

Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
Assistive Technology (AT) Committee Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2021

Members Present

Bea Shapiro, Chair
Bob Kresmer
Sue LeHew
Nathan Pullen
Mark Nelson
Karla Rivas-Parker

Members Absent

Dr. Carlos Grandela
Terri Hedgpeth

Staff Present

Lindsey Powers

Guests Present

Call to Order and Introductions

Bea Shapiro, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:08 pm, Phoenix, AZ. Introductions were made, and a quorum was present.

Approval of October 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Bob Kresmer motioned to approve the October 27, 2021 meeting minutes. Sue LeHew seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was passed by unanimous voice vote.

VRATE Presentation Discussion

Bea Shapiro stated the AT Committee had the opportunity to provide the presentation originally created for the Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo (VRATE) at part of the Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ACBVI) and AT AZ training program. Sue LeHew stated that Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) owned the website that ACBVI administered and offered disability awareness training. Sue LeHew stated ACBVI agreed to allow the committee to provide a presentation. Ms. LeHew noted the committee would need to submit an agenda outlining the

presentation, 30 days prior, to offer CRC credits. She noted that the presentation would be a combined presentation, which would include the presentation video and committee members to answer questions. Bea Shapiro stated the presentation would offer training to Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors on how to read an eye report and on different eye conditions. Ms. Shapiro noted the committee would need approval from Karla Rivas-Parker and Dr. Carlos Grandela whom were in the video. Bob Kresmer inquired whether Dr. Grandela and Ms. Rivas-Parker needed to attend the presentation for attendees to receive CRC credits. Sue LeHew stated her understanding that Dr. Grandela and Ms. Rivas-Parker would need to attend the presentation for individuals to receive CRC credits. Bea Shapiro stated the committee had worked hard on developing the presentations for VRATE and others would benefit from the information. Sue LeHew stated the Governor's Council on Spinal and Head Injuries would offer a training on TBIs and vision loss at the end of January, and the committee's presentation could be offered on January 24th or 25th.

Bob Kresmer motioned that the committee inquire whether Dr. Carlos Grandela could attend the presentation on one of those dates. Sue LeHew stated the committee could offer a slightly longer presentation if necessary to allow for housekeeping and questions. Karla Rivas-Parker inquired whether the presentation would be offered virtually. Sue LeHew stated it would be a combined presentation and would run the committee's video and then answer live questions. Karla Rivas-Parker seconded the motion. The committee approved the motion by unanimous voice vote. Bea Shapiro noted that Dr. Carlos Grandela would need to attend the presentation and she had not received confirmation that he would be available. Sue LeHew stated she developed a draft agenda outlining the presentation. Karla Rivas-Parker stated that she did not have a date for AzTAP yet, although committee members could provide the same presentation at that event also. Sue LeHew stated the committee would need approval from Dr. Grandela and Karla Rivas-Parker to upload the presentation to the CRC website. Bea Shapiro stated she would follow up with Dr. Grandela to see if he would be available at the end of January. Bob Kresmer inquired whether VRATE was to be postponed. Ms. Shapiro stated that VRATE would be potentially postponed until April, although it had not been announced. Bea Shapiro noted there were many new staff members who would benefit from the presentation. Sue LeHew stated the AZ AT offered training on disability awareness, identifying AT in public access rooms, and how staff could assist clients to use resources in One Stops.

AT Outreach Update

Bea Shapiro stated that AT Committee members had completed two podcast

recordings with the Arizona Talking Book Library to be played on Sun Sounds, although she had not heard from Andrea Pasquale regarding when the podcasts would be played. Bob Kresmer stated he reach out to Sun Sounds regarding the committee's podcasts.

AT Trends

Bob Kresmer stated he received an email regarding a new phone for blind and visually impaired individuals. Bea Shapiro stated her understanding the phone would not be a smart phone but would have similar access as a smart phone but would be easier to use.

Agenda and Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Assistive Technology Committee was scheduled for January 26th. Agenda items are as follows:

- AT Committee Presentation Update
- AT Outreach Update
- AT Trends

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Public Comment

A call to the public was made with no response's forthcoming.

Adjournment of Meeting

Bob Kresmer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sue LeHew seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.