

August 25, 2023

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMISSION

A quarterly meeting of the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission (IDHHC) was held on Friday, August 25, 2023, at IDHHC, 528 S. Fifth Street, Suite 209, Springfield, IL.

Call to Order

Chairperson Dennis O’Brien called the meeting to order at 9:45 AM.

Commissioners Present

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Jean Draths	No	Michael Dubowe	Yes
David Frazier	No	John Jun	Yes	Lori Krakora	Yes
Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes	Josh D. Sevier	Yes
Kevin Smith	Yes				

IDHHC Staff

Benro Ogunyipe, Director

Presentation

- **Gain Awareness About IL LEAD-K**
Anita Cervantes Bowen & Libby Oxenham
IL LEAD-K Co-Chairpersons
il.leadk@gmail.com

Campaign to promote language acquisition

Lori Krakora moved to take a 15 minute break, seconded by Tyrone Barnes. Motion passed.

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

Meeting recessed from 11:12 – 11:25 AM

- **988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline**
Jessena Williams, Statewide Coordinator for Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, & Late-Deafened, Illinois Department of Human Services- Division of Mental Health
Dana Craig, Program Coordinator, IL Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission

Illinois the behavioral health workforce shortage initiative in its infancy

John Jun moved to take a 45-minute lunch break, seconded by Lori Krakora. Motion passed.

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

Meeting recessed from 12:35 – 1:28 PM

Public

None.

Approval Minutes

Lori Krakora moved to approve the minutes as read for the March 2, 2023, seconded by John Jun. Motion passed.

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

IDHHC Chairperson Report

Chairperson O’Brien reported the following:

- Audit Beginning – letter require signature.
- Auditors require certification stating you maintain a valid drivers license and insurance on file.
- Review of new travel copy.
- Review Enacting statutes focus powers/responsibilities and mandates
- Explanation of delay of strategic plan

IDHHC Report

Director Ogunyipe provided the following updates:

- Reviewed the current makeup of the appointed Commissioners. Welcome to Josh Sevier as a newly appointed Commissioner. The only Commissioner serving on an expired term is Lori Krakora. There are currently 1 vacant seats. 2 pending applications under review by the Governor’s Office
- Starting the Compliance Examination for FY 2022 & FY 2023 by the Illinois Auditor General. The result of the audit is reviewed by the Legislature during our budget hearings.
- Review of the FY2023 budget spending and FY2024 spending authority.
- The positions Interpreter Coordinator, Administrative Assistant and Personnel/Fiscal Officer are currently vacant. Interpreter Coordinator remains the priority and discussed the barriers in finding qualified applicants.
- 2023 Professional Interpreter Development Opportunities – used grant \$ to provide these workshops for free.
- Conferences
- Strategic Plan
- Report requirement - Interpreter Report – May 5 and Annual Report

Lori Krakora moved to break at 3:12 PM; seconded by John Jun. Motion passed.

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

Closed Session

John Jun moved to close the meeting pursuant to XX; seconded by Michael Dubowe. Motion passed.

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

Lori Krakora moved after a review of the closed meeting minutes that all closed meeting minutes are to remain closed; seconded by Kevin Smith. Motion passed.

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

Meeting recessed from 2:45 - 3:14 PM

Old Business

- Strategic Plan

Director reviewed the strategic plan survey online.

Shared at IAD &

Discussion to share with Stakeholders

Want to complete by end of FY24 – draft should be in May –

Commissioners job - OUTREACH

- Commission Bylaws
- ***Michael Dubowe moved to table the ByLaw until next meeting; seconded by Josh Michael Dubowe. Motion passed.***

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

New Business

- FY 24 Commission Meeting Dates

Kevin Smith moved to approve the FY24 meeting schedule, seconded by Tyrone Barnes. Motion passed.

Public Comment

None.

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O’Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

Open Discussion

Adjournment

Josh Sevier moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:43 PM, seconded by Tyrone Barnes. Motion passed.

Tyrone Barnes	Yes	Michael Dubowe	Yes	John Jun	Yes
Lori Krakora	Yes	Dennis O'Brien	Yes	Jennifer Sender	Yes
Josh D. Sevier	Yes	Kevin Smith	Yes		

(Signature in file)

Chairperson

Date

(Signature in file)

IDHHC Open Meetings Act Designee

Date

APPROVED