

Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)  
Meeting Minutes  
October 8, 2015

After a roll call, introductory remarks were provided by the DAC Designated Federal Officer, Elaine Gardner. Elaine Gardner provided a brief explanation of voting protocol for the DAC and its subcommittees, in response to questions that had arisen since the last meeting. She explained quorums, majorities, and suggested that votes be taken by roll call, in order to ensure that the voting is fully accessible to blind members. She announced that Robert's Rules of Order would generally be followed for voting purposes.

Next FCC staff addressed the status of previous DAC recommendations to the Commission. Cheryl King of the Disability Rights Office reported on the status of the DAC resolution, adopted on June 23, 2015, on Wireless Emergency Alerts. She reported that the FCC Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau is preparing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to incorporate many of the issues from that recommendation, which she stated would hopefully be released before the end of the year. Ms. King stated that, once that Notice is released, the DAC Emergency Communications Subcommittee intends to prepare comments for the record, which it will bring to the full DAC for review.

Greg Hlibok, Chief of the Disability Rights Office next reported on the status of the DAC resolution adopted on June 23, 2015, on Video Relay Service speed of answer requirements, explaining that that Commission is reviewing those recommendations.

Susan Mazrui, DAC Co-Chair and Co-Chair of the Communications Subcommittee, next presented a report and recommendation from that subcommittee. Matthew Gerst of CTIA, the Wireless Association, read the Subcommittee's recommendation on new and emerging technologies, drafted by the subcommittee's New and Emerging Technologies Working Group. A motion was made and seconded for a vote for adoption of the recommendation by the full DAC. A roll call vote was held, and the resolution was adopted.

Elaine Gardner announced that the FCC would be holding a Summit on the Telecommunication Needs of People with Cognitive Disabilities on October 28.

Lise Hamlin next presented a report from the Video Programming Subcommittee. Since the June DAC meeting, the Video Description Working Group received presentations that will help to inform a recommendation on video description which it plans to make at the February 2016 DAC meeting. The Captioning Working Group has been working to produce a first draft of a report on the status and current coverage of IP captioned video. This report will be reported out of the Subcommittee to the full DAC at the February 2016 meeting.

Karen Peltz Strauss, Deputy Chief of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, reported on a Waiver Order released on October 6<sup>th</sup> by the Commission in response to a petition filed by AT&T regarding Real Time Text (RTT). Ms. Strauss explained the AT&T petition and the Waiver Order provisions in detail. Ms. Strauss explained that the waiver is limited to AT&T, and does not extend to other carriers, which have not provided similar information on how they would achieve compliance with FCC accessibility obligations. Ms. Strauss entertained questions. At this point, representatives from AT&T presented a demonstration of RTT.

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Zainab Alkebsi, Chair of the RTT Ad Hoc Subcommittee, next presented that ad hoc subcommittee's recommendation on real time text for consideration for adoption by the DAC. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to hold a vote on adopting the group's recommendation. The motion was passed, and the recommendation was adopted by the DAC.

Karen Peltz Strauss made comments in celebration of the fifth anniversary of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA).

Following a lunch break, Claude Stout announced first that, although he had abstained as committee chair from voting on the Communications Subcommittee and the RTT Ad Hoc Subcommittee recommendations, that he wanted his support for both recommendations to be on the record. Mr. Stout also suggested that in the future, to save time, if the DAC is considering a motion that seems to be unanimously accepted, that he will ask the body to vote by acclamation, and if there is no dissenting vote, the co-chairs will put it on the record that the vote was unanimous. If there is any member, however, who wants an individual roll call vote, the co-chairs will hold the vote in a roll call manner.

Next, the CVAA fifth anniversary was celebrated with remarks from Mark Richert (American Foundation for the Blind), Eric Bridges (American Council of the Blind), Rosaline Crawford (FCC), and Karen Peltz Strauss (FCC). Members added to the celebratory remarks.

Michelle Berlove of the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau next spoke of the Bureau's pending Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on technology transition to the IP network, and the importance of public comment on those issues.

Brenda Kelly-Frye, co-chair of the Relay and Equipment Distribution Subcommittee next gave a report on the activities of that subcommittee and its three working groups: the equipment and training working group, the quality of service working group, and the technology working group. The subcommittee had no recommendations for the DAC's consideration, but gave a progress report to the membership. The equipment and training working group reported that it has been preparing comments for the DAC to review regarding the transition of communication networks to the internet protocol networks. The quality of service working group is continuing to review quality standards for each type of TRS. Ms. Kelly-Frye reported that the working group on technology provided a white paper about real time text to the DAC ad hoc subcommittee on real time text. Discussion was held on the activities of the three working groups.

Toni Dunne provided the report from the Emergency Communications Subcommittee. She reported that the subcommittee's emergency alerting working group intends to have a report on media communication line services (MCLS) for review at the next DAC meeting, in February 2016. Its NG 911 working group intends to have a report and recommendation to be presented to the full DAC at a future meeting.

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Suzy Rosen Singleton of the FCC announced an FCC roundtable to be held November 10, 2015, to address the issue of captioning of public, educational, and governmental (PEG) programming. Elaine Gardner thanked AT&T for the refreshments, and announced future DAC meeting dates: February 23, 2016; June 7, 2016; and September 22, 2016. She also reminded DAC members of the FCC's upcoming summit on the telecommunication needs of people with cognitive disabilities on October 28, 2015.

Claude Stout announced that the meeting would be opened for new business. Lise Hamlin of Hearing Loss Association of America proposed a rule of operation where any kind of prepared presentation or report be circulated to members a week in advance of the DAC meeting in electronic format, so that members can better prepare, and to ensure accessibility. Discussion was held, and it was agreed that last minute changes might be made, which would be provided at the meeting. Matt Gerst of CTIA – the Wireless Association made an amendment that would require that items that are to be voted on at a meeting be circulated at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. Discussion was held, and the motion was made and seconded. A roll call vote was held, and the motion passed.

Further discussion was held on matters of new business. Mark Richert of American Foundation for the Blind initiated a discussion on coordination among federal agencies. Everett Bacon of the National Federation of the Blind suggested that the FCC again provide travel stipends for individuals and nonprofit organizations for representatives to attend DAC meetings.

The public comment period was opened. Dee Boenau, a certified broadcast captioner from Florida, expressed concern that the hiring of broadcast captioners without specific broadcast certification will lead to a decline in the quality of broadcast captioning, and suggested that requirements for certification and identification of captioners be considered. No further public comments were made.

An announcement was made that meetings of the Relay/Equipment Distribution Subcommittee and the Emergency Communications Subcommittee would occur immediately following the meeting's adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:15 PM.

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Appendix A  
Disability Advisory Committee Members in Attendance  
June 23, 2015

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Organization Represented</b>
Alkebsi	Zainab	National Association of the Deaf (NAD)
Bacon	Everette	National Federation of the Blind
Brooks (alternate)	Marcia	Perkins School for the Blind
Bibler	Ron	Consumer
Bridges	Eric	American Council of the Blind (ACB)
Cooke	Kari	National Black Deaf Advocates
Creagan	Timothy P.	U.S. Access Board ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Dunne	Toni	Intrado, Inc.
Ekman	Lisa	American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
Fields (alternate)	Sabrina	Telecommunication Equipment Distribution Program Association
Gerst	Matthew	CTIA - the Wireless Association
Hamlin	Lise	Hearing Loss Association of America
Joehl	Sam	SSB BART Group
Jones	Gay	U.S. Department of Homeland Security ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Kelly-Frye	Brenda	Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (TEDPA)
Knife	Lee	Digital Media Association (DiMA)
Kramer	Jeff	Verizon
Luckett (alternate)	Jill	National Cable & Telecommunications Association (NCTA)
Martinez	Eddie	Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind
Mazrui	Susan	AT&T Services, Inc.
Michaelis	Paul	Avaya, Inc.
Mitchell	Helena	Wireless RERC
Nygren	Maggie	American Assoc. on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities
Pila	Joshua	National Association of Broadcasters (NAB)
Rafi	Abe	The Arc
Ray	Richard	City of Los Angeles
Reynolds	Alexander	Consumer Electronics Association (CEA)
Richert	Mark	American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)
Rohaly	Ann Marie	Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
Stout	Claude	Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc.
Taylor	Jamie	Deaf Blind Citizens in Action
Thompson	Hannah	Consumer
Tobias	Jim	Inclusive Technologies
Tua-Tupuola	Tafaimameo	Association of University Centers on Disability
Vogler	Christian	Gallaudet RERC

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CGB Staff

Rosaline Crawford  
Elaine Gardner  
Eliot Greenwald  
Gregory Hlibok  
Cheryl King  
Alison Kutler  
Suzy Rosen Singleton  
Karen Peltz Strauss

Other FCC Staff

Chairman Tom Wheeler  
Michelle Berlove, WCB