

MINUTES
50th Biennial Conference
Louisiana Association of the Deaf
June 16-17, 2017
Louisiana School for the Deaf
2888 Brightside Lane
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70820

Session 1 (Attachment Sign In Sheet on file)

President Houston Moss called the 50th Biennial Conference to order at 9:03 a.m.

Troy Goss led the signing of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call: President Houston Moss, Vice President Cindy Robillard, 2nd Vice President Alla Tarasyuk, Secretary Lisa Combs, Treasurer Kenny Davis, Member at Large, Wanda Miller, Lacey Richard and Edward Marquez.

Members present: 54

President Moss appointed Kevin O'Donnell and Larry Robillard as Sergeant-at-Arms.

President Houston Moss presented the Conference's Standing Rules. Cindy Robillard (Edward Marquez) moved the Standing Rules be accepted as written. **(CARRIED)** (Attachment B: Standing Rules on file)

PRESIDENT HOUSTON MOSS' REPORT: (Attachment C on file)

- LAD's 1st E-News sent through Internet on July 5th, 2015
- Attended several meetings: Special Education Advocacy Panel (SEAP), Deaf Education Alliance (DEA), and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE).
- Attended with DEA and Deaf Focus a meeting with John White, Supt. of Education, to advocate the implementation of standardized language and communication plan for DDBHH (Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing) students. Disappointed BESE is not enforcing the Communication Plan.
- LAD sponsored with I-LEEAD (Inspiring-Leading-Educating-Employing-Advocating with the Deaf) on Deaf Education 2015 Summit. 105 participants. On behalf of LAD, received a "Certificate of Appreciation" from I-LEEAD in recognizing LAD's contribution and sponsorship of the 2015 Deaf Education Summit.
- Sent article from LAD to NAD Region 3 to be printed in the NADmag.
- Eisenberg and Baum Law Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing from New York presented a workshop on "Know Your Rights and Empowerment Training" in New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Lafayette focusing on Deaf Rights. The center works with Deaf communities to fight employment discrimination, communication barriers, and other legal issues. The Center worked with LAD to provide some training and advocacy information, as well as legal advice, to the Deaf Community in Louisiana.
- On behalf of the LAD sent a letter to all House Representatives asking for support of the amendment on House Bill 100 which eliminated the repeal of Telecommunications for the Deaf Fund.
- Sent a letter to all Senate Representatives concerning SB 226 which proposed to abolish the Telecommunication Fund for the Deaf. SB 226 failed which was Great News.

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- 3/12/16 - Attended the (LRID) Louisiana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf workshop about CDI (Certified Deaf Interpreters) in New Orleans.
- 3/19/16 - Attended the COSD (Council of Organizations Serving for the Deaf) festival in Luling, Louisiana. 426 attended.
- 3/22/16 - Met with Angela Whittaker and staff. Wanda Miller, and Dr. Donna Alleman, Director of LSD to discuss plans to search for the time capsule in the cornerstone at LSD, Mayflower campus
- 3/25/16 - Spent the day at LSD, Mayflower campus, searching for the time capsule with Nate Harvey, maintenance manager at the Dept. of Corrections
- 3/30/16 - Time capsule was located vocational building after being buried for 77 years
- 3/30/16 - Sent a letter to BESE urging the implementation of Act 250 Deaf Child's Bill of Rights.
- 4/4/16 Flash News Announcement of the time capsule being retrieved at the old vocational building, Mayflower campus, via newspaper and TV reporters.
- 5/4/16 - Attended National Rally sponsored by DGM (Deaf Grassroot Movement) and LAD. Over 400 participants.
- 5/20/16 - Celebrated the finding of the time capsule at LSD. Wanda Miller and I gave a presentation. The public and students had an opportunity to view the items through the glass cabinet.
- 7/4-20/26 - Attended the NAD conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Officers elected for 2016-18 were: President - Melissa Draganac-Hawk, Vice President - Joshua Beckman, and Secretary - Jenny Beuchner. Re-elected as Treasurer - Philippe Montalatte.
- Three (3) states (Hawaii, California & Kansas) passed LEAD-K (Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids) legislation. Recommend LAD enact a similar bill in Louisiana.
- NAD top 5 final priorities for 2016-2018
 - National employment resource Center
 - Enhance NAD Info clearinghouse & Communications Strategy
 - Child Protective Services & Best Practices with respect to language/culture
 - Creation of Mental Health Training Program & a Communication Hub on Health Related Infor
 - Campaign to End Language & Cultural Deprivation
- 7/22/16 - Attended Nathan Harvey's funeral. Nate and I searched for the time capsule.
- 8/18-19/16 - ZVRS reached out to flood victims and donated two (2) VP devices for office use to help victims during the flood and any disasters that may occur in the future.
- 8/23/16 - 8/24/16 Approval from Bingo's OCG (Office of Charitable Gaming) on behalf of ZVRS to set up GOFUNDME account. Joe Riggio from ZVRS flew down and created the account online, toured disaster areas in Baton Rouge, and made video of 2016 Flood for I-Deaf News.
- 8/24-27/16 - LAD's Office was open to those affected by the flood to apply for FEMA and other assistance.
- 9/2/16 - DSNAP (emergency food stamps) staff, along with interpreters, distributed food stamps to flood victims at LAD's office.

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- 12/2/16 - Attended the LCD meeting. A motion was passed to add \$250,000 to increase the hours of service of SSP providers for Deaf-Blind citizens. Previous budget was \$185,000 bringing total funding for SSP providers to \$435,000.
- 12/3 & 4/16 - Thirty (30) flood families picked up their Wal-Mart gift cards at LAD office. They thanked LAD so much from their hearts for helping. The other eleven were given at other locations or mailed out of town. Total 41 flood victims.
- 12/21/16 - On behalf of the LAD attended the Elementary Christmas program and donated \$1,200 worth of presents to the Elementary students at LSD. The students, parents, and staff thanked LAD so much.
- 1/2/17 - Attended Baton Rouge's Mayor Sharon W. Broome's inauguration
- 1/14/17 - LAD hosted Heather Harker & Storm Smith's "Conflict Transformation: What does it have to do with me?" workshop.
- 1/27-28/17 - Attended the Deaf Education Alliance Summit 2017 in New Orleans, LA
 - Keynote Speaker - Rachel Coleman: Early Childhood Bilingualism with Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students & Impact on Student Outcomes
 - Executive Director of the Governor's office for Disability Affairs - Bambi Polotzola
 - Mock IEP - Angela Trahan
 - Keynote Speaker - Paula Rodriguez
 - Total of 11 Breakout Sessions

VICE PRESIDENT CINDY ROBILLARD'S REPORT:

- Four (4) Bylaws committee members: Jimmy Gore, Lisa Combs, Alla Tarasyuk, and Cleve Cormier.
- Sixty (60) days dates prior to conference Bylaws sent to members with the suggested revisions from the attorney. Revisions are in different colors - blue, red, green and purple. After sixty (60) days, we received Bylaws proposals from members. Thirty (30) days before the conferences, these proposals were sent to members. All proposals will be discussed in Session 2.
- Green print are proposals from Bylaws Committee. Proposals in purple are from members. Members will be allowed to discuss and vote on each proposal.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT ALLA TARASYUK'S REPORT: (Chart on file)

- Second Vice President's duties include programs for young deaf teens and adults and other responsibilities.
Focus on recruiting Youth. I am optimistic that we can shift this Youth Program from being in the Growth to Expansion stage.
- In 2015 and 2016 had some development. In 2017, some growth in program. In 2019 potential for expansion.
- Developed Youth Program Guidelines and recommend guidelines be kept separated from the ByLaws to make revisions as needed.
- In contact with Lafayette High School to establish a Metro Junior NAD program. Hopefully can find a volunteer to sponsor the Metro Junior NAD program in that area by 2019.
- LAD sponsored three (3) Deaf students to the Youth Leadership Camp (YLC) in 2016. Will sponsor three (3) students to YLC July 17 to August 12, 2017.

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- November 17-22, 2015 LAD sponsored two (2) students to the Jr NAD conference in Orlando and St. Augustine, FL. Learned what being a Jr NAD was about.
- Represented LAD at National Leadership Training Conference (NLTC) in Birmingham, AL on September 23-26, 2016. Information shared with Board. DVD was given to LAD. Next NLTC will be in Orlando, Florida.
- Assigned to Code of Ethics Committee.
- Attended NAD Conference in Phoenix, Arizona July 5-9, 2016.

SECRETARY LISA COMBS' REPORT: No Report

TREASURER KENNY DAVIS' REPORT: (Attachment on file)

- Two financial reports presented. Available are the 2015 and 2016 books and January – April 2017. Available also is a 11 by 17 spreadsheet of expenditures including payees.
- At every board meeting and before the conference, financial information is available. Monthly auditors are Dale Brazzle (Baton Rouge) and Larry Robillard (Lafayette). They audited monthly all financial reports and the conference financial reports. They verify income and expenditures.
- Available are quarterly reports to the Office of Charitable Gaming. The next quarter ends in June but it must be turned in by July 31st. Late reports subject to fines. Paper reports discontinued in 2015. On-line reports required and involves the completion of all forms online. Attachments are scanned. Completed paperwork is submitted to OCG. If error(s) is found, we are notified and must respond immediately.
- OCG auditor reviews the forms differently.
- Bingo players who received FEMA money spent their money on bingo. LAD earned more so had to pay more taxes. LAD paid federal tax of \$24,972 for Year 2016.
- Quarterly taxes for 2016 paid on time. Form 990T filed in January 2017 showed underestimated taxes and penalty of \$141 was assessed for late report.
- LAD paid in 2016 CIFT 620 property taxes every quarter.
- Hansen Touchard (New Orleans) and Melvin Royer (Lafayette) appointed to Auditing Committee. On May 21st, financial reports for Year 2015 and 2016, signed and included in program books. (See Financial Reports attachments)
- LAD Bingo chair Karen Deville helps complete and faxes reports to Bingo Enforcement Divisions which must be completed within seven (7) business days. We keep each other informed of regulations and completing the forms. Information required vary from parish to parish. For example, East Baton Rouge is required to pay 5 percent of gross receipts which is not required in Lafayette Parish.
- Federal and State Taxes
 - Year 2016
 - Paid \$24,972.00 - Form 990T
 - Paid \$141.00 - penalty for the underpayment of estimated tax
 - Paid \$3,241.00 - Form CIFT-620
 - Year 2017 Estimated Taxes
 - Pay \$19,960.00 per quarter - Form 990T
 - Pay \$2,620.00 per quarter - CIFT-620

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- Paid \$1,400.00 to L.A. Champagne and Co., LLP for filing the tax returns for Year 2016
- Account Balances: As of March 2017 - \$425,593.69
 As of April 2017 - \$381,621.92

Treasurer's Report accepted as presented.

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE REPORTS:

Lacey Richard:

- September 2015 Participated in LAD Bylaws Committee, NAD youth program, and the Youth Ambassador Program. LAD no longer hosts Miss LAD pageant.
- Worked with Second Vice President Alla Tarasyuk on Youth Program.
- Add tint to windows to keep the LAD office cooler and save energy cost.
- 2015 Guidelines for Youth Ambassador Program.
- Open House scheduled for Fall 2016 was postponed to April 29, 2017 because of Great Flood Disaster and later cancelled.

Wanda Miller:

- Collaborated with President on time capsule at LSD.
- Worked on development of a pictorial history of the LAD. Found pictures at LSD Archives, at the LAD office and from members. Pictures need to be enlarged and put into a special album telling the story about the LAD.

Edward Marquez: No Report.

APPROVAL OF 2015 LAD CONFERENCE MINUTES:

Jay Isch (Fallon Frederick) moved ByLaws session be suspended at 2:45 p.m. to watch signing of two bills by Governor Edwards. **(CARRIED)**

Session 1 is concluded.

Larry LeBert replaced Larry Robillard as Sergeant-at-Arms.

Session 2 (Attachment Sign In Sheet on file)

President Moss called Session 2 to order at 12:35 p.m. Roll call: 62 members present.

President Moss announced vote on amendments is 2/3 of majority in attendance. Must have 40 votes for amendments to be enacted.

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BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT: Vice President Cindy Robillard, chair. (Attachment on file)

NOTE: Legend per letter dated March 5, 2017 Blue verbiage – text to be inserted from lawyer; red verbiage – text to be delete from lawyer and Committee; green verbiage – text from ByLaws Committee.

James Gregory (Ed Wood) moved the red text be removed {Dues are paid and current, i.e. Dues must be paid biennially by March 31st in every numbered year} and the blue text (Only members whose dues are paid and current pursuant to Article III. Section 7 shall be members in good standing of LAD) to be added in bylaws **(FAILED)**

Article I - No change.

ARTICLE II - No change.

ARTICLE III - Kenny David (Jay Isch) amended Article III. Section 7: MEMBERSHIP DUES. Dues are paid and current, i.e. Dues must shall be paid biennially by March 31st in every odd numbered year. The member who pays past due will not be eligible to run as an officer.

Remove red print, add blue print. FAILED. ARTICLE III. SECTION 7 –Stay as is.

Sections 1-7 carried as is.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS. SECTION 1: OFFICERS. The Executive Board officers of the LAD shall consist of President, Vice President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers are elected for a term of two (2) years.

Delete: The LAD Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Board and three (3) Members at Large.

Delete: The LAD Full Board shall consist of the Executive Board and Chapter Representatives.

Delete: the Executive Board and Second Vice-President. **(CARRIED)**

SECTION 4: ELECTION FOR OFFICE

1. We need to change the grammar. It reads Deaf, Hard of Hearing and or Deaf-Blind. Delete and, add or to read Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Deaf-Blind. Passed.

SECTION 5 LIMITATION

No LAD Board members shall not hold more than one office on the LAD Full Board.

Delete: not. **(CARRIED)**

LIMITATIONS AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE ARE THE SAME SENTENCE UNDER ARTICLES IV AND VI.

Delete: ARTICLES VI SECTIONS 2 AND 3. **(CARRIED)**

Section 8: Vacancies

Delete: Second Vice President. **(CARRIED)**

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Section 9: RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

Delete: state

RECESS WATCH LIVE VIDEO. NO VIDEO SHOWN. MEETING RESUMED AT 3:08 p.m..
Members present was 71 at beginning of meeting but now 57 members are present.

ARTICLE VI: LAD BOARD. SECTION 1:

Delete: Second Vice President and Representative

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE BOARD. SECTION 1: AUTHORITY

Delete: the Second Vice President, its Board and membership meetings and shall act as.

SECTION 2: EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

Delete: consist of all

ARTICLE VIII: ADVISORY BOARD AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS WAS ADDED.

SECTION 3:

c. Change verbiage from red to blue: Organizations must maintain membership in LAD by paying required LAD dues

ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

SECTION 4: NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Removed blue verbiage. Does this mean to delete the blue print???)

SECTION 5: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Delete red verbiage. Add blue verbiage.

SECTION 6: OTHER COMMITTEES

Delete the red verbiage.

ARTICLE X: LAD ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY

The LAD Board of Directors shall have authority to transact all business of the Association during the intervals between regular Conferences Meetings.

Delete: regular and s

The President with prior approval of the LAD Board of Directors shall have authority to conduct any official business during the board meeting intervals.

Delete: with prior approval of the LAD Board of Directors; replace with The LAD Board may delegate to the President, the authority to conduct any official business during the board meeting intervals.

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ARTICLE XI: DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE FOR LAD MEMBERS

Section REFER TO LAWYER

ARTICLE XII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

ByLaws Committee added "or professional parliamentarian and the words [Robert's Rules of Order "Newly Revised 11th Edition"](#)

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Delete red verbiage. Blue Verbiage stay.

ARTICLE XIV: DISSOLUTION

Add (s) to Organization(s) [on blue verbiage.](#)

ARTICLE XV: NOTICE

[Blue verbiage is from our attorney.](#)

Vote on all bylaws except Article 11 Discipline Procedure. **(CARRIED).**

We added wording "[CONFERENCE MEETINGS](#)" (blue verbiage)

STANDING RULES OF THE LAD

Contents remain same.

TRAVEL EXPENSES TO ATTEND NATIONAL/REGIONAL CONFERENCES OR MEETINGS

No change.

OFFICER'S COMPENSATED POSITION

No changes.

EXPENSES OF LAD BOARD

Delete [red verbiage](#) and inserted after...reimbursement for [out of town](#) travel expenses...

CONTRIBUTION/FLOWERS TO DECEASED PAST/PRESENT OFFICERS

No changes

USE OF PREPAID CREDIT/DEBIT CARD

No changes

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YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP

No changes

LAD E-NEWS

See text on attachment.

Guidelines for LAD ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP AND COMMUNITY/LEADERSHIP AWARD

See attachment; includes guidelines for Youth Development, Educational Scholarship, and Community/Leadership awards.

Vice President Robillard announced discussion on the red and blue verbiage of the ByLaws is concluded.

Session 3 (Attachment Sign In Sheet on file)

Session 3 called to order at 3:30 p.m. Roll call: 57 members present.

ByLaws Committee Report continued with proposals in purple print (See attachment on file)

James Gregory withdrew all the proposals he submitted.

Micah Roberts' proposal cannot be submitted since he is not present.

Patti Moss (James Gregory) proposed the member who pay past due date will not be eligible to run as an officer and cannot make motions or vote at any members. **(FAILED)**

Patti Moss (Sherry Crosby) moved **ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD. SECTION 2 BYLAWS COMMITTEE: Full Members.** *The additional full member will be removed. Associate member will stay in place. **(FAILED)**

ARTICLE IV - ELECTION: TREASURER

Patti Moss moved the 1st choice shall be a resident of where LAD's Home office is located in Baton Rouge Metro Area **(CARRIED)**

Gerald Bamburg moved the President select the Youth Development/Leadership Director subject to Board approval. **(CARRIED)**

Section 4: Election for Office

Gerald Bamburg moved to remove Article IV Section 4: candidate can run for any office without show up last two years at conference effective now. **(FAILED)**

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ARTICLE XII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Kenny Davis moved The President shall appoint a certified or professional parliamentarian for special meetings and conferences excluding board meetings. **(CARRIED)**

Session 3 adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

June 17, 2017 Session 4 (Attachment Sign In Sheet on file)

President Moss called Session 4 to order at 9:10 a.m.

President Moss appointed Gary Gill and Kevin O'Donnell as Sergeant-at-Arms.

Roll call: 72 members

President Moss summarized the ByLaws Sessions: red verbiage removed; blue verbiage inserted, Discipline Section referred to ByLaws Committee, and a proposal first choice of Treasurer be from Metro Baton Rouge area all were passed. (NOTE: President asked how many registered.)

President Moss: All in favor of ratifying the ByLaws as amended. Passed 38 – 5.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Code of Ethics and workshop on the State Law for Non-Profit Organizations be deferred to 2017-19 officers for action. **(CARRIED)**

NEW BUSINESS:

Sherry Crosby (Elizabeth Heurtin) moved LAD have a page of contributions in the conference program book. Jad Gore (Hansen Touchard) amended also on website post contributions. **(MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, CARRIED)**

Patty Warmack (Glenda Mathis) moved to have the ByLaws included in the program book binder for the year 2019. **(CARRIED)**

Kevin O'Donnell (Larry Robillard) moved any officer who resigns from any position must turn in all property of LAD within 30 days. **Referred to the Bylaws Committee**

Patty Warmack (Glenda Mathis) moved LAD use larger print projector screen or 62-64" TV to read bylaws, etc. **(CARRIED)**

Paul Winfree (Sherry Crosby) moved all of LAD permanent and/or AD-HOC Committee are required to submit written committee reports to the LAD Board and members. **(CARRIED)**

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Paul Winfree (Sherry Crosby) moved LAD's committees notify members thirty (30) days prior to committee meetings. **(CARRIED)**

Sherry Crosby (Carla Miller) moved LAD to post on website a list of LAD committees, including committee members. **(CARRIED)**

Sherry Crosby (Carla Miller) moved the next conference meeting should be free to all members except workshop, banquet and special events. Jay Isch (Paul Winfree) amended the motion to ensure that LAD's Biennial Election is free to all members in good standing. **(MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, FAILED)**

Jay Isch (Jad Gore) moved there be an open membership meeting before each quarterly Board meeting. **(CARRIED)**

Jad Gore (Jay Isch) moved to establish an Ad Hoc committee, composed of ten members (two from each area), to investigate ways to reduce the cost of the biennial conference. **(FAILED)**

ELECTION OF 2017-19 OFFICERS

President	Kenny Davis
Vice President	Cindy Robillard
Secretary	Jimmy Gore
Treasurer	Houston Moss
Members-at-Large	Wanda Miller
	Alla Tarasyuk
	Lacey Richard

The 50th Biennial Conference of the Louisiana Association of the Deaf adjourn at 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Combs, Secretary

Approved:

Ad Hoc Minutes Committee

Fallon Frederick, Chair

Jay Isch

Kevin O'Donnell

Mary Smith

Lisa Combs, LAD Secretary

August 13, 2017