

MINUTES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF  
SHREVEPORT DEAF ACTION CENTER  
OCTOBER 7, 1989

CALL TO ORDER

President Joe Benedetto called the meeting to order at 10:25 am.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Joe Benedetto  
R. Secretary Mary Ann Mowad  
C. Secretary Cleve Cormier  
Alexandria Assoc. of the Deaf Rep. Harry Huthnance  
Lafayette Athletic Association of the Deaf Rep. Elvist Tabor  
(Designee of L.A.A.D.)

Not Present and Excused: LA. Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf  
Rep. Marcella Little (In Italy)

Not Present and Unexcused: V.P. Medford Magill  
Treasurer Houston Moss  
Board Member Leo Burke  
Board Member Charles Heinen  
Baton Rouge Assoc. of the Deaf  
Rep. Richard Malcolm

Vacancy: Middle Board Seat

There being no quorum of the required eight (8) members present for business, the President adjourned the Board Meeting at 10:26 am.

Submitted by:

Mary Ann Mowad  
R. Secretary

Approved:

Joseph Benedetto  
President

MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
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R. Secretary Mary Ann Mowad  
C. Secretary Cleve Cormier

Also present, but not authorized to vote:  
A.A.D. Rep. Harry Huthnance  
L.A.A.D. Rep. Elvist Tabor

INVOCATION

Bill Ligon lead the Ex. Com. and visitors in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dispensed

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President's Report

The President welcomed the EXCOM, board members and visitors.

The President thanked Bill Ligon and the Shreveport Deaf Action Center for their kind hospitality. Special thanks go to Bill for arrangements and coffee.

The President announced that he regretted very much that some of our officers and board members did not attend today's board meeting. None have asked for an excuse, except for Marcella Little, and therefore none were granted an excuse. The President noted that the board must work together for the benefit of the entire state and said that he would continue to rotate board meetings statewide, on a fair and equitable basis, among our Louisiana cities.



The President attended the National Association of the Deaf Board meeting on July 28-30 in Salem, Oregon, as the NAD's Region III Member. He has a copy of the minutes for anyone interested.

Highlights of that meeting:

- The NAD will reimburse each state association \$50.00 if it joins DEAFTEK USA (Electronic Mail). Louisiana should consider joining this nationwide system.
- The NAD has been heavily involved in the fight against inappropriate mainstreaming. Towards this end, the NAD is asking each state to establish a "Quality Education Committee". Louisiana has one already, and Randy Pippins is the Chairman.
- Fulton Revisited, a national NAD conference, is scheduled to meet Nov. 17 - 19 in Phoenix, Arizona. He will be there as a NAD board member; however Louisiana needs to send a delegate.

The President attended the LRID convention September 22 - 23 in Baton Rouge. Anthony Arambuno was elected President. Our new LRID Rep. is Marcella Little of New Orleans. Congratulations to both.

The President attended the Telephone Access Program Board meeting on September 18 in Baton Rouge. The TAP board has scheduled a presentation by the three major vendors of TDDs on October 29 in Baton Rouge. The TAP Board will select a company and make a recommendation to the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf, which oversees the program.

The President attended the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf meeting of September 29 in Baton Rouge. The Commission, among other actions:

- Approved a 1990 - 1991 FY Budget of \$300,000.00
- Elected officers for 1989 - 1991:
  - Chairman - Dr. Harvey Corson
  - Vice Chairman - Joe Benedetto
  - Secretary - Dr. Kate Nelson

The President received a request from the LSD - PTA asking us not to consider competing with their activities. Last year we had a free lunch at the home office which hurt their dinner, cutting into their profit and thereby reducing the amount of money they were able to contribute to LSD. The President recommended that this year we not compete with the PTA by having an open house and a free lunch.

The President received a request from Sister Shirley Bodisch, Director of the B.R. Catholic Deaf Center, for \$10,000 to help fund a new Deaf Action Center. The President felt that the complete board should make a decision, either to contribute all, or part of the request.

The NAD requested that the LAD send a delegate to the Fulton Revisited conference scheduled for November 17 - 19 in Phoenix. We will need to select a delegate for the LAD.

The Pippins family has requested a contribution to cover their legal fees in their fight to transfer their three year old daughter to LSD. The issue is inappropriate mainstreaming. Should the LAD get involved and to what extent? The President recommends we assist the family, as this is a test case, but we need to discuss this further with the full board,

The President announced that the Americans with Disabilities Act, which provides, in part, for telephone relay services for the deaf, and which is considered to be a landmark civil rights bill for the disabled, passed by a massive vote in the Senate. The President contacted both Senators Breaux and Johnson for their support on this legislation. The next step is the House of Representatives. Please call your Congressman, or better yet, write a letter of support to him.

Cormier (Mowad) moved that the LAD not compete with the PTA activities during the Homecoming on October 21, 1989, Carried.  
(The LAD will not have an open house or a free lunch for the members this year)

The EXCOM decided to defer action on Sister Shirley's request for financial help to establish the Deaf Action Center in Baton Rouge. Deferred to the next board meeting, Carried.

The EXCOM decided to defer action on the Fulton Revisited conference delegate until the next board meeting. Carried.

The EXCOM decided to defer action on giving the Pippins family \$450.00 for legal fees to the next board meeting. Carried.

#### Vice President's Report

No Report

#### H. Secretary's Report

No Report

#### Ce Secretary's Report

Cormier (Mowad) moved that the LAD lend \$2,000.00 more (to make a total of \$4,000.00) to the L.A.A.D. for their bingo project. L.A.A.D. requests the check to be sent by October 13, 1989. Carried.

#### Treasurer's Report

No report.

#### SA. Board Member

No report.