

**Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Assistive Technology (AT) Committee Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2018**

Members Present

Sharonda White, Chair*
Bea Shapiro*
Nathan Pullen*
Julie Jones*
Ed Gervasoni*
Scott Mehosky*

Members Absent

Adam Cruz
Jaime Trausch
Sue Lehew

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers, Council Liaison
*Teleconferenced

Guests Present

Call to Order and Introductions

Sharonda White, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm in the RSA Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ. Introductions were made and a quorum was present.

Approval of February 28, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Scott Mehosky motioned to approve the January 10, 2018 meeting minutes. Ed Gervasoni seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

GCBVI Strategic Plan Discussion

Sharonda White stated that she attended the previous Education Committee meeting and noted the Education Committee invited guest speakers to provide information regarding education. Ms. White stated that she let the Education Committee know that the AT Committee supported the Education Committee's efforts in completing the GCBVI Strategic Plan outcomes, although the Education Committee had not requested any assistance yet. Sharonda White stated she was also invited to attend a Public Information Committee meeting to discuss the EyeKnow.AZ website. Sharonda White stated that Bea Shapiro had provided some feedback previously regarding the website and encouraged committee members to review the website and offer any feedback or suggestions. Bea Shapiro inquired who was

responsible for updating the EyeKnow.AZ website. Ms. Shapiro noted that Rehabilitation Service Administration (RSA)'s Resource Directory was no longer being printed and the website was a great resource for individuals. Bea Shapiro stated the AT Committee could provide recommendations for AT resources, although the website included resources from many other areas, and she encouraged the GCBVI council members to offer recommendations for those areas. Sharonda White agreed and stated that AT Committee members were welcome to offer any suggestions for additions to the website.

AT Trends

Scott Mehosky stated that ARIA would release the next generation of glasses, Horizon glasses, for ARIA subscribers. Scott Mehosky stated that ARIA subscribers had to complete a pre-registration, which was open for 24 hours, and would be placed in the queue. He noted that only the first 200 individuals would receive the first shipment of the glasses. Scott Mehosky stated the Horizon glasses would offer a better field of vision, camera and the assistant Chloe. Scott Mehosky stated that users were required to have the MiFi unit and the glasses to be eligible. Bea Shapiro inquired whether the ARIA subscription rates had been lowered. Scott Mehosky stated he was unaware of a subscription fee reduction.

Sharonda White inquired whether any committee members had used the Instant Pot Smart with Bluetooth. Bea Shapiro stated there were several recalls for the Instant Pot Smart and it could have been discontinued. Sharonda White stated she wrote Instant Pot inquiring regarding the release date for the new model but had not received a response yet. Bea Shapiro stated the Cuckoo Multi Cooker was a similar cooker, that included a talking menu. Sharonda White stated she purchased the Instant Pot Ultra, although the cooker had a spinning dial. Bea Shapiro stated there were new microwave labels for individuals to differentiate between the different microwave buttons. Bea Shapiro inquired whether Julie Jones previewed the different Braille displays while attending CSUN. Julie Jones stated that she perused the Braille displays, although she did not have any students that currently used them.

Sharonda White inquired whether any committee members downloaded the new Windows 10 update. Scott Mehosky stated he downloaded the update and noted that his computer was somewhat slower initially. Bea Shapiro stated her understanding that the update would not greatly impact AT technologies. Sharonda White inquired whether Firefox had corrected an issue that impacted screen readers. Julie Jones stated she updated to the newest Firefox and she did not get a warning indicating that her AT would no

longer work.

2017 VRATE Discussion

Sharonda White stated she spoke to the Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo (VRATE) Committee, which indicated that the AT Committee would likely be allowed to present for two hours at VRATE. Scott Mehosky suggested that the AT Committee request a time slot that did not compete with another AT presentation. Sharonda White stated she would be participating in the VRATE presentation scheduling and would request that as well.

AT Committee Activity Discussion

This item was tabled.

Agenda and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Assistive Technology Committee was scheduled for May 16, 2018 from 3:00-4:30 pm in the RSA Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ. Agenda items are as follows:

- Committee Member Discussion
- GCBVI Strategic Plan Discussion
- AT Trends
- VRATE Discussion
- AT Committee Activity Discussion

Announcements

Bea Shapiro announced the Arizona Technology and Access Program (AzTAP) would take place on July 9th and 10th at WeKoPa Resort in Scottsdale. Sharonda White stated the AzTAP Conference offered resources for individuals in the AT community.

Ed Gervasoni announced that the Committee on Deaf-Blind Issues recently experienced difficulties in procuring a meeting location that met the needs of the committee. Mr. Gervasoni noted that committee required teleconference capabilities as well as a looped system. Ed Gervasoni asked that committee members inform the Deaf-Blind Committee of any looped meeting spaces.

Public Comment

A call was made to the public with no comments forthcoming.

Adjournment of Meeting

Julie Jones motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bea Shapiro seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.