Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)

Inaugural Meeting Minutes Summary

March 17, 2015

Introductory remarks were provided by the following individuals: Kris Monteith, the Commission’s Acting Chief of Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB), Karen Peltz Strauss, the Deputy Chief of the CGB, Gregory Hlibok, the Chief of the CGB Disability Rights Office, Elaine E. Gardner, the DAC Designated Federal Officer (DFO), and Andrew Phillips, the DAC Chair. The introduction of the list of DAC members then ensued; the names of the attending members are listed in Appendix A. The agenda is attached as Appendix B.

Paula Silberthau, an attorney with the Commission Office of General Counsel, provided an overview of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and protocols for the DAC as a newly founded Federal advisory committee. For any further questions, contact Elaine Gardner, as the DAC DFO, at [dac@fcc.gov](mailto:dac@fcc.gov). [Elaine, is there a link to FACA rules, etc that is or will be shared with members about FACA rules etc? If not, I’ll spell out Paula’s points here if you’d like.]

Elaine Gardner, DAC DFO, provided an overview of DAC, and its new website, [www.fcc.gpv/disability-advisory-committee](http://www.fcc.gpv/disability-advisory-committee), where many supporting documents may be found. Karen Peltz Strauss added that so many qualified people applied and that those who are serving only on subcommittees are just as critical with their contributions as those serving on the DAC.

Commissioner O’Rielly provided welcoming remarks to thank the group for their service, and that their work “can be an amazing equalizer in today’s society.” A few points were highlighted: that the issues must be reviewed within the context of the entire communications sphere; hence the need to consider the ultimate cost to the American consumer of any recommendation. Also understand the Commission’s past work and rules, and limitations on jurisdiction. Finally, do not underestimate the benefits of incremental improvements to users.

The meeting paused at 11:45 AM for lunch and four subcommittee meetings. DAC reconvened at 3:45 PM to share the top three priorities as follows:

* Relay/Equipment Distribution Subcommittee co-chaired by Brenda Kelly-Frey and Angela Officer (absent), and facilitated by FCC staff Caitlin Vogus and Gregory Hlibok.
* Communications Subcommittee co-chaired by Susan Mazrui and Mark Richert, and facilitated by FCC staff Rosaline Crawford and Eliot Greenwald.
* Video Programming Subcommittee co-chaired by Lise Hamlin and Thomas Wlodkowski, and facilitated by FCC staff Suzy Rosen Singleton and Rosaline Crawford.
* Emergency Communications Committee co-chaired by Toni Dunne and Richard Ray, and facilitated by FCC staff Cheryl King and Suzy Rosen Singleton (who was facilitating a concurrent meeting.)

Consensus was reached to add to the next meeting’s agenda to have FCC staff provide a brief overview of the relevant work and rules of the FCC, perhaps for the past two years. This will assist DAC members in their task to identify gaps and produce recommendations for solutions.

Public Comments.

* Deana (Dee) Boeau, from Sarasota, Florida, expressed concern about captioning quality being thwarted by cut rate captioning contracts in the area.. She was advised that the captioning quality rules go into effect on March 16, 2015.
* Jeremy Jacks, Vice President of CAGG, wanted to commend the FCC and the DAC members for their work, and to encourage them to continue to consult with the industry and experts in formulating recommendations.
* Mark Hill, Cerebral Palsy and Deaf Organization, encouraged the DAC to address the issue of dual relay services and the importance of outreach.
* Dana Mulvaney encourages the creation of a mechanism that allows for public input from stakeholders about issues relevant to the work of the DAC.

The future meeting dates of the DAC were announced to be Tuesday, June 23, 2015, and Thursday, October 8, 2015. The DAC Chair, Andrew Phillips, thanked CTIA and Matt Gerst for the generous sponsorship of the breakfast and lunch for the DAC members and subcommittee members.

Meeting was adjourned.

Appendix A

Disability Advisory Committee Roll Call

March 17, 2015

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Last Name | First Name | Org. Represented |
| Y | Bacon | Everette | National Federation of the Blind |
| N | Bailey (alternate) | Bruce | U.S. Access Board |
| N | Barnes (alt) | Gregory | Digital Media Assocation (DiMA) |
| N | Becker | JoAnn | Perkins School for the Blind |
|  | Bell (alternate) | Avonne | TIA |
|  | Bibler | Ron | Consumer |
|  | Bobeck (alt) | Ann | National Association of Broadcasters |
|  | Bridges | Eric | ACB |
|  | Brooks (alternate) | Marcia | Perkins School for the Blind |
|  | Burstein | Diane | NCTA |
|  | Claypool | Henry | AAPD |
|  | Cooke | Kari | National Black Deaf Advocates |
|  | Creagan | Timothy P. | U.S. Access Board |
|  | Dunne | Toni | Intrado Inc. |
|  | Fields (alt) | Sabrina | Maryland Relay |
|  | Fletcher (alternate) | Mark | Avaya, Inc. |
|  | Forstall | James | TEDPA |
|  | Gerst | Matthew | CTIA - the Wireless Association |
|  | Goldberg | Larry | YAHOO! |
|  | Guinivan (alt) | Phyllis | Center for Disability Studies, CEHD |
|  | Hamlin | Lise | Hearing Loss Association of America |
|  | Joehl | Sam | SSB BART Group |
|  | Jones | Gay | U.S. Department of Homeland Security |
|  | Kelly-Frey | Brenda | NASRA |
|  | Knife | Lee | Digital Media Assocation (DiMA) |
|  | Kramer | Jeff | Verizon |
|  | LaManna (alt) | Eva | AAPD |
|  | Luckett (alternate) | Jill | NCTA |
|  | Martinez | Eddie | Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind |
|  | Mazrui | Susan | AT&T Services, Inc. |
|  | Michaelis | Paul | Avaya, Inc. |
|  | Mitchell | Helena | Wireless RERC |
|  | Nygren | Maggie | AAID |
|  | Parkins (alt) | Jerry | Comcast Cable |
|  | Phillips | Andrew | National Association of the Deaf |
|  | Pila | Joshua | Meredith Corporation |
|  | Podey (alternate) | Stephanie | NCTA |
|  | Rafi | Abe | The Arc |
|  | Rarus (alt) | Nancy | Deaf Seniors of America |
|  | Ray | Richard | City of Los Angeles |
|  | Reid (alternate) | Blake | Colorado Law |
|  | Reynolds | Alexander | Consumer Electronics Association |
|  | Richert | Mark | AFB |
|  | Rohaly | Ann Marie | TIA |
|  | Rosenblum (alt) | Howard | National Association of the Deaf |
|  | Sonnenstrahl | Al | Deaf Seniors of America |
|  | Stout | Claude | TDI, Inc. |
|  | Tan (alternate) | Jamie | AT&T Services, Inc. |
|  | Taylor | Jamie | Deaf Blind Citizens in Action |
|  | Thompson | Hannah | Consumer |
|  | Tobias | Jim | Inclusive Technologies |
|  | Tua-Tupuola | Tafaimameo | American Samoa Community College |
|  | Vogler | Christian | Gallaudet RERC |
|  | Wlodkowski | Thomas | Comcast Cable |
|  | Yousuf | Mohammed | U.S. Department of Transportation |
|  | Yunashko | Bryen | Helen Keller National Center |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

FCC Employees:

Crawford, Rosaline

Gardner, Elaine

Hlibok, Greg

King, Cheryl

Monteith, Kris

Singleton, Suzy Rosen

Strauss, Karen Peltz

Vogus, Caitlin

Appendix B: Agenda

**Federal Communications Commission**

**Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)**

**March 17, 2015**

**Agenda**

8:30 a.m. Arrival; Meet and Greet

Commission Meeting Room Andrew Phillips and Elaine Gardner

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions Office of Chairman Tom Wheeler

Kris Monteith, Acting Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau

Karen Peltz Strauss, Deputy Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau

Gregory Hlibok, Chief, Disability Rights Office

9:20 a.m. Introduction of DAC members

11:00 a.m. Overview of DAC Elaine Gardner

Overview of Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Paula Silberthau

Overview of Subcommittees Andrew Phillips

11:35 Welcome by Commissioner Michael O’Rielly

11:45 a.m. Lunch Break

12:45 p.m. Subcommittee Meetings (Open to Subcommittee Members Only)

Relay/Equipment Distribution Subcommittee Facilitator: Caitlin Vogus

Commission Meeting Room

Communications Subcommittee Facilitator: Rosaline Crawford

Rooms TW-A402/TW-A442

2:00 p.m. Break

2:15 p.m. Video Programming Subcommittee Facilitator: Suzy Rosen Singleton

Commission Meeting Room

Emergency Subcommittee Facilitator: Cheryl King

Rooms TW-A402/TW-A442

3:30 p.m. Break

3:45 p.m. Reconvene DAC Meeting Andrew Phillips

Review Subcommittee Activities

4:30 p.m. Public Participation

4:50 p.m. Closing Remarks and Next Meeting Date

5:00 p.m. Adjournment