergency alerting: Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs) should be increased to 180 characters, as recommended by the CSRIC Working Group, and be

mandatory. Emergency Alert System (EAS) accessibility issues should be reviewed for comment.

Consensus was reached that the next meeting's agenda would include a brief overview of the relevant work and rules of the FCC by FCC staff, perhaps for the past two years. This will assist DAC members in their task to identify gaps and provide recommendations.

Public Comments.

- Deana (Dee) Boeau, from Sarasota, Florida, expressed concern about captioning quality being thwarted by cut rate captioning contracts in the area. She was advised that the captioning quality rules go into effect on March 16, 2015.
- Jeremy Jacks, Vice President of CAGG, commended the FCC and the DAC for their work, and encouraged them to continue to consult with the industry and experts in formulating recommendations.
- Mark Hill, Cerebral Palsy and Deaf Organization, encouraged the DAC to address the issue of dual relay services and highlighted the importance of outreach.
- Dana Mulvaney encouraged the creation of a mechanism that allows for public input from stakeholders about issues relevant to the work of the DAC.
- Diane Schou recommended that as the DAC considers technologies, it consider both the positive and negatives, and be aware that a growing number of people are sensitive to or harmed by electromagnetic radiation.

The DAC Chair announced the future meeting dates: Tuesday, June 23, 2015, and Thursday, October 8, 2015. The DAC Chair further thanked CTIA and Matt Gerst for the generous sponsorship of the breakfast and lunch for the DAC. Meeting was adjourned.

Appendix A
Disability Advisory Committee Members and Subcommittee Members in Attendance
March 17, 2015

Last Name	First Name	Organization Represented
Bacon	Everette	National Federation of the Blind
Bahar	David	Communication Services for the Deaf (CSD)
Bailey (alternate)	Bruce	U.S. Access Board
Bell (alternate)	Avonne	Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
Bibler	Ron	Consumer
Boback (alternate)	Ann	National Association of Broadcasters
Bridges	Eric	American Council of the Blind (ACB)
Brooks (alternate)	Marcia	Perkins School for the Blind
Cooke	Kari	National Black Deaf Advocates
Creagan	Timothy P.	U.S. Access Board
Delts	Dillard	Consumer
Dunne	Toni	Intrado, Inc.
Finkel	Adam	National Court Reporters Association (NCRA)
Fletcher (alternate)	Mark	Avaya, Inc.
Forstall	James	TEDPA
Gerst	Matthew	CTIA - the Wireless Association
Goldberg	Larry	Yahoo!
Guinivan (alternate)	Phyllis	Center for Disability Studies, CEHD
Hamlin	Lise	Hearing Loss Association of America
Holmes	Pamela	Ultratec
Joehl	Sam	SSB BART Group
Jones	Gay	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Kelley	Scott	LG Electronics
Kelly-Frey	Brenda	NASRA
Knife	Lee	Digital Media Association (DiMA)
Kramer	Jeff	Verizon
LaManna (alternate)	Eva	American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
Luckett (alternate)	Jill	National Cable & Telecommunications Association (NCTA)
Maddix	Michael	Sorenson Communications
Martinez	Eddie	Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind
Mazrui	Susan	AT&T Services, Inc.
Michaelis	Paul	Avaya, Inc.
Mitchell	Helena	Wireless RERC
Nygren	Maggie	AAID
Parkins (alternate)	Jerry	Comcast Cable
Pearson	Robert	Accessible Media, Inc.
Phillips	Andrew	National Association of the Deaf

Pila	Joshua	National Association of Broadcasters (NAB)
Podey (alternate)	Stephanie	National Cable & Telecommunications Association (NCTA)
Rafi	Abe	The Arc
Ray	Richard	City of Los Angeles
Reynolds	Alexander	Consumer Electronics Association (CEA)
Richert	Mark	American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)
Roberts	Sharaine	Caption First, Inc.
Robertson	Scott Michael	Consumer
Rohaly	Ann Marie	TIA
Runnels	Lydia	ZVRS
Schafer	Julie	Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)
Sonnenstrahl	Al	Deaf Seniors of America
Stout	Claude	TDI, Inc.
Tan (alternate)	Jamie	AT&T Services, Inc.
Thompson	Hannah	Consumer
Tobias	Jim	Inclusive Technologies
Tua-Tupuola	Tafaimameo	American Samoa Community College
Vogler	Christian	Gallaudet RERC
Wlodkowski	Thomas	Comcast Cable
York	Heather	VITAC
Yousuf	Mohammed	U.S. Department of Transportation
Yunashko	Bryen	Helen Keller National Center
Ziegler	Dixie	Hamilton Relay

FCC Employees:

Crawford, Rosaline
Gardner, Elaine
Greenwald, Eliot
Hlibok, Greg
King, Cheryl
Monteith, Kris
Singleton, Suzy Rosen
Strauss, Karen Peltz
Vogus, Caitlin

Appendix B: Agenda
Federal Communications Commission
Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)
March 17, 2015
Agenda

8:30 a.m.	Arrival; Meet and Greet Commission Meeting Room	Andrew Phillips and Elaine Gardner
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions Kris Monteith, Acting Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau Karen Peltz Strauss, Deputy Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau Gregory Hlibok, Chief, Disability Rights Office	Office of Chairman Tom Wheeler
9:20 a.m.	Introduction of DAC members	
11:00 a.m.	Overview of DAC Overview of Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Overview of Subcommittees	Elaine Gardner Paula Silberthau Andrew Phillips
11:35	Welcome by Commissioner Michael O’Rielly	
11:45 a.m.	Lunch Break	
12:45 p.m.	Subcommittee Meetings (Open to Subcommittee Members Only) Relay/Equipment Distribution Subcommittee Commission Meeting Room	Facilitator: Caitlin Vogus
	Communications Subcommittee Rooms TW-A402/TW-A442	Facilitator: Rosaline Crawford
2:00 p.m.	Break	
2:15 p.m.	Video Programming Subcommittee Commission Meeting Room	Facilitator: Suzy Rosen Singleton
	Emergency Subcommittee Rooms TW-A402/TW-A442	Facilitator: Cheryl King
3:30 p.m.	Break	
3:45 p.m.	Reconvene DAC Meeting Review Subcommittee Activities	Andrew Phillips
4:30 p.m.	Public Participation	

4:50 p.m. Closing Remarks and Next Meeting Date

5:00 p.m. Adjournment