



**Pennsylvania - Delaware Chapter**  
**Association for the Education and Rehabilitation**  
**of the Blind and Visually Impaired**

**Penn-Del AER General Assembly**

**Meeting Minutes**

April 25, 2019

**APPROVED**

Best Western Premier Hotel, Harrisburg, PA

Meeting called to order at 11:45 am by Angela Humbertson, Board President

Parliamentarian: Vince McVeigh

**Attendance**

Penn-Del AER Board Members, General Membership and Conference Attendees

**Officers' Reports**

**President: Angela Humbertson**

Opened with a general welcome and introduction of Board Members and Directors-at-Large.

**Secretary: Kerry Lueders**

The minutes from April 26, 2018 General Assembly Meeting were presented to membership. Mary Nelle McLennan motioned to accept the minutes as submitted, seconded by Rebecca Renshaw. Membership voted and accepted the minutes.

**Treasurer: Vince McVeigh**

Vince McVeigh presented the current balance of the Penn-Del AER account.

**Year In Review**

Rebecca Renshaw presented an overview of the previous year, including updates about

the strategic plan areas of: membership, retention and recruitment; leadership; advocacy (legislation, decrease in APH funding, and laws at federal level related to IDEA funding); non-profit status; professional development and conference; and, board engagement.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Membership Committee – Holly Russell, Committee Member**

The current number of Penn-Del Chapter members was reported to be 164. An overview of the Membership Committee was presented. The committee has been focused on member recruitment and retention and continues to offer raffle incentives to members in the form of: early bird registrations and travel stipends to the upcoming AER International Conference; registrations and travel expenses for the upcoming Penn-Del AER Conference; a wine basket for current members; and, a visa gift card for anyone who joins/rejoins Penn-Del AER and/or their recruiters.

### **Nominations Committee – Angela Humbertson, Chair**

Angela Humbertson reviewed the goal of the Nominating Committee to fill positions on the board.

Nominations for seven Directors-at-Large

Western PA District: John Hofmeister, Ashley Popojas, Venetia Hayden

Eastern PA Region: JoAnn McNamee, Nancy Ashley

Central PA District: Mary Daubenspeck, Doug Williams

Delaware: n/a

There were no officer vacancies this year.

Angela Humbertson asked for nominations from the floor. Vince McVeigh motioned to close the nominations. Rebecca Renshaw seconded the motion. Membership voted to accept the slate of Officers and Board of Directors as presented.

### **By-Laws and Structure Committee – Vince McVeigh, Chair**

There were no by-laws changes proposed this year.

### **Communication Committee – Holly Russell, Chair**

A review of the committee and its subcommittees and goals was presented to the membership.

### **Professional Development Committee – Rebecca Renshaw, Chair**

#### Conference Planning Committee – Angela Humbertson and Holly Russell, Co-chairs

A review of the subcommittee was presented to the membership and committee members were recognized. It was reported that nearly 300 people attended the 2019 Penn-Del AER Conference.

### **Awards Committee – Brenda Egan, Chair**

The goal of the committee was reviewed and a call was made to nominate fellow members for next year's awards.

#### 2019 Award Recipients

Penn-Del AER Richard L. Welsh Service Award: Debby Holzapfel

Elinor Long Educator of the Year (ELEY) Award: Jodi Cox

### **New Business**

#### **BBVS Update: Stan Swaintek BBVS, Acting Director**

A review of BBVS programming, including collaborations and general budgeting information, was presented. Educators were encouraged to develop relationships with their local BBVS representatives.

#### **Leadership Workshop: Mary Nelle McLennan**

A review of the pre-conference leadership workshop was presented and board members involved with the planning were recognized. Members were asked to generate ideas for continued leadership workshops in the future.

### **Conclusion**

The 2020 Penn-Del AER Conference will be held April 22-24, 2020.

Venetia Hayden motioned to adjourn, and Vince McVeigh seconded.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:14 pm.

Submitted by Kerry Lueders, 4/25/19