

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



**PROPOSAL to
LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF**

**November 12, 2011 - LAD Board Meeting
Lafayette, Louisiana**

Deaf Focus provides services in three critical areas to the deaf community within Louisiana:

1. Community
2. Communication
3. Counseling

In meeting the ongoing needs of the deaf community throughout Louisiana, Deaf Focus is requesting sponsorship and financial assistance from the Louisiana Association for the Deaf in carrying out our mission to provide several activities and vital services within Louisiana.

The following are three (3) area specific areas that Deaf Focus is requesting sponsorship assistance from LAD:

- Statewide Assessment of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Needs and Issues & Distribution of Emergency Cards to the Deaf Community
- Kidz Kamp 2012
- Interpreter Silent Weekend & One-Week CDI Training - June 2012

I. Statewide Assessment of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Needs and Issues

Deaf Focus has begun pulling together a statewide team to conduct an intensive statewide assessment concerning the mental health, education, interpreting, and overall accessibility needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals throughout Louisiana.

LAD is a fundamental partner in implementing and carrying out this assessment. Several LAD Board members will be working on the Assessment including, but not limited to, mental health, education, interpreting and overall accessibility. While Deaf Focus will be serving as the

assessment facilitator and will own the data that is collected, we will be working collaboratively with LCD as well as with other agencies and organizations throughout the state in providing access to the survey results and data.

Deaf Focus is requesting funding in the amount of \$4,000.00 from LAD in order to establish the infrastructure and supports necessary to development and fully implement the assessment on a statewide basis, collect and gather the data and then sort and analyze the data. The projected assessment plan is divided into a three part process and the requested funding is divided by phases as follows:

Phase		Anticipated Deadline	Amount
Developing Focus of Assessment	-	January, 2012	\$1,000
Survey Development completed by	-	March, 2012	\$1,000
Data Collection completed by	-	July, 2012	\$1,000
Data Assessment & Analysis completed by	-	December 2012	\$1,000

The Goals of this Assessment are as follows:

1. Determine levels of satisfaction of current services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community in Louisiana.
2. Determine areas of need in key service areas for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community in Louisiana such as mental health, services for aging populations, pre-school, K-12 education, VR-employment, interpreting, postsecondary education, housing, recreation, medical services, equipment (hearing aids, warning devices, flashers, etc.) and telecommunication services.

Result/Impact: This assessment will impact thousands of deaf and hard of hearing consumers throughout the state by getting their feedback and providing data to agencies who can then improve services.

II. Kidz Kamp 2012

Kidz Kamp 2012 will be our 2nd annual event. Last year's event was a huge success and received a great deal of positive media coverage for the deaf community. While we did receive several donations, the event still cost Deaf Focus a substantial amount of money to coordinate. Deaf Focus is requesting \$2,000.00 from LAD to help offset the expenses and costs of this worthwhile event.. Additional donors and in-kind services will still be sought to help minimize the expenses as much as possible.

The Goals of Kidz Kamp are:

1. To keep registration costs low for families

2. Provide day camp activities for youth and families who are deaf, hard of hearing, children and grandchildren and stepchildren of deaf parents, and siblings of deaf individuals.
3. Promote interaction and access by having activities which are 100% accessible for D/HH kids.
4. Promote family interaction and community interaction with deaf, hard of hearing and CODAs.
5. Promote awareness and appreciation for the Deaf community and acceptance of a variety of communication needs

Result/Impact: Up to 100 kids and 50 or more families in South Louisiana will benefit from this event.

III. Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI) Training and Interpreter Silent Weekend.

This event will take place June 1st through June 8th, 2012. Deaf Focus has contracted with the Robert Tracy Retreat Center in Baton Rouge for the host site. It will be a two-part event serving multiple communication needs for the deaf community within Louisiana.

The first part of the event, an Interpreter workshop and Silent Weekend, will take place June 1-3 (Friday-Sunday). There will be several workshops throughout the weekend provided by national and local professionals. Signing interaction will be encouraged among interpreters and with member of the deaf community who attend. The goal of the silent weekend is to encourage understanding of Deaf culture and develop an understanding and appreciation for visual communication while improving interpreters' confidence and skills in ASL.

Currently Louisiana has NO CDIs within our state. There is a need throughout the state to have CDI services available. This training is a FULL WEEK of instruction leading to an opportunity to take the RID CDI written test. Participants must commit to take the CDI test on the last day of the training. Our goal is to have 30 participants screened and accepted for the training. We realize some may not feel ready to take the test at the end of the week, however, we are hopeful that over ½ will succeed in passing the test and Louisiana will have approximately 15 individuals one step closer to becoming a CDI at the end of this week of training.

This program is an ambitious endeavor which will include bringing top national CDI trainers to Louisiana. Travel and stipends for trainers will be a significant part of the budget for the week. We also will be providing meals and rooms at the Retreat Center so that participants can maximize their training time.

To keep costs reasonable for participants, Deaf Focus is asking the Louisiana Association of the Deaf to serve as the primary sponsor for this 8-day event. We are requesting LAD to sponsor this event financially by providing \$5000 to help offset the costs listed above. In addition to LAD funding Deaf Focus is requesting support from other agencies and will charge registration

fees to participants both for the Silent Weekend as well as the CDI Training. Funding for this is needed as soon as possible. The initial upfront deposit for the meeting and retreat center is due in the beginning of January, 2012 in the amount of \$1,200.00.

Result/Impact: Louisiana will have 15 deaf adults on the road to being RID certified Deaf interpreters.

Deaf Focus is excited about the possibilities of working collaboratively with LAD on these upcoming projects in 2012.

**SUMMARY OF PROJECTS
& REQUESTED FUNDING FROM LAD**

Date	Event	Requested Funding
2011-2012	Statewide Assessment	\$4,000
Summer, 2012	Kidz Kamp	\$2,000
June 1 - 8, 2012	Silent Weekend & CDI Training	\$5,000

12-14-11

Owner - Mini-Storage

told me after Gustave, there was some water damage in the units - they just vacuumed it out.

A deaf lady (Pauline?) went in the unit with the owner. They looked at the boxes, saw they had been wet, but had dried.

That is all he knows other than at a later date, a man (Walker?) came to the office and closed the unit.