**Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**June 28, 2022**

*Certified by DAC Co-Chair Brian Scarpelli*

On June 28, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. EDT, the fourth virtual meeting of the fourth term of the DAC was opened by DAC Co-Chair Isidore Niyongabo of the National Black Deaf Advocates (NDBA).

Alejandro Roark, Chief of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB), welcomed the members, noted that today’s meeting occurs during the Helen Keller DeafBlind Awareness Week which runs from June 26 to July 2, and stated that the DAC is a prime example of the progress that can be made when a diverse group of stakeholders have a forum in which to freely exchange ideas about accessible communication issues. He then recognized DAC co-chairs Brian Scarpelli and Isidore Niyongabo and working group chair, Kyle Dixon. Diane Burstein, Deputy Bureau Chief of CGB, expressed her gratitude next.

Joshua Mendelsohn, DAC Designated Federal Officer (DFO), summarized the DAC meeting communications protocols and housekeeping rules. DAC Co-Chair Brian Scarpelli of ACT | The App Association then led a roll call of members, where the DAC members then introduced themselves and their organizational affiliations.

Lyle Ishida, Chief, Consumer Affairs and Outreach Division, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, then gave an overview of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and discussed how each DAC member can help increase awareness of this program.

Suzy Rosen Singleton, Chief of the Disability Rights Office (DRO), and Eliot Greenwald, DRO Deputy Chief, shared briefings from DRO and discussed topics of interest, including matters concerning new broadband programs, emergency access, telecommunication access, relay services, and video programming accessibility.

Kyle Dixon of NCTA – The Internet and Television Association, Chair of the Internet Protocol Closed Captioning Files Working Group, then gave an update on the progress being made by this working group.

After break, DAC Co-Chair Brian Scarpelli called on each member organization to provide some accessibility-related highlights for up to two minutes each. The meeting opened for public comments. Joshua Mendelsohn responded to a question about how tenants sharing one Internet service can qualify for the ACP. Joshua Mendelsohn also shared a comment from an individual representing an organization on the NER metrics to measure caption quality and which wishes to engage with FCC on this topic.

Closing remarks were made by DAC Co-Chairs Isidore Niyongabo and Brian Scarpelli.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Disability Advisory Committee Members in Attendance

June 28, 2022

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| **Organization** | **Representative** |
| ACT – the App Association | Brian Scarpelli |
| American Council of the Blind | Clark Rachfal |
| Apple, Inc. | James Craig |
| The Arc | Katy Schmid |
| AT&T | Linda Vandeloop |
| Bridge Multimedia Corporation | Matthew Kaplowitz |
| City of Boston | Carl Richardson |
| ClearCaptions | Michael Strecker |
| Comcast Corporation and NBCUniversal Media, LLC | Thomas Wlodkowski |
| Communications Service for the Deaf, Inc | Juli Robinson |
| Consumer Technology Association | Rachel Nemeth |
| Convo Communications, LLC | Amanda Montgomery |
| CTIA - the Wireless Association | Sarah Leggin |
| DeafBlind Citizens in Action | Divya Goel |
| Dicapta | Maria Victoria Diaz |
| Hamilton Relay, Inc. | Beth Slough |
| Hearing Loss Association of America | Lise Hamlin |
| IBM | Mary Jo Mueller |
| Mezmo Corporation dba InnoCaption | Cristina O. Duarte |
| National Association for State Relay Administration | Travis Dougherty |
| National Association of Broadcasters | Joshua N. Pila |
| National Association of the Deaf | Zainab Alkebsi |
| National Black Deaf Advocates | Isidore Niyongabo |
| National Emergency Number Association | Richard Ray |
| National Federation of the Blind | Everette Bacon |
| NCTA - The Internet & Television Association | Kyle Dixon |
| Perkins School for the Blind | Kristyn Leigh |
| Sorenson Communications, LLC | Michael D. Maddix |
| Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. | Blake Reid |
| T-Mobile US, Inc. | Shellie Blakeney |
| Trace Research and Development Center | Gregg Vanderheiden |
| ZP Better Together, LLC | Mark Stern |
| U.S. Access Board | Bruce Bailey |
| U.S. Department of Education | Brianne Burger |
| U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living | Lisa Bothwell |
| U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency | Aaron Kubey |

CGB Staff Speakers

Alejandro Roark

Diane Burstein

Suzy Rosen Singleton

Lyle Ishida

Eliot Greenwald

Josh Mendelsohn