

Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Assistive Technology (AT) Committee Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2018

Members Present

Sharonda White, Chair*
Bea Shapiro*
Nathan Pullen*
Sue Lehew*
Jaime Trausch*

Members Absent

Adam Cruz
Ed Gervasoni
Julie Jones
Scott Mehosky

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 May 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Nathan Pullen motioned to approve the May 2, 2018 meeting minutes. Bea Shapiro seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Committee Member Discussion

Sharonda White stated that some committee members had missed several meetings within the previous six months and a member had resigned from the committee. Sharonda White stated she wanted to ensure that all committee members wanted to continue participating on the committee and she also encouraged members to recruit additional members. Ms. White noted that Scott Mehosky had recently joined the AT Committee, Terri Hedgpeth had resigned from the committee and Adam Cruz had missed several meetings. Bea Shapiro stated that historically, committee members would suggest that individuals join the committee. Bea Shapiro stated she would contact an AT Specialist with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) who could be a potential member of the committee. Sue Lehew stated she would inquire whether an individual from Northern Arizona

University would be interested in joining the committee. Bea Shapiro stated the committee would benefit from having a member from a university or the ADE due to the resignation of previous members. Sharonda White encouraged Bea Shapiro and Sue Lehew to reach out to those individuals.

GCBVI Strategic Plan Discussion

Sue Lehew requested some clarification regarding the implementation and purpose of the EyeKnow.AZ website. Sharonda White stated her understanding that Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) was no longer printing the Resource Directory that was distributed to blind and visually impaired individuals and the EyeKnow.AZ website would serve as a comparable resource. Sharonda White stated that she welcomed any feedback or suggestions regarding the website such as how to improve accessibility or to suggest resources to be included. Bea Shapiro stated that the resources that had been included in the print Resource Directory could be included in the EyeKnow.AZ website. Sue Lehew noted that individuals with new vision loss could have difficulties navigating an online resource. Sharonda White stated she would share the committee's feedback with the GCBVI and encouraged committee members to share any additional feedback. Sue Lehew stated the website would be beneficial if individuals could easily print resources included in the website. Bea Shapiro stated her understanding that the EyeKnow.AZ website would only allow the individual to print the resource the individual had searched for. Sue Lehew stated the website should include an option for individuals to print the information if the website did not have that option already. Bea Shapiro stated that a newly blind individual might not have the necessary Assistive Technology (AT) to navigate an online resource, such as screen readers. Jaime Trausch stated that one format would not be able to accommodate everyone and that the information would need to be available in print and electronically. Bea Shapiro stated that RSA had previously included the print directory on the RSA website, which could be converted to a PDF, although staff had to continually update the directory. Sue Lehew inquired regarding who updated the EyeKnow.AZ website currently. Sharonda White stated that the Public Information Committee had developed the website although she would inquire regarding the maintenance. Jaime Trausch suggested the resource start as html and then be converted to an epub or similar document. Sharonda White inquired regarding the ideal way to print the resource. Jaime Trausch stated if the website was formatted well, the individual should be able to search and print those resources. Sue Lehew inquired regarding the entity that developed the EyeKnow.AZ website. Lindsey Powers stated that Secretary of State IT staff developed the EyeKnow.AZ website. Sue Lehew stated the website was functionally accessible although it was not fully usable currently. Ms. Lehew added that

several resources could be added to the website.

AT Trends

Sharonda White inquired whether any committee members had experienced difficulties with PDFs opening in an Internet browser rather than Adobe. Bea Shapiro suggested that Sharonda White open the Accessibility Wizard and indicate her preference regarding how PDFs should open. Jaime Trausch stated that Sharonda White could also go to Settings and set the Applications to default to Adobe rather than the Internet. Bea Shapiro stated the K-NFB app was now supporting epub documents. Jaime Trausch stated there were recent updates to Windows 10, which caused some bugs with Google Chrome that caused the system to crash. Mr. Trausch noted that Microsoft would release a patch to resolve the issue, although he was recommending that individuals wait to download the updates. Jaime Trausch stated that Firefox 60 was released, although individuals were required to have the most recent version of JAWS. Bea Shapiro inquired what would occur if the individual did not have JAWS 18. Jaime Trausch stated that Firefox would not work. Jaime Trausch added that he previewed a new Braille display at CSUN, which included 9 lines and 32 cells of Braille which would be ideal for music scores or math. Sharonda White stated the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) Assistive Technology Training Division would hold a seminar to introduce individuals to Narrator for Windows 10. Ms. White noted that she would forward the email to Lindsey Powers to be distributed to the committee members. Sharonda White stated that she was still waiting for the Bluetooth Instant Pot to be released.

2017 VRATE Discussion

Sharonda White stated she was part of the Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo (VRATE) Speakers Committee and requested that the AT Committee be given a better time slot to present. She added that she would continue to discuss the schedule with the VRATE Speakers Committee and would report back.

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 June 20, 2018 from 3:00-4:30 pm in the DERS 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

Sue Lehew announced the Arizona Technology and Access Program (AzTAP) would take place on July 8-10 at WeKoPa Resort in Scottsdale and individuals could review the presentations at <http://aztap.org/conference/>.

Public Comment

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

Adjournment of Meeting

Bea Shapiro motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sue Lehew seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 pm.