

**Draft**  
**Governor's Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)**  
**Assistive Technology (AT) Committee Meeting Minutes**

July 17, 2024

**Attendance**

**Members Present**

Bea Shapiro, Chair

Jeff Bishop

Sue LeHew

Nathan Pullen

Bob Kresmer

**Members Absent**

Karla Rivas-Parker

**Staff Present**

Lindsey Powers

**Guests Present**

**Minutes**

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Bea Shapiro, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm, Phoenix, AZ. Introductions were made, and a quorum was present.

**Approval of June 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Jeff Bishop motioned to approve the June 19, 2023 meeting minutes. Nathan Pullen seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was passed by unanimous voice vote.

**AT Committee Updates**

Bea Shapiro stated that she sent the Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo (VRATE) presentation proposal to be reviewed by

committee members prior to submitting it to the VRATE Board. Sue LeHew stated that she had some minor corrections and could send it back to Jeff Bishop. Jeff Bishop stated there was a lot to talk about on the subject, although he could give a high-level overview of AI. He noted that he wanted to make sure attendees understood what was available, how the committee could assist individuals with using AI, the responsibility of technology companies to ensure AI was accessible, and to encourage individuals to request that AI services be accessible. Mr. Bishop stated that he could provide both presentations by himself, and any committee members were welcome to join. He noted that he wanted to make the presentation interactive and to involve the audience in discussion and demonstrations. Jeff Bishop inquired regarding the name for the presentation. Bea Shapiro stated the committee had discussed naming the presentation 'Open Our Eyes to AI'. Bob Kresmer stated the presentation would have a lot of good information and it should be a great presentation at VRATE. Sue LeHew reviewed the presentation proposal with the committee and made the suggested changes. She noted that she would make the edits and send the proposal back to committee members for review. Bob Kresmer inquired whether the committee would be providing the 2 presentations back-to-back. Bea Shapiro stated she had not heard back from the VRATE Board yet regarding the presentation schedule, but she would let the committee know. Ms. Shapiro stated she would forward the final presentation proposal to the VRATE Board.

### **AT Committee Outreach**

Bea Shapiro inquired whether Jeff Bishop required any assistance regarding the committee's podcasts. Jeff Bishop stated that he was moving forward with the podcasts.

### **AT Trends**

Jeff Bishop stated that he attended the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) National Conference and was able to meet with vendors and Microsoft. He noted that it was a quick trip, but there would be several upcoming technology updates that could be shared at VRATE.

### **Agenda and Date for Next Meeting**

The next meetings of the Assistive Technology Committee were scheduled for August 21st. Agenda items are as follows:

- AT Committee Activities Discussion
- AT Outreach Update
- AT Trends

### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **Public Comment**

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

### **Adjournment of Meeting**

Bob Kresmer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sue LeHew seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm.