# Minutes

# Iowa Commission for the BlindJuly 16, 2019

1. Call to order and determination of quorum. The special meeting of the Iowa Commission for the Blind was called to order at 9:00 a.m., by Sandi Ryan, with the following members present: Sandi Ryan, chair, Joe Van Lent, member, and Ryan Brems member (telephonically), which was a quorum. Others in attendance: Emily Wharton, Alan Bickell, Melba Urban, Peggy Elliot, Shawn Mayo, Frank Strong, Scott Van Gorp, Don Shepard, Roger Erpelding, Jim Witte, Becky Criswell, James Tigges, Sandy Tigges, Kevin Slayton, Jo Ann Slayton, Janice Eggers, Bob Sheets, Mary Sheets, Connie Urban, Keri Osterhaus, Sarah Willeford, Leslie Heinzler, Tiffany Frankel, Gene Frankel, Helen Stevens, Katherine Witte, James Omvig, Sharon Omvig, Linda Bowding, Carrie Chapman, Lori Trujillo, Brandy Stevenecker, Nyla Wisecup, Lora Van Lent. Telephonically: April Enderton, Creig Slayton, Mike Hoenig, Barb Ray, Cindy Ray, Jim Brickheaven, Gladys Everland, Don Wirth, Michael Barber, and Norma Boge, and Mary Francis Evans. Thank you and welcome.
2. Agency Director Report - Ms. Wharton shared:
   1. Iowa Department for the Blind building space and use, including the career commons and youth library space.
   2. Aides and Devices Store closing.
   3. Community Forums starting tomorrow.
   4. Client Intake Specialist and Independent Living Teachers.
   5. Information sharing and transparency.
   6. Library name change to Iowa Library for Accessible Statewide Services and alternate recommendation Iowa Department for the Blind Library for Accessible Services.
3. Public Comment – The following addressed the board: Jo Ann Slayton; Creig Slayton; Mike Hoenig; Scott Van Gorp, President, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa; Sharon Omvig read a statement for Jim Omvig; Carrie Chapman, President, Iowa Council of the United Blind; Don Wirth; Kevin Slayton; Michael Barber, Library Consumer Advisory Committee Chair; Nyla Wisecup;

Melva Urban; Shawn Mayo; Peggy Elliot; Becky Criswell; Jean Frankell; Mrs. Everland; Norma Boge; and Jo Ann Slayton.

1. Director Wharton Comments:
   1. Aides and Devices store is a convenience not a courtesy.
   2. Library name change
   3. Independence and role of Independent Living staff.
   4. Gifts and Bequests program.
2. Commission Questions and Discussion Regarding the Store Closing
3. Commission Questions and Discussion Regarding the Library Name Change
4. Iowa Library for Accessible Statewide Services - Mr. Brems moved to table the action and asked Director Wharton and Library Director Sarah Willeford to work with the Library Consumer Advisory Committee to obtain that committee’s recommendation. Mr. Van Lent seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
5. Mr. Van Lent moved the meeting adjourn. Mr. Brems seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandi Ryan, Chairperson

Commission for the Blind

Janice EggersSecretary to the Commission/ Executive Secretary

Department for the Blind

/jce