**Illinois School for the Deaf Advisory Council Meeting Summary**

**August 29, 2024**

**9:00am-11:00am**

**Zoom**

**Members Present:**

Michelle Mendiola (Elle), Deb Gossrow, Bregitt Endicott, Tamara Jones, Carrie Tucker

**Members Absent:**

Karla Giese, Jamal Garner, Julee Nist, Shirley Wilson

**Others Present:**

Laci Kennedy, Desa Walls, Jill Bruington, Michelle Brown, Angie Kuhn, Jesse Hayes, Lana Shea

**Welcome, Roll Call and introduction of Visitors:**

* Elle welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 9:14am. Elle announced that the meeting will be recorded and reminded everyone to state their name when they make a comment.
* Roll call and introductions were completed.

**Reading and Approval of May 2, 2024, meeting minutes:**

* Elle pointed out two mistakes that need corrected. The word waived was misspelled and the word addition was written as addiction. Deb made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 2, 2024, with the two corrections. Carrie seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting minutes from May 2, 2024, were approved.

**New Business:**

* **Required Council Member Trainings**
* Elle asked members if they had any issues logging into their trainings and suggested contacting Curt if they experience any problems.
* **PTSO Updates**
* Deb reported that PTSO funds are low with a little less than $1000 in the account. A PTSO fundraiser was held at a local pizza restaurant, and she has been discussing different fundraising ideas with members. Deb added that Desa seems be involved in campus needs and fundraising ideas and would like to work with her.
* **ISDAC Applications**
* Elle emailed Benro Ogunyipe’s ISD Advisory Council application to members just before the meeting and it will be added to the agenda. Elle stated that the council agreed to continue with an odd number of members during the last meeting and there are currently 8 members. Previously, there were two deaf professionals, but Pam resigned leaving Karla as the only deaf professional. Elle asked if anyone would like to make a motion to vote. There were none. Elle read Benro’s application and asked if there were any questions. Carrie read over his application and said it sounds like he could be an asset to the council. Deb agreed. Jesse added that he has known Benro since college, stating that he is professional, humble and would be a beneficial addition. Bregitt shared that she met Benro at a conference and feels he will be beneficial to have on the board. Tamara made a motion to vote on Benro Ogunyipe’s membership as a deaf professional. Deb seconded the motion. Benro was voted into the council with all in favor. Elle stated that Laci will send Benro an Advisory Council welcome letter.

**Old Business:**

* **By-Laws Update**
* Elle reported that the council reviewed the ISD Advisory Council By-Laws last year and forwarded to Julee for legal review. She will check with Julee for approval.

**Reports:**

* **ISD Superintendent’s Report (Julee Nist)**
* Angie shared the superintendent’s report in Julee’s absence. ISD had Camp 1839 this summer. 34 campers participated and had a great time. Activities included: egg drop, micro bits, Sphero minis, tie dye bandanas, Dash, Cubetto, float your boat, Knights Action Park, dodgeball, fishing, volleyball, cornhole, art, and Out Town.

Angie stated that it was a very successful camp and ISD plans to have Camp 1839 again next summer. ISD did get a couple of new students this year after their camp experience. Julee Nist and Amy Veith were confirmed by the Senate. In May, ISD graduated 5 students. Julee encouraged members to follow the ISD Facebook page to keep up to date on happenings at ISD. Angie shared a list of projects that have been completed and others in the process of being completed at ISD. The first day of school was on August 19th and the elementary students were greeted with a bubble gauntlet. The elementary started with a morning meeting and the Jr./Sr. high school students spent the day learning about expectations and procedures. The students participated in fun games and activities on their 1st day back to school. Angie added that ISD has changed their communication platform to Parent Square and thought it would be beneficial to discuss the change by adding it to the agenda for the next meeting. Deb commented that she has starting using Parent Square and really likes it. Angie asked if there were any questions regarding the superintendent’s report. Elle mentioned that her daughters attended Camp 1839 and were curious what the dates will be for next year. Angie stated that she will add that topic to the principals meeting agenda. A save the date flyer will be sent out as soon as the dates are known.

* **Other Department Reports**
* No discussion.

**Discussion:**

* No discussion.

**Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

* Elle mentioned that Parent Square was suggested already. Carrie added that a student presentation would be great and will give the students experience presenting. Deb shared that she didn’t have a topic for the agenda, but she wanted to welcome and congratulate Elle on her new role as Chair.

**Public Comment:**

* Angie announced that there will be a new activity fair that Desa set for the Jr./Sr. high students tomorrow. The event will give the students the opportunity to meet advisors for ISD clubs and sports activities. Elle commented that the fair sounds like a great event and hopes the students will join and be involved in activities.

**Adjourn:**

* Carrie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deb seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:48am.

**Meeting Dates:**

**December 4, 2024, 9am-11am, via Zoom**

**March 6, 2025, 9am-11am, via Zoom**

**May 7, 2025, 9am-12pm, in-person**