

Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)

Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2022

Certified by DAC Co-Chair Brian Scarpelli – November 8, 2022

On November 1, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. EDT, the fifth and final virtual meeting of the fourth term of the DAC was opened by DAC Co-Chair Isidore Niyongabo of the National Black Deaf Advocates (NDBA).

Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel welcomed the members, reviewed FCC's recent achievements, and congratulated the DAC on its accomplishments over the past two years. She also shared that we are in the process of renewing the DAC for a fifth term. Commissioner Nathan Simington discussed how it is our duty to ensure functional equivalence in communications for individuals with disabilities. Commissioner Starks (via video) discussed the upcoming working group report and recommendation on the seamless transition of captioning files for online video programming.

Alejandro Roark, Chief of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB), welcomed the members, provided a brief summary of the DAC working group providing a recommendation today, and then shared gratitude to DAC co-chairs Brian Scarpelli and Isidore Niyongabo and working group chair, Kyle Dixon. Diane Burstein, Deputy Bureau Chief of CGB, expressed her gratitude next.

Joshua Mendelsohn, DAC Designated Federal Officer (DFO), summarized the DAC meeting communications protocols and housekeeping rules. DAC Co-Chair Brian Scarpelli of ACT | The App Association then led a roll call of members, where the DAC members then introduced themselves and their organizational affiliations.

Suzy Rosen Singleton, Chief of the Disability Rights Office (DRO), and Eliot Greenwald, DRO Deputy Chief, shared briefings from DRO and discussed topics of interest, including matters concerning new broadband programs, emergency access, telecommunication access, relay services, and video programming accessibility.

Kyle Dixon of NCTA – The Internet and Television Association, Chair of the Internet Protocol Closed Captioning Files Working Group, then introduced the working group's report and recommendation. The recommendation was voted upon and passed.

Will Schell, DRO Deputy Chief, and Darryl Cooper, DRO Attorney Advisor, led a facilitated conversation on Requests for Dispute Assistance (RDAs). The meeting opened for public comments. Joshua Mendelsohn responded to a question about whether FCC jurisdiction has been extended beyond tv programming as it pertains to closed captioning for online digital streaming platforms such as Google's YouTube.

Closing remarks were made by DAC Co-Chairs Isidore Niyongabo and Brian Scarpelli.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Disability Advisory Committee Members in Attendance

November 1, 2022

Organization	Representative
ACT – the App Association	Brian Scarpelli
American Foundation for the Blind	Sarah Malaier
Apple, Inc.	James Craig
The Arc	Katy Schmid
AT&T	Linda Vandeloop
Bridge Multimedia Corporation	Matthew Kaplowitz
Cerebral Palsy and Deaf Organization	Mark Hill
City of Boston	Carl Richardson
ClearCaptions	Michael Strecker
Comcast Corporation and NBCUniversal Media, LLC	Thomas Wlodkowski
Communications Service for the Deaf, Inc	Juli Robinson
Consumer Technology Association	Rachel Nemeth
Convo Communications, LLC	Amanda Montgomery
CTIA - the Wireless Association	Sarah Leggin
DeafBlind Citizens in Action	Divya Goel
DICAPTA	Maria Victoria Diaz
Hamilton Relay, Inc.	Beth Slough
Hearing Loss Association of America	Lise Hamlin
IBM	Mary Jo Mueller
Mezmo Corporation dba InnoCaption	Cristina O. Duarte
National Association for State Relay Administration	Travis Dougherty
National Association of Broadcasters	Joshua N. Pila
National Association of the Deaf	Zainab Alkebsi
National Black Deaf Advocates	Isidore Niyongabo
National Emergency Number Association	Richard Ray
National Federation of the Blind	Everette Bacon
The Internet & Television Association	Kyle Dixon
Perkins School for the Blind	Kristyn Leigh
Sorenson Communications, LLC	Michael D. Maddix
Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc.	Blake Reid
T-Mobile US, Inc.	Shellie Blakeney
Trace Research and Development Center	Gregg Vanderheiden
Verizon Communications, Inc.	Zachary Bastian
ZP Better Together, LLC	Gregory Hlibok
U.S. Access Board	Timothy P. Creagan
U.S. Department of Education	Brianne Burger
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living	Lisa Bothwell

CGB Staff Speakers

Alejandro Roark

Diane Burstein

Suzy Rosen Singleton

Eliot Greenwald

Will Schell

Darryl Cooper

Josh Mendelsohn