

Louisiana Association of the Deaf
LAD Board Meeting
8 October 2016
Lafayette Athletic Association of the Deaf
200 Rue De Beiler Dr
Lafayette, LA 70506

President Houston Moss called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Roll Call: Pres. Houston Moss, VP Cindy Robillard, Sec'y Lisa Combs, Treas. Kenny Davis.
Members at Large: Wanda Miller, Lacey Richard. (Lisa Combs accepted the secretary position)

Silent Prayer for the deceased: Raymond Rome, Louis Cannon and Emile St. Romain

15 members and 3 visitors were present at the LAD regular board meeting.

Melvin Royer led the pledge to the flag of the United States of America.

Lisa Combs took an oath as secretary.

Kenny Davis (Lacey Richard) proposed to accept the 7/16/16 minutes with correction.
CARRIED

President Houston Moss' Report:

- 7/22/16 – Attended Nathan Harvey's visitation. Nate and I worked together at searching for the time capsule which was found on 3/25/16 at the old LSD campus
- 8/2/16 – An individual reached out in need of help for an interpreter and advocacy. Referred someone to help out.
- 8/3/16 – Lisa Combs from the board accepted to be LAD's secretary temporarily until election since Dustin Cutrer resigned for employment out of state. Thanks to Lisa and a BIG thanks to Dustin for his role as the previous secretary.
- 8/15/16 – Naomi DeDual with LCD reached out to see if we'd be interested to set up a base camp at LAD's office for FEMA and others. Alla Tarasyuk, Pauline Wood, Patti Moss and I met with her.
- 8/18-19/16 – ZVRS reached out, wanting to donate two (2) devices for office use to help victims during the flood and any disasters that may occur in the future.
- 8/20/16 – An individual contacted me, needed to contact an attorney and fair housing on an issue he'd been having. Gave him the contacts the persons at fair housing, Legal Service and an interpreter.
- 8/23/16 – ZVRS reached out, to create a GOFUNDME account for families affected during the flood. Before accepting, had to check with Bingo's OCG (Office of Charitable Gaming) first to make sure it's ok to proceed. OCG acknowledged it and gave us the green light.

- 8/24/16 – Joe Riggio from ZVRS flew down to help create the GOFUNDME account online. He asked to tour the city to do a video 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 forms.
- 8/26/16 – Attended the LCD board meeting.
- 9/1/16 – Dr. Donna Alleman of LSD reached out to help share LSD vs MSD football game on campus as the TV crew would be there. I attended the game. I also met 2 persons on 2 recovery teams who came down to help with gutting and demolishing for a month.
- 9/2/16 – DSNAP (emergency food stamps) staff along with interpreters showed up at LAD's office.
- 9/7/16 – Attended a meeting at the Red Cross bldg in B.R.
- 9/12/16 – An attorney who specializes in Estate planning for the disability reached out to me and showed interest in holding a workshop for the deaf at their office. Kenny Davis, Patti Moss and I met with her at LAD's office. The tentative date is Nov. 19th pending board's approval.
- 10/3/16 – Attended a Town Hall meeting for Deaf Flood victims at Red Cross bldg.
- 10/4/16 – Attended the EHDI meeting in LaPlace.
- 10/4/16 – Participated in the Jefferson Parish School Board meeting in Harvey, LA. per Rana Ottallah's request. Topic: Jefferson Parish Public School System failing Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students. Outcome of the meeting: The board decided that finding teachers of the Deaf to service Deaf students will be the board's priority. Mission achieved
- 10/7/16 – Attended the meeting at LCD on the budget.

Vice President Cindy Robillard's report:

- Due to the Great Flood Disaster, Cindy tried to find a match for Kenny Davis' schedule.
- Couldn't hold the Bylaw meeting in October but hopefully next month in November.

2nd Vice President All Tarasyuk's report:

- August 6, 2016 - Attended 2nd Symposium Usher Syndrome in Lafayette, Louisiana
- Attended LAD Office after the Flooding to help out with installing ZVRS devices.
- September 24, 2016 - Attended Special Education Law 101 at Southern University.
- Coordinated the workshop event with Heather Harker which is set for Saturday, January 14, 2017 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Secretary Lisa Combs' report: No Report

Treasurer Kenny Davis' report:

- Past 3 months of financial report is available for viewing (June, July & August 2016)
- June - Total Balance \$309,522.46
- July - Total Balance \$295,852.34
- August - Total Balance \$307,006.11

- GOFUNDME (Louisiana Relief Fund) was created by Joe Riggio from ZVRS. First time LAD has this experience. GOFUNDME account had \$6,800.00 minus 8% fee = \$6,250.87 received. Cash received in a total \$575.00. As of today the total amount received is \$6,825.87.
- Ways and Mean Meeting: Since Dustin Cutrer resigned; need to select another person. Cindy Robillard suggested Alla Tarasyuk to be on the Ways and Means Committee. Alla Tarayuk accepted.

Member at Large: Wanda Miller's report:

- Been through trouble making trips to Baton Rouge few times for photos to be resized and photo shopped.
- Attended the Way and Means Committee meeting.
- Been doing work on the conference program book, about half is done and the other half will have to wait until the spring in 2017.
- LAD Reunion conferences photograph - all collected except for 1925 and missing several other pictures.
- **1925 – I'm not satisfied how that picture which was copied turned out.
- Both books are about ready to be printed and make copies.

Member at Large Lacey Richard's report:

- Discussed hosting Open House at LAD's Office in fall of 2016 but due to the Great Flood Disaster, its being postponed to the spring.

Pauline Wood's Report:

- BINGO canceled 2 sessions due the Great Flood Disasters.
- Last month Gallaudet sponsored CAN (Conversations Across Nations) which was aired all over U.S. A. Some chapters also sponsored t in their cities. We discussed the differences between Deaf Community and Sign Community. To be brief, Deaf Community is people with hearing loss but some of them do not use sign language to communicate. Sign Community is people who use sign language like ASL, PSE and SEE. We also discussed the advantages and disadvantages of being deaf. I would be nice if someone from Gallaudet could come and elaborate on each.

LRID Advisory Board Rep. to Paul Winfree's report:

- LRID canceled October's conference due to the Great Flood Disaster and postponed to the spring. TBA

Early Hearing Detection & Intervention, Patti Moss' report:

- Continue charting LTF of 2015 region= Lost to Follow up (Failed or delayed to follow up after birth on hearing loss)
- Adding babies adopted with hearing loss into the data system.
- Still working on babies not screened at the hospitals statewide.

- To identify the babies as patients in database via mother's 1st name only, date of birth. Only requiring total of 5 data information on the mother.
- Continue to do research on CMV = Congenital Cytomegalovirus = a virus babies born with from the mother carrying it; it isn't known yet if this virus causes hearing loss to babies at birth; awareness still in need within the medical area to educate those who plan to get pregnant to be tested to reduce the number of babies born with CMV

LAAD Advisory Board Rep. Larry Robillard's report:

- No Report.

New Business:

1. Cindy Robillard (Wanda Miller) proposed to donate \$5,000.00 to the LA Relief Fund (LAD's Gofundme) for flood victims. Kenny Davis (Alla Tarasyuk) amended to withdraw from Bingo Gaming Fund. CARRIED
2. Kenny Davis (Cindy Robillard) proposed LAD to host an Estate Planning Workshop on Nov. 19, 2016. Lacey Richard (Alla Tarasyuk) amended it to be held on Feb. 18, 2017. CARRIED
3. President Houston Moss chose Kevin O'Donnell to be in charge as LAD's National Corner Rally in Baton Rouge during Oct 20, 2016.
4. Kenny Davis (Lacey Richard) proposed to ask Lindsay Darnell to be the Guest Speaker at LAD's Conference in June, 2017. CARRIED
5. Conference Theme - need to come up with a Title for the program book... Alla Tarasyuk referred to Executive Board.
6. Location of Workshop - All board referred to Executive Board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- DEA seminar has been rescheduled, it will be held on Jan 27-28, 2017.
- LAD's Bingo - A BIG applause to the workers as the revenues are still going strong.
- Pres. Moss: NAD Region 3 meetings on webcam: No meeting in Aug. 2016; couldn't participate in September's due to conflict.
- Pres. Moss: Cindy and I will meet with LSD's Administration to discuss using their facilities at LSD for LAD's conference in June 2017 on Oct 11th, More info TBA
- Pres. Moss: Since the Great Flood of 2016 which began the weekend of Aug. 11, 2016. From that date for 8 weeks, I've been extremely busy helping those who were impacted by the flood. Gutted, demolished and currently at the rebuilding which will continue for months to come.
- Thanks to Sorenson for donating \$2,000 and ZVRS for donating \$2,000. Also thanks to all the other individuals who donated to help the flood victims out. Thanks to Patti Moss for working hard on locating many deaf affected by the flood.

Adjourned - 12:13 p.m.

Lisa Combs, Secretary

Houston Moss, President