

Louisiana Association of the Deaf, Inc.  
49<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference  
Embassy Hotel and Suites, Baton Rouge, LA  
The Journey to Unity

**June 6, 2015 at 1:05 pm**

Roll Call: 45 registrants

**Session One (Officers Reports)**

**President's report**

- \*Larry Robillard and Floyd Perrodin are the Sergeant-in-Arms.
- \*Introduction of LAD Board Officers and Chapter Representatives.
- \*LAD's purpose is to help you in any way that we can and need your support for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind's community, leadership. The board is still working closely with the legislators.
- \*What the board has been doing during October 2013 to present.
  - \*LAD set up a booth at the ASL Expo in Mandeville, LA.
  - \*Donated to Helen Keller Awareness Week 2013/2014
  - \*Donated to Kidz Kamp 2013/2014/2015 for (Camping and Halloween party)
  - \*Donated to LRID \$250.00 to defray the flight ticket for Deborah Peterson
  - \*Donated shirts for four (4) LSD students and 2 chaperones to go to the Academic Bowl
  - \*Houston Moss, Thelma Covello, and I went to NAD (National Association of the Deaf) in Atlanta, Georgia in 2014 and the next NAD Conference will be held in Phoenix, Arizona in 2016.
    - a) Jerry Nelson is our new Region 3 Board Member with Larry Evans. We just found out that Larry Evan from Austin, Texas had resigned as Board Member for Region 3 due to his health and family. Holly Ketchum from Little Rock, AR replaced him.
    - b) Top 5 out of 24 priorities that NAD will work on first then after they are processed completely, will work on the other priorities later.
    - c) Top 5 prosperities are Education, Mental Health, Youth, Video Relay Interpreting, and FEMA.
- \*Donated to LSD Foundation (Dash 5-K), Deaf Focus, ILEEAD, New Orleans Black Deaf Advocates (NOBDA)
- \*LAD donated to LSD Senior Scholarship and LADBC Retreat Camp.
- \*Guest Speaker during Christmas Gala for MAD (Mississippi Association of the Deaf)
- \*Kim Bianca-Majeri, NAD – Legislative Advisory Training Workshop. It was worth to attend her workshop as we learned a lot how to work with senators and legislators.
- \*Involved with Special Education Advocacy Panelist (SEAP) meetings and had a meeting with Shawn Fleming, Special Education Deputy Commissioner about Special Education Forum.
- \*Discussed with Shawn Fleming about Education/Act 833
- \*Task Force on EDHI (Early Hearing Detection and Intervention)
- \*Involved with Louisiana Summit for Deaf Education Reform workshop. Donation made to defray Beth Benedict's flight, hotel and meals. The next workshop will be in September, 2015. (TBA)
- \*LAD set up the booth at the Deaf Nation Expo in Baton Rouge, LA (1,100 and plus people attended) and look on the Deaf Nation Expo website.
- \*Purchased a New Copy Machine
- \*Went to Xavier University to meet RID President and the committees during RID Open Ceremony and they will have RID conference in New Orleans on August 8-12, 2015.

- \*Donation to Amelia Manor Nursing Home for games and activities.
- \*Donation to LRID for their workshop
- \*Louisiana School for the Deaf Tour
- \*Attended Louisiana School for the Deaf on their Lagniappe Children's Village Grand Opening
- \*LAD had been involved with Deaf Education Alliance to work on Deaf Child's Bill of Rights. It passed on Senate/House votes and one more step will be to our Governor Jindal for his signature. The next step is to work on EIPA and our passions are working with deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf/blind's community. We need to work as team and we need your support.
- \* Anna Gremillion is the oldest L.A.D. member.
- \*I wanted to let you know that we attended the hearing at court not a trial "Lisa Potter vs. LAD" and it is about open books (finance reports, minutes, records, etc.). Just let you all know that we never said no as we offered to open the books at the LAD Conference. We also offered to open the books on May 23, 2015 and she rejected and we ended up going to court. The judge ordered the date for her to investigate on May 23, 2015 and unfortunately she never showed up. She continued to go court again on May 27, 2015 to set the date on Monday, June 1, 2015 and Wednesday, June 3, 2015. She copied all the records, minutes, checks, bank statements and the members' addresses/email addresses. We could have used the money to donate youth and charities but it is addresses to the court and attorney fees. We don't know what she is looking for.

#### **Vice-President's reports:**

- \*DEA (Deaf Education Alliance) with LAD Board worked closely together and had a very successful Educational Summit. Over 100 attended. Parents, professionals, deaf citizens and other attended and our Keynote speaker was Beth Benedict. It was held at the West Baton Rouge Conference Center in Port Allen, LA.
- \* Legislation workshop was held at Calloway Inn and our presenter was Kim Majeri and she gave some tips how to present a bill to pass through Louisiana's Legislative as she advised.
- \* Deaf Education Alliance (DEA) has been working non-stop on revisions to the Deaf Child Bill of Rights. I have been involved at attending every meeting since the start of August 2014 and the Deaf Child's Bill of Rights passed and am now schedules for floor debate on June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- \*By-Laws Chairman
  - 1) The board passed for the treasurer and bingo chair to be compensated for their work which is written in the minutes and they need to be added on the by-laws.
  - 2) Unfortunately LAD has lost lots of money by paying attorney fees last 4 years. Members go to the attorneys whenever they want to without the board's approval. LAD by-laws have SPECIAL MEETING to follow through first before going to the attorneys. (2009, by-laws page 4)
  - 3) It is very important that everyone pays attention to the by-laws because we have 35 proposals to tend to in 4.5 hours.
  - 4) Necrology
  - 5) Resolution
- \*Chris Wagner challenged all State Associations to bring more youths to NAD Conference 2016.
- \* Spent more time on by-laws since 2009 which was the last revision.
- \*Pauline Wood asked Anna Gremillion to lead the prayers for LAD necrology.
  - Added 3 more to necrology and they are Betty Rome, Gloria Barbin, and Totia Giblin.
- \*Look at the resolution on the screen.

**Secretary's Report:**

- \*Any board meeting minutes will be posted on website after the board approve first.
- \* Lisa Potter has all LAD members' addresses, VP phone numbers, and email addresses which we Cannot maintain members confidentially.
- \*NAD Conference in Phoenix, Arizona on 5-8 July 2016.
- \* Please sign your name on each session.
- \*Remind any member to get your renew their membership.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| * Balance of Month | Amount of Month |
| February 2015      | \$375,737.02    |
| March 2015         | \$377,831.59    |
| April 2015         | \$357,535.01    |
- \*Federal and State Taxes
    - ~Paid \$5,482.00 for Form 990T Payment Year 2014
    - ~Paid \$10,000 for Form 990T Estimated Tax Payment Year 2015
    - ~Will pay the installment - \$10,000 each quarter 2015
    - ~Paid \$3,605.00 FOR CIFT 620 for the year 2014
    - ~Will pay the installment - \$3,140.00 for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2015; pay \$1,570.00 for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2015
  - \*LAD Tax Filing
    - ~Paid \$1,400.00 to L.A. Champagne & Co., LLP
  - \*LAD 2013 and 2014 Financial Reports
    - ~Finalized the LAD 2013 and 2014 Financial Reports. Our auditors, Edward Marquez and Stanley Reaux signed the reports.
  - \*Summary- Operating expenses.
    - \* Auditors every month – Dustin Cutrer and Dale Brazzle. Thank you to the auditors who attend.
    - \*LSD Graduation Students were excited to receive the scholarships.
    - \* Thank you to Karen Deville as she keeps up with Bingo every day.

**Members at Large Reports:**

- Lacey Richard- no reports
- Wanda Miller – no reports
- Pauline Wood
  - \*Conference- 62 people and deadline was on May 29
  - \*Estimate expenses on our conference about \$17K
  - \* Wanda Miller designed the LAD Cover book and it's creative and colorful.
  - \*We donated \$500.00 to Amelia Manor last month.
  - \* RID Conference at Hyatt Hotel by Superdome
    - ~Open ceremony and closed ceremony- Deaf Natives not more than 10 minutes speech
    - ~Expect 1,500 to 2,000 registrants
    - ~Hospitality needed
  - \*LCD –State freeze budget as no meeting in February
    - ~Month of May -meeting did not met the quorum.
  - \*LSD tours

\*Dr. Nancy Benham no longer is working at LSD as the Director.

~Donna Alleman replaced her as temporary.

\*Ralph Thibodeaux replaced Kevin Lemoine; he received a job at New Roads as School Superintendent

\* Susan Gremillion is the first lady to be a football coach at LSD and it was announced on the front page on Baton Rouge Newspaper.

### **Chapter Representatives Reports:**

AAD – Larry Robillard – no report

NOBDA- Floyd Perrodin –no report

LADBC – Judith Perrodin – no report

LSCAD – Donna Cormier – no report

LAAD – Cleve Cormier – no report

LRID – Shirley Delahoussaye – no report

EHDH – Patti Moss

~Governor Jindal appointed me to be on the EDHI Board which continues until 2016.

~Many EDHI tests are not following through procedures at hospitals statewide.

~ Attended the last meeting and they are working on hospital procedures (give # monthly)

~ The focus is on babies with age of 0-3 years old.

Larry Robillard (Patty Warmack) approved the minutes of 49<sup>th</sup> Biennial State Conference in 2013.  
CARRIED.

### **Session Two: By-Laws, Part 1**

Closed at 5:00 pm

Roll call 45

(Kenny has the copy)

### **June 6, 2015 at 9:06 am**

Roll Call: 54

### **Session Three: By-Laws, Part 2**

(Kenny has the copy.)

Roll Call: 49

Cindy Robillard (Thelma Covello) moved that the By-laws be ratified. PASSED

### **Session Four: Old business and New Business**

#### **No old business:**

#### **New business:**

2015-07. Pauline Wood (Cleve Cormier) moved LAD to have a resolution. Carried.

2015-08. Patty Warmack (Mary Smith) moved that the exclusion of a member shall be sent by a letter (certified mail) to the organization and the specified person. Carried.

2015-09. Patricia Warmack (Mary Smith) moved that LAD shall monitor LCD (Louisiana Commission for the Deaf) and SDE (State Department of Education) to make sure that LAD protects all interests to represent all cities in State of Louisiana. Carried.

2015-10. Patty Warmack (Mary Smith) moved that LAD conference shall be held in Shreveport, LA in 2017. Carried.

2015-11. Patty Warmack (Mary Smith) moved that President appoints 3 committees to develop the code of ethics to process it by 30 days. Carried.

2015-12. Wanda Miller (Judith Perrodin) moved that LAD appoints an Archive Committee and all archives must be kept in LAD home office. Carried.

2015-13. Lisa Potter (Mary Smith) moved that President to set up the meetings online such as www. Gotomeeting.com. Carried.

2015-14 Lisa Potter (Shirley Rodriguez) moved that we limit the legal expenses to \$5,000 and if expenses incur more, and it must bring to special meeting to discuss with members to vote for approval. FAILED.

2015-15 Lisa Potter (Mary Smith) moved that LAD gives training/workshop to all members to understand state laws with compliance and non-profit organization. (LRS 12:200-269) Carried.

2015-16. Lisa Potter (Alla Tarasyuk) moved that LAD hosts four (4) educational workshops by the LAD Board. Carried.

2015-17. Mary Smith (Lisa Potter) moved that the members registration to be free to any sessions during state conference. FAILED.

2015-18. Mary Smith (Lisa Potter) moved that the treasurer must record all investment transactions approved by the LAD Board and signed by Treasurer and President. Carried.

2015-19. Mary Smith (Olouse Tullos) moved for the By-Law meeting to be held one day before the beginning to of LAD Conference. Withdrawn.

2015-20. Edward Wood (Donna Cormier) moved to increase the monthly compensation for both LAD treasurer \$750.00 and Bingo Chair \$500.00. Carried.

2015-21. Kenny David (Mary Smith) moved that LAD hire a corporate attorney to review and provide feedback and recommendation on the legal defense of approved by-laws. Carried.

2015-22. Mary Smith (Patty Warmack) moved that LAD shall bring unfinished new business proposals to the quarterly (3 months) of next board meeting. Carried.

Patty Warmack (Shirley Rodriguez) moved to closed new business. Carried.

### **Session Five: Election of new board members**

Kenny David and Cleve Cormier are the nomination chairpersons.

#### **President:**

Houston Moss (winner)

#### **Vice President:**

Cindy Robillard (ACL)

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:**

Alla Tarasyuk (winner)

**Secretary:**

Thelma Covello (winner)

**Treasurer:**

Kenny Davis (ACL)

**Members at Large (3)**

Lisa Combs

Wanda Miller

Lacey Richard

All officers took an oath.

**Oath of office:**

I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of \_\_\_\_\_, of the LAD and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Bylaws of the LAD.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Thelma Covello

LAD Secretary 2013-2015