

## March 19, 2024

**Meeting Opens:** 5:36 p.m.

**Attendance:** SC, AC (remote, childcare), CC (arrived 5:44 p.m.), DMC (remote, scheduling conflict/travel), JD (remote, travel), AE, RH, NP, RQ, MR, SRL, AM.

**Quorum:** YES

**Approval of Minutes December Meeting:** Motion to accept: SC; Seconded: MR. Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, A, Y, Y, Y. Motion Passes.

### New Member:

- Dr. Nadine Petty, Chief Diversity Officer for University System. Here, on behalf of the University System.

### Public Meeting Law Changes:

- Justifications for Absences:
  - Medical/Illness
  - Childcare/Family care
  - Travel/commute related issues
  - Work scheduling conflicts
  - Weather
- **Motion to adopt list of justifications going forward: Motion to Accept: SC; Second: MR. Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y, Y. Motion passes unanimously.**

### Language Access

- Paul Mahnquist from Pocketaalk which produces handheld translation devices and how they are used.
- To discuss this as a tool to improve language access among state agencies.
- Advantage of using a device or application is being able to facilitate one-to-one communication rather than having to work through a third party interpreter.
- 84 languages to choose from.
- Device enables a back and forth by easily swapping the input to listen for
- HIPPA Compliant and GDPR Compliant—EU standards for data compliance; regular tested for intrusion and security attempts.
- Company does not store translations, only language codes and date & time stamps
- A user can prompt the device to store translations on the device
- Needs to be connected to cellular network or a wifi connection
- Each unit under a commercial license: \$279 each, no additional costs for first 2 years. After 2 years, for unlimited cellular data per device \$44 per renewal.
- Device shows an alphabetical listing of languages in English and the other language to help with identifying the languages available to ensure proper use. Working to develop systems to do identify language based upon what it hears.
- 330 minutes of continuous translation time with battery life; can store up to 10,000 translations on the internal storage
- You can do some analysis around languages used on devices

- Device has a camera that can take photos of documents and translate them
- Has features to assess how devices are being used, meaning you can see the usage of a particular device.
- Company is developing a newer service that provides for real time translation and can detect the language being spoken
- Devices do not collect personal identifying information
- The device can struggle with certain slang and idiomatic usage of words and also with individuals who may not be able to enunciate clearly

### **Other**

- Legislation subcommittee needs volunteers.
- We can share the tracking documents so the committee can be aware of what is being monitored, but we have not been able to meet yet.
- We will think about the committee composition.
- Portrait Artists for Rogers Johnson Portrait: A couple of recommendations that we can discuss at the next meeting
- State Council for the Arts could provide a grant to the artist to assist with costs
- Black Heritage Trail marker update
- Technology like Pocketalk is for emergencies as a matter of best practice because it can be prone to errors based around enunciation.
  - Thinking about best practices about when to use technology assisted translation versus in person translation

### **New Business**

- Plans for new presenters moving forward
  - We are open to new suggestions. Steve Mason is supposed to be here next month.
- HB 1028
  - We have some concerns based off of the language changes from the amendment
  - Is the word "solely" of concern enough to exclude people from services?
  - We agreed to take another look and circle back on this issue.

### **Public Comment**

- We had one visitor

**Next Meeting** April 16, 2024; 5:30 p.m. NH Department of Safety

**Adjourn:** 7:07 p.m.