

Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Assistive Technology (AT) Committee Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2019

Members Present

Bea Shapiro, Chair
Nathan Pullen
Mark Nelson
Terri Hedgpeth

Members Absent

Ed Gervasoni
Sue LeHew

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers

Guests Present

Call to Order and Introductions

Bea Shapiro, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm in the RSA Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ. Introductions were made and a quorum was present.

Approval of May 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Terri Hedgpeth motioned to approve the May 15, 2019 meeting minutes. Nathan Pullen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

VRATE Discussion

Bea Shapiro stated that Lindsey Power forwarded the draft outline for the committee's presentation at Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo (VRATE). Terri Hedgpeth stated that the outline looked great. Mark Nelson agreed and inquired whether Bea Shapiro would be able to request that the committee present on Friday. Bea Shapiro stated her understanding that the committee would present on Friday afternoon, but she could request that the committee present in the morning. Ms. Shapiro stated that Terri Hedgpeth should consider participating on the presentation panel as well. Terri Hedgpeth stated that she would be willing to present at VRATE. Bea Shapiro requested that Nathan Pullen and Terri Hedgpeth send

her their biographies to be added to the presentation outline, which would be sent to Dan Martinez. Bea Shapiro stated the committee would have one hour to present, which would include approximately 15 minutes to introduce the committee members and give a brief introduction of the AT Committee. Bea Shapiro stated the committee could also develop handouts that could be distributed during the presentation. Terri Hedgpeth stated that the committee's ideal audience would likely attend VRATE on Friday, and suggested the committee present on that day.

AT Trends

Terri Hedgpeth inquired whether the committee members heard about the outcome regarding Apple updates. Mark Nelson stated that his iPhone 6 would not be supported by the new operating system. Terri Hedgpeth stated that Apple would begin separating the iPad from the iPhone, and the iPad would have more of a Mac environment. Ms. Hedgpeth stated that a new Mac would cost from \$5000-\$30,000, and noted the new Macs were intended for professional audio and video production. Terri Hedgpeth stated the iPod 6 generation and lower would not be supported in iOS 13. She added that the voice dictation would be built into all OS, which would be like the Dragon voice dictation, although the first iterations could be problematic. Bea Shapiro stated the iPad would have similar functions as a laptop. Terri Hedgpeth stated the iPad would have a split screen and could be used as a second monitor. Terri Hedgpeth noted the new monitor and stand would be \$1000. Nathan Pullen stated the monitor would be \$5000 and the stand would be \$1000, although individuals could purchase a less expensive stand through another company. Bea Shapiro stated the Apple watch would include additional medical related apps. Terri Hedgpeth stated the Apple watch would have its own OS as well, that would not connect to the iPhone. Terri Hedgpeth stated that eventually the devices would have separate apps.

Bea Shapiro inquired whether the summer AT Conferences would demonstrate new technology. Mark Nelson stated that he had not heard about new technology, although there had been discussion regarding stand alone reading machines, which was a niche market. Bea Shapiro inquired whether the stand-alone reading machines were targeting the senior population. Mark Nelson stated his understanding that the devices would likely target older individuals that would use the product in their homes. Terri Hedgpeth stated the Carroll Center for the Blind published a book through National Braille Press regarding how to format Word documents into MLA and other formats.

AT Committee Collaboration with Education Committee

This item was tabled.

Agenda and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Assistive Technology Committee was scheduled for July 17, 2019 from 3:00-4:30 pm in the RSA Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ. Agenda items are as follows:

- VRATE Discussion
- AT Trends
- AT Inventory Discussion

Announcements

Bea Shapiro stated the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) Conference would be held in July in Las Vegas. Ms. Shapiro announced the American Council of the Blind (ACB) Conference would be held in New York.

Bea Shapiro stated the Arizona Technology Access Program (AzTAP) Conference would be held July 15-16 at We Ko Pa Resort, and several AT Committee members would be presenting at the conference.

Public Comment

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

Adjournment of Meeting

Mark Nelson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Terri Hedgpeth seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.