

LAD
Board Meeting
Lafayette Athletic Association of the Deaf, Lafayette
Saturday, November 12, 2011
9 AM

Vice President Thelma Covello announced she would preside over the meeting as President Estes was unable to attend the meeting because his wife had been in an automobile accident.

Roll Call:

Executive Officers: Vice President Thelma Covello, Secretary Michelli LeFors and Treasurer David LeFors.

Members at Large: Cindy Robillard, Daryl Argrave and Tanya Brown.

Chapter Representatives: Shirley Delahoussaye-LRID, Melvin Royer-LAAD, Larry Robillard-AAD, Judith Perrodin – LADBC.

Absentee: President Walker Estes.

Approval of minutes – the minutes of the August 20, 2011 board meeting were corrected by removing: ~~“Old Officers does not accept what I have done...”~~ from the Vice President’s report.

Officers Report:

President Report (presented by Vice President Thelma Covello):

- Need to have a representative for LRID from LAD.
- Need to have a workshop for Parents with a Deaf Child, considering Deaf Education. Include Deaf and Blind. We need to ask State to providing trainings. (no documents provided)
- GNOAD wants to affiliate with our organization. (No document provided)

Vice President’s report:

- Went to NTLC in Minnesota. The presenters utilized USB courses download into laptop, computers, rather than the traditional program book. Learned about investments, 501.3, and representation. (Gave out USB copies to the officers and representatives).
- Expressed regret for inappropriate sign language of Louisiana.
- The NAD Miss Deaf America pageant will be held at the 51st Biennial NAD Conference in Louisville, KY July 3-7, 2012. The pageant, celebrating 40 years, will mark a farewell to the competition as a pageant for young women. The 2014 pageant competition will be for NAD Ambassador and will be open to both young men and young women.

Secretary’s Report:

- The website is being upgraded. It is costly to pull the templates in order to change each programs.
- Will accept the appointment as LAD Representative to LRID Board if approved by the LAD Board.
- Conflicts with LAD President Estes will be discussed in New Business.
- Need clarification to differentiate between organization and affiliate designations.
- Pageants and Youth Development – Have been unable to locate Pageant and Youth Development guidelines from files of previous administration.

Treasurer’s Report: (comes with attachment of documents)

- Concerned that the investment stock is declining in value. This will be bought before the Ways & Means and Investment committees and possibly will recommend stock restrictions requiring Board approval. Because Investment through Merrill Lynch has declined by \$25,000 in the past four months, other investment firms are being consulted. Considering moving investments to Lee Kramer or Louis Schwarz, or possibly both, depending on what they have offered.
- Magic Tour Reports – the profit was not as much anticipated because of expenses. Thanks for dedication and efforts of the supporters across the state.
- Wal-Mart’s Deaf Children’s Golf Classic – had nineteen player teams, included two (4 member each) deaf player teams. We expect all the ledges to be collected by Spring 2012 and will be able to determine the profit at that time.
- New Budgets Plan – by Investments as since Merrill Lynch – stock that need to transfer to low risk, but so far we lost \$25 thousands dollar within four months. We have to put this interruption/frozen until we need to find some Investment stockbroker to see what they are offering – Lee Kraemer and Louis Schwartz to see who is top or divided in both.

Members at Larges’ Report:

Cindy Robillard: Would like to have a Deaf Symposium in the future.

Tanya Brown: announced that Darius Porter had been appointed NOBDA Representative to LAD and would attend the next Board meeting. She appreciated the opportunity to serve as president of NOBDA but would be stepping down as of December 31, 2011. Though, the Xavier University facility was overcrowded for the Magic Tour in New Orleans, the NOBDA made a good profit from concessions.

Daryl Argrave: None.

Chapter Representatives’ Report:

LAAD Rep. Melvin Royer: None

LRID Rep. Shirley Delahoussaye: announcement about new officers of LRID and Representatives, MOU and her farewell from being representative of 8 years of LRID. For her personal note – “I have truly enjoyed serving on the LAD Board as the LRID Representative for a total 8 years. I am “retiring” from

that, but I will continue to maintain my membership and actively support both organizations! Best wishes to ALL Board members for successful term!"

AAD Rep. Larry Robillard: None

LADBC Judith Perrodin: None

Old Business:

Audit Committees: David LeFors, Treasurer reported that auditors Chad Cormier and Nick Imme had audited the financials and signed them in agreement.

Bylaws – A private of the Bylaws Committee was held at the LAD Office. Members, by invitation, were asked to attend and discuss proposals to amend the bylaws. Four members attended. Their proposals will be considered at the 2013 conference. The current bylaws posted on the website were accepted in 2005. There have been no changes since that time. Members requesting a copy of the bylaws - can get them from the website, only.

Ways and Means committee compared the service of ooVoo and ZVRS, which had been referred to committee last meeting. They decided on ZVRS because of the online conference room that would accommodate up to eight people at a time with advance reservations, at no charge. The ooVoo services were declined because of high cost. **PASSED**

New Business:

Bylaws – Melvin Royer (Shirley Delahoussaye) a motion was made to schedule a full day session so that members could discuss proposed revisions to the bylaws before the 2013 conference. Location to be decided at a later time. **PASSED**

GNOAD – As no documentation was submitted.

Louisiana Commission for the Deaf (LCD) – Tanya Brown (Melvin Royer) , LCD member John K. Davis informed the Board of 2013 LCD budget reductions from \$5 million to \$1.2 million. This would have a negative effect on funding available for hearing aids, interpreters and SSP. LCD recommended that LAD hire Rep. Yvonne Dorsey to lobby and to draft a letter to the legislatures from LAD and the deaf community, requesting additional funding for these vital services. The telephone tax could be re-evaluated. Revenues from the \$.25 tax on business and residential usage has been declining with the increase of mobile devices. Reducing the tax to \$.04, but including mobile phones would bring additional revenues. Secretary Michelli LeFors agreed to meet with lobbyist and former LAD Officers to prepare the letter. **PASSED**

Magic Tour (Paul Winfree) – Treasurer David LeFors moved to compensate Paul Winfree for his personal expenses (food, tools, lodging and transportation) acquired in overseeing the Magic Tour in LA, even though there was no contract or prior agreement. – **FAILED**

LAD Representative to LRID – Larry Robillard (Shirley Delahoussaye) moved to have Michelli LeFors to be nominated to be the LAD Delegate to LRID. **PASSED**

Investment Committee- Larry Robillard (Daryl Argrave) move: members would be: Andrew Veith, Larry LeFors, Houston Moss, and John Kenny Davis, with Treasurer David LeFors as chairperson. **PASSED**

Gaming Committee (Bingo) – Larry Robillard (Daryl Argrave) move: members would be: Huey Barbin, Pauline Wood, Larry Robillard and Delvin Fontenot, with Treasurer David LeFors as chairperson. **CARRIED**

Deaf Focus – Andrew Veith was at the moment, presently to representative for Jennie Bourgeois in her absence.

(A) At present, they were taking a survey and collecting data from deaf individuals, seeking information on life experiences that resulted in frustration with interpreters, doctors, schools and the community in general. The data would be collected by July 2012 and provided to appropriate state agencies in order to correct these problems. **NO MOTION.**

(B) CDI – Requested that LAD set up a fund for education/interpreter training for SSP. The appropriate training would be at a CDI retreat where CDI certification would be available. Thirty people would be needed for the retreat, with approval for funding by January 20, 2012. – **NO MOTION**

(C) Kidz Kamp – Requested a donation from LAD for Kidz Kamp. LAD donated \$200 last year in very last minute but more kids were expected to attend so they were asking for a \$2,000 donation.

REFERRED TO WAYS AND MEANS.

LSDAA – David LeFors (Cindy Robillard) moved to needs to LSDAA preserved. Presently, there are no officers or members. There is money in the treasury being maintained by Devlin Fontenot. LAD has an obligation to honor LSDAA because its members were instrumental in developing LAD. LSD Principal Rayburn Boland is willing to offer the continued use of the hall of fame and museum. A membership drive is planned to seek out alumni so that an election for moral leadership can be held. Sadly, some of LSDAA's best leaders are no longer here: David Oglethorpe, Glen Deville and Max Ray. LAD can help by promotion the LSDAA in the BSB. – **CARRIED**

Walker Estes – matter referred to Executive Board Session presided over by Vice President Thelma Covello.

The meeting was held over during the Executive Session.

Vice President Thelma announced the next board meeting in Alexandria.

Announcements –

Larry Robillard – Dec 10, for AAD revised with Bylaws and renew membership, also will have a Christmas party.

Tanya Brown – NOBDA as will have an election of new officers this coming December 10.

Mevlin Royer– ASL Film Movie.

LAAD do have a property rental for \$450 as such as wedding, shower, party – if you are member of LAAD, we do give \$100 discount.

December 31, LAAD will have a “Red Carpet”, for more information – still on TBA - at LAAD.

December 4, LAAD will have a Christmas Children party

Thelma Covello -Deaf Senior Citizen America – will be postponed and be in Baltimore, MD in 2013 – checking dsa.org for more information.

I went to Utah to see Nation Deaf Blind Equipment Programs that FCC providing a fund to every state – Deaf-blind ballots programs – need to check on 21st century community. For more information – check on <http://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-invites-applicants-conduct-national-outreach-ndbedp>

Adjourned at 2:10pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Michelli H. LeFors, Secretary of LAD: 2011-2013

Revised and proved: February 11, 2012