



Quarterly Board Meeting

Meeting Date: **March 13, 2021** ~ Location of Meeting: **Live stream**

Call to Order: **9:01am**

Invocation: **Katrina Williams**

Pledge of Allegiance: **Sherry Crosby**

Roll Call: **All officers present via Zoom**

AGENDA

1. **Good of the Order**
2. **Approval of Agenda** Sherry Crosby (Floyd Perrodin) moves to accept.
3. **Reading & Approval of Minutes**
 - 3.1. **12/19/2020 Quarterly Meeting** Accepted without revisions
 - 3.2. **3/10/2021 Board Meeting** Accepted without revisions
4. **Officers' Report**
 - 4.1. **President** - President reports that last November, Marc Bartholomew resigned as Interim Treasurer, and he appointed Jerrod Wingate as the replacement and LAD gave toys to nearly 100 children, thanks to Sherry for her leadership in the drive. For the hurricane relief, we raised over \$33,000 and distributed most of it to the victims, he will let Sherry report about that in more detail. We also contributed \$150 worth of food to the LSD Food Drive. Board has approved a new Code of Ethics for LAD Board and membership, and approved Jerrod's appointment of new Investments Committee chairperson, Ralph Vice. Board has designed all of our funds into the Savings account and Jerrod will share information about that in his report. Board also has approved the formal LAD Statement to the Louisiana Black Deaf community and it was released publicly. We have new members for the 2021-2023 cycle and the Secretary will report that. LAD has received over 1,000 books so far from the Book Drive. Bylaws committee has been doing great in reworking their vision for the bylaws with the Parliamentarian. LAD has experienced theft outside our office, someone stole all the Copper gutters and spouts. Our Investments portfolio reached a milestone, \$300,000 briefly. President shares a picture of LAD membership from 1925, survivors of the

Spanish Flu. President reminds the membership and the public to stay safe during this pandemic.

- 4.2. Vice President** - Sherry introduced Lisa Combs as the Necrology Chair. Lisa joins in the meeting and gives her report. Lisa asks that we pray for all the families for their loss. Sherry asks viewers to report any deaths in the Deaf and Hard of hearing community. Bylaws Committee has been working hard to revise the bylaws, developing Standing Rules, Policy & Procedure Manual (PPM) and we are hoping to complete the draft in April or May. We have been meeting every 2 weeks with the next one this coming Wednesday. We raised \$33,000 for the Hurricane Victims, they were given \$300 gift cards in immediate help. We have a little over \$8,400 left and this was designated into the Emergency Disaster Fund in LAD's Savings account. As you know, COVID-19 has impacted High School Seniors hard since they could not have the normal celebrations. LAD has contributed \$500 scholarships to 5 students to defray their expenses in higher education. We have received good quality books from donors, over 1,000, we have an application online for teachers, education professionals, parents to apply to receive the books. We will be distributing them in the first week of May to keep them reading through the summer, promoting literacy due to numbers being low among Louisiana students, especially the Deaf children.
- 4.3. Secretary** - Jay reports that we have 302 members. He has been building up the membership roster using Google sheets to incorporate new technology in notifications such as printing addresses instead of affixing labels. Additionally, he reports about meeting minutes being uploaded on the website. Members can log in to view Board, Committee, Special meeting minutes that are not viewable by the public.
- 4.4. Treasurer** - He reports that he has been working a lot with the Bookkeeper and the President to get LAD finances straightened out. Additionally, we need to adjust our quarterly reporting since we seem to be lined up with OCG's standard of reporting. We need to report our quarterly finances in a standard business practice, i.e.; Jan, Feb, March, instead of December 2020, Jan 2021, and Feb 2021.

Finances as of 3/10/2021

Operating Fund: \$71,566.47

LSD's Early childhood Learning Center: \$25,000

NOBDA Training \$5,000

Book Drive \$35.00

Savings Acct: \$65,628.25

Youth Fund - \$847.14

Jr NAD Fund: \$78.53

Toy Drive: \$864.84

Office Renovations Fund: \$20,000.00

Emergency Disaster Fund: \$8,409.67

2021 Conference budget: \$30,000.00

Savings: \$5,273.31

Bingo Acct: \$73,239.53

Investments: \$261,387.44

TOTAL: \$471,821.69

4.5. **Members-at-Large**

Thelma Covello: Thelma reports that she would like to start hosting events with Senior Citizens to keep them stimulated, possibly through Zoom. She wants to share information about DSA (Deaf Seniors America) She will be working with Katrina Williams and Carla Miller. President adds that it is important for their mental and emotional well being. Vice President agrees, shares that many Senior Citizens are lonely and left out. We need to get them engaged.

Floyd Perrodin: Floyd reports National Black Deaf Advocates conference scheduled for this year in Alabama has been postponed to 2022. Black Deaf Seniors Conference will be held in 2022 in Chicago. Additionally, he is excited to work on the Community Spotlight Committee to recognize those who go above and beyond in the community, and he reports that as the President of NOBDA, he is working with his NOBDA Board and members to recruit a trainer to take advantage of LAD's contribution to their leadership, governance training, etc.

Katrina Williams: Katrina expresses interest in participating in different committees that are especially designed for children. She adds that NOBDA will host a Fish Fry on March 26, 11am - 6pm in New Orleans, \$10 for a meal and \$1 for a drink. 1843 Hope Street, New Orleans, LA.

5. **Standing Committees' Report**

- 5.1. **Charitable Gaming Committee** - Currently, LAD is being audited by Office of Charitable Gaming for the period of January 2018 to January 2020. LAD's Bingo operations is still shutdown.
- 5.2. **Ways & Means Committee** - Jerrod reports the Bookkeeper would like to meet with the Committee to go over the budget to assist in any way she can.

- 5.3. **Investments Committee** - Jerrod reports that on June 10, 2019, we had \$211,000+ and now we have \$261,000+, up \$50,000 even though we withdrew \$25,000 after selling the Tesla stock and withdrew \$25,000 from the LAD investments Portfolio, no taxes or fees since we are a nonprofit organization. Reason for withdrawal is that we do not have a steady stream of revenue due to Bingo being shutdown to keep up with our expenses.
- 5.4. **Auditing Committee** - Jerrod reports that he will work with Bookkeeper to see how auditing will work going forward
- 5.5. **Bylaw Committee** - See Vice President's report.
- 5.6. **2021 LAD Conference Committee** - Conference set for September 29 - October 2. Postpone to 2023? See Old Business.
- 5.7. **Youth Committee** - President reports that it has not been active due to COVID-19.
- 5.8. **Social Events Committee** - No report due to COVID-19.
- 5.9. **Website Committee** - See Secretary's report.
- 5.10. **Community Spotlight Committee** - See Member-at-Large, Floyd Perrodin's report.

Thelma Covello (Sherry Crosby) moves to take a 15-minute break.
Board approves.

6. Unfinished Business

- 6.1. **Internal Audit** - Sherry Crosby (Floyd Perrodin) moves to defer this discussion until after our legal situation comes to a close.
Board Approves. **(Approved 1/8/2020)**
- 6.2. **Office Renovations** - Jay Isch awaiting response from Architect **(1/13/2021)**
Jay Isch (Sherry Crosby) moves to acquire a storage Pod to temporarily store our office while the office is being renovated.
Board approves. (Jerrod notes the Board to do inventory.) **(3/13/2021)**
- 6.3. **LAD Golf Tournament** - Tentatively set for Spring of 2022 due to health concerns **(3/13/2021)**
- 6.4. **LAD Promotional Banners** - Pending Committee for mission and vision
- 6.5. **Future workshop - Update:** On hold due to pandemic **(8/31/2020)**
- 6.6. **Conference** - Conference date set on Sept 30 - Oct 2, 2021 **(2/10/2021)**
Sherry Crosby (Floyd Perrodin) moves to postpone the conference to 2023.
Board approves. **(3/13/2021)**
- 6.7. **Book Drive** - See Vice President's report.

6.8. Town Hall in person or on Zoom for Q&A for members only.

Jay Isch (Jerrod Wingate) moves to go forward with a Town Hall.

Sherry Crosby (Floyd) tabled until we consult with our attorney. **(11/18/2020)**

7. New Business

7.1. SWDGA Sponsorship

Sherry Crosby (Thelma Covello) moves to sponsor a hole for \$100

Jay Isch (Katrina Williams) amends to send the President to the golf tournament to represent LAD, covering registration and hotel.

Jerrod Wingate (Floyd Perrodin) amends to collect more information before the Board makes a final decision.

Board approves Jerrod's amendment. Deferred to Board.

7.2. See 6.2

7.3. See 6.6

7.4. Old Copier in Office

Jerrod Wingate (Jay Isch) moves to either sell to the hearing community or donate it within the Deaf community.

Board approves.

8. Announcements

8.1. President thanks Ann Delvisco for assisting the Board in working on sorting LAD minutes and membership roster into physical binders at the office.

8.2. Deaf Education Alliance is hosting their Deaf Education Summit on June 4-6, 2021. This event is sponsored by LAD.

8.3. BRAD will host Crawfish event at Blue Bridge ASL Academy (BBAA) on May 29th

8.4. LAAD hosting Gumbo Take out tomorrow, Crawfish Take out next month on April 17th.

8.5. Jerrod announces that he is getting married in June.

8.6. SWSAD will host Softball tournament in Baton Rouge, LA on June 10-13, 2021

8.7. Sherry shares with membership that we have multiple committees and if they want to participate, contact the Board

8.8. Next Quarterly Board Meeting: July 24, 2021

9. Adjournment

Time Meeting Adjourned: 11:36am

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Isch', written in a cursive style.

Jay Isch, *Secretary*