

Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)
Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2018
Certified by Lise Hamlin – November 15, 2018

On October 3, 2018, the sixth meeting of the second term of the DAC was opened by the DAC Co-Chairs Lise Hamlin of the Hearing Loss Association of America and Samuel Joehl of Level Access. Welcoming remarks were given by Patrick Webre, Chief of the Commission's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau. The DAC Co-Chairs then requested a roll call of the members present. Karen Peltz Strauss, Deputy Chief of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau provided welcoming remarks of her own.

Next, Suzy Rosen Singleton, Chief of the Disability Rights Office (DRO), provided updates on DRO's recent activities, including updates on accessible emergency alerts and communication, the CVAA biennial report to Congress, interoperable video calling, video description, and user interface. She also mentioned that the DRO was in the process of selecting members for the next term of the DAC, which will start in January of 2019.

Eliot Greenwald, Deputy Chief of the DRO, provided updates on the DRO's activities regarding Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS), including updates on Video Relay Service (VRS), Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Services (IP CTS), TRS rates, and state applications for TRS certification.

Linda Vandeloop of AT&T, and Co-Chair of the Technology Transitions Subcommittee, read the subcommittee's recommendation to the DAC on best practices for the compatibility of Real-Time Text (RTT) with refreshable braille displays, which was developed after a roundtable discussion in April 2018. After discussion, a motion was made to vote on the recommendation. The motion was passed, and the recommendation was adopted by the DAC. Zainab Alkebsi of National Association of the Deaf, and Co-Chair of the subcommittee, then read another recommendation from the subcommittee encouraging the Commission explore issues related to the integration of RTT into TRS operations and the impact of RTT on TRS. After discussion, a motion was made to vote on the recommendation. The motion was passed, and the recommendation was adopted by the DAC.

Next, Tom Wlodkowski of Comcast, and Co-Chair of the Video Programming Subcommittee, gave a report of the subcommittee's activities. The report covered five topics for the next DAC's consideration, including described television listings, additional secondary audio stream, caption placement, automated speech recognition (ASR) and captioning and video description technology-neutral metrics. The floor was then handed to Joshua Pila of National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) and Anthony Stephens of American Council of the Blind (ACB) who discussed collaboration activities between NAB and ACB regarding video description.

After a break, Richard Ray of the Disability Rights Office of the City of Los Angeles, and Co-Chair of the Emergency Communications Subcommittee, gave a report on the subcommittee's activities. Mr. Ray discussed the subcommittee's efforts stemming from a recommendation adopted by the DAC on October 16, 2017 to further the DAC's goal to accelerate adoption of RTT by public service answering points (PSAPs). Ms. Vandeloop then took the floor to discuss a public event, PSAP Education Day on RTT that was hosted on October 2, 2018 by the DRO with the subcommittee's assistance. The event was held at the FCC and broadcast live via video

stream. At the event, FCC staff, carriers, and other industry players presented on what RTT is, how it is beneficial to consumers and emergency response personnel, how to adopt it, and best practices for processing RTT requests from service providers. There were panels addressing regulatory policy, PSAPs’ experiences with RTT testing, and RTT infrastructure issues. Mr. Ray then wrapped up the report by mentioning some outreach efforts made by some subcommittee members regarding PSAPs and RTT.

After lunch that was sponsored by Comcast, Rochelle Garrow of the National Association for State Relay Administration, and Co-Chair of the Relay and Equipment Distribution Subcommittee, read the subcommittee’s recommendation regarding the adoption of key IP CTS metrics. After no discussion, a motion was made to vote on the recommendation. The motion was passed, and the recommendation was adopted by the DAC. Next, Pam Holmes of Ultratec, Inc., and Co-Chair of the Relay and Equipment Distribution Subcommittee, read the subcommittee’s recommendation that the Commission amends its rules to allow all forms of TRS to be used for calls made by unregistered users from temporary, public TRS devices set up in emergency shelters and designated disaster recovery locations. After discussion and a break, a motion was made and passed to amend the recommendation. A motion to adopt the recommendation, as amended, was passed and, as such, was adopted by the DAC.

Next, Theodore Marcus, Deputy Chief of the DRO, led a discussion on consumer engagement on disability access. The DAC talked about the levels of consumers’ awareness of the Commission’s work to ensure disability access and how the DRO and DAC members can engage enhance such awareness.

The DAC brainstormed ideas for potential topics for consideration by the members of the next term of the DAC.

Next, a call for new business was made. No further new business was raised. The meeting was then opened for public comment. The public comments included one question regarding RTT and comments regarding ASR captioning.

A few minutes were taken to commend Karen Peltz Strauss’s decades of public service in recognition of her departure from the agency at the end of December 2018. Closing remarks were made by Will Schell, Designated Federal Officer, DRO, and the Co-Chairs, Lise Hamlin and Samuel Joehl.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 PM.

Disability Advisory Committee Members in Attendance
October 3, 2018

Last Name	First Name	Organization Represented
Alkebsi	Zainab	National Association of the Deaf
Bacon	Everette	National Federation of the Blind
Bastien	Zach	Verizon
Bibler	Ron	Individual Consumer

Burstein	Diane	NCTA - The Internet & Television Association
Creagan	Tim	U.S. Access Board
Davert	Scott	Helen Keller National Center
Diaz	Maria	Dicapta
Dillner	Ian	Verizon
Graves	Kara	CTIA - the Wireless Association
Guinivan	Phyllis	Association of University Centers on Disability
Hamlin	Lise	Hearing Loss Association of America
Joehl	Samuel	Level Access
Jones	Gay	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Kirby	Maria	Apple
Martinez	Eddie	TCS Associates
Mitchell	Helena	Wireless Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center
Nemeth	Rachel	Consumer Technology Association
Niyongabo	Isidore	National Black Deaf Advocates
Pila	Joshua	National Association of Broadcasters
Ray	Richard	City of Los Angeles
Salaets	Ken	Information Technology Industry Council
Scarpelli	Brian	ACT - the App Association
Sonnenstrahl	Al	Deaf Seniors of America
Stephens	Anthony	American Council of the Blind
Stout	Claude	Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc.
Vandeloop	Linda	AT&T Services, Inc.
Vogler	Christian	Gallaudet Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center
Yunashko	Bryen	Individual Consumer
Wlodkowski	Thomas	Comcast

CGB Staff

Karen Peltz Strauss
Suzy Rosen Singleton
Eliot Greenwald
Theodore Marcus
Debra Patkin
Will Schell