**Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**September 24, 2019**

*Certified by Brian Scarpelli – October 23, 2019*

On September 24, 2019, the second meeting of the third term of the DAC was opened by DAC Co-Chair Brian Scarpelli of ACT | The App Association. Welcoming remarks were given by Patrick Webre, Chief of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB). Mr. Webre recognized the hard work performed by the two working groups of the DAC. Diane Burstein, Deputy Bureau Chief of CGB also provided welcoming remarks and acknowledged the efforts of the working group chairs and the co-chairs of the DAC. Next, Will Schell, DAC Designated Federal Officer (DFO), followed up with welcoming remarks of his own. Mr. Schell also thanked CTIA for its sponsorship of refreshments and lunch.

Roll call was taken and followed by updates from Suzy Rosen Singleton, Chief of the Disability Rights Office (DRO) and Eliot Greenwald, Deputy Chief of DRO, on DRO’s recent activities. Some of the DRO updates discussed included the winners of the 2019 Chairman’s Awards for Advancement in Accessibility, updates to the FCC’s 504 handbook and Electronic Comment Filing System, emergency access activities, hearing aid compatibility rules, the National DeafBlind Equipment Distribution Program, video description activities, captioning on television, broadband mapping, Video Relay Service (VRS) at-home call handling pilot program, VRS Modernization Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the North American Numbering Council Interoperable Video Calling Working Group, Telephone Relay Service (TRS) Rate Order, Internet Protocol Caption Telephone Service (IP CTS) applications for certification, and the TRS Rule clean-up item.

Next, the DAC heard from Carl Richardson, representing the City of Boston and Chair of one of the two working groups, who gave a report and read a recommendation regarding the availability of television listings of audio described programming. After deliberation and an amendment, the recommendation was voted upon and passed as amended.

Next, the DAC heard from Zainab Alkebsi, representing the National Association of the Deaf and Chair of the other working group, on a report and recommendation regarding real-time text (RTT) integration with point-to point videophone calls. After deliberation and some amendments, the recommendation was voted upon and passed as amended.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman, Ajit Pai, addressed the DAC and thanked members for their participation. The Chairman stated that he looked forward to seeing the DAC’s recommendations. Chairman Pai remarked on the FCC’s commitment to accessibility and the recent FCC activities in the accessibility space.

Then, the DAC heard again from Ms. Alkebsi, on a report and recommendation regarding RTT Integration with VRS. After deliberation, the recommendation was voted upon and passed.

Next, CTIA presented on their updated website: accesswireless.org. This website helps people with disabilities find the accessibility features they need in wireless phones and devices.

The meeting was opened for public comment, and one person commented about video description.

Closing remarks were made by the Co-Chairs, Mr. Niyongabo and Mr. Scarpelli, and Mr. Schell, DFO.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 PM.

Disability Advisory Committee Members in Attendance

September 24, 2019

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Last Name** | **First Name** | **Organization Represented** |
| Alkebsi | Zainab | National Association of the Deaf |
| Bacon | Everette | National Federation of the Blind |
| Blakeney | Shellie | T-Mobile USA |
| Burger | Brianne | U.S. Department of Education  |
| Creagan | Tim | U.S. Access Board  |
| Davis | Townsend | ABC, Inc./The Walt Disney Company  |
| Diaz | Maria | Dicapta |
| Dillner  | Ian | Verizon Communications, Inc.  |
| Gerst | Matt | CTIA - the Wireless Association |
| Hamlin | Lise | Hearing Loss Association of America |
| Hlibok | Gregory | CSDVRS, LLC |
| Holmes | Pamela | Ultratec, Inc.  |
| Joehl | Samuel | Level Access |
| Jones | Gay | U.S. Department of Homeland Security |
| Kirby | Maria | Apple, Inc.  |
| Maddix | Michael | Sorenson Communications, LLC |
| Malaier | Sarah | American Foundation for the Blind |
| Niyongabo | Isidore | National Black Deaf Advocates |
| Parker | Darlene | National Captioning Institute, Inc. |
| Richardson | Carl | City of Boston |
| Rosen | Jeff | Convo Communications, LLC |
| Rosenthal  | Rebecca | National Association for State Relay Administration  |
| Scarpelli | Brian | ACT - the App Association |
| Schroeder | Paul | Aira Tech Corporation  |
| Selznick | Dennis | Sprint Corporation |
| Snyder | Joel | Audio Description Associates, LLC |
| Srinivasan | Amita | DeafBlind Citizens in Action |
| Stephens | Anthony | American Council of the Blind |
| Stout | Claude | Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. |
| Strecker | Michael | ClearCaptions |
| Trager | Brian | Rochester Institute of Technology, NTID Center on Access Technology  |
| Vandeloop | Linda | AT&T Services, Inc. |
| Vogler | Christian | Gallaudet Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center |
| Wlodkowski | Thomas | Comcast |
| York | Heather | VITAC |
| Ziegler | Dixie | Hamilton Relay, Inc.  |

CGB Staff

Patrick Webre

Diane Burstein

Suzy Rosen Singleton

Eliot Greenwald

Debra Patkin

Will Schell