



Quarterly Board Meeting

Meeting Date: January 21, 2023 ~ Location of Meeting: Rapides Parish Library, Alexandria

Call to Order: 10:00 AM

Pledge of Allegiance: Penny Cotton

Roll Call: Jimmy Gore, Sherry Crosby, Katrina Williams, Nigel Burkhalter, Thelma Covello, Floyd Perrodin, and Norma Zeringue. Absent: (None)

Visitor: Jay Isch (Executive Director)

MINUTES

1. Good of the Order

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1. 1/21/2023 Quarterly Board Meeting Agenda:

Nigel Burkhalter (Norma Zeringue) moves to accept the agenda. **The motion is carried.**

3. Reading & Approval of Minute(s)

3.1. 11/5/2022 Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes:

Sherry Crosby (Floyd Perrodin) moves to accept the minutes as revised by Secretary Burkhalter. **The motion is carried.**

3.2. 1/18/2023 Board Meeting Minutes:

Norma Zeringue (Katrina Williams) moves to accept the minutes without revisions. **The motion is carried.**

4. President's Report

4.1. President Gore reports that there is a disagreement with the list of Special School District's finalists for the Superintendent, so a letter is approved and released electronically by LAD's board. Then, there is a discussion with Stephen Hilbok regarding investments, but nonetheless, the Investments committee and the Board will make a decision. He reports also that the Biennial Conference is coming soon, and the meeting on Saturday is for free if members and visitors opt out of the fee for the banquet and entertainment.

5. Vice President's Report

5.1. Vice President Crosby reports necrology for the past three months and provides a moment of silence for the deceased. Then, 90 deaf children were reported with presents from the Christmas Toy Drive, and there were volunteers learning ASL while sorting toys. The Signing Santa event was

reported as a success; the event was packed. The event will require a new location with more space for next time. As for the Bylaws, revisions are reported after errors were caught, and the Bylaws are being completed with ASL renditions. Additionally, policies for the investments are added to the Policy and Procedure Manual (PPM).

6. Secretary's Report

- 6.1. Secretary Burkhalter reports with pride in its first secretarial report; there is a report of learning secretarial duties. Agendas and minutes are separated in documents for board's meetings. The prideful report emphasizes Google Slides for visuals at the Quarterly Board Meeting. Eighty-seven (87) members are enrolled for 2023-2025 cycle within four (4) visits to LAD's home office, and by now, approximately ninety-two (92) members are enrolled. The Secretary's report ends with an encouragement to get a membership at LAD and beat the estimated record of 428 members.

7. Treasurer's Report

As of today 01/21/2023

Operating fund: \$49,507.85

Savings Account: \$22,594.45

Youth Fund: \$4,703.80

Apparel Fund: \$95.00

Book Drive: \$469.42

Toy Drive: \$662.46

Office Renovations Fund: \$10,185.00

Emergency Disaster Fund: \$434.67

2023 Conference Budget: \$6,039.24

Interest Gains: \$4.86

Bingo Account: \$50,991.56

Business Account: \$48,758.63

Investments: \$227,771.85

TOTAL: \$399,624.34 (-\$4,480.15 since 11/04/2022)

- 7.1. Treasurer Williams reports that the loss in the total for this quarterly board meeting is because of downwinding stock prices in the investments. The loss could be greater, but thanks to a grant, the loss is minimized. Then, there is a visual of the report through pie charts in the Google Slide presentation. The visual of the financial report can be reviewed through the recording of the quarterly board meeting available on LAD's YouTube channel.

8. Member at Large's Report

- 8.1. Member-at-Large Covello reports a plan of workshops with a presentation from lawyers for Senior Citizens, but there is a difficulty in contacting lawyers.
- 8.2. Member-at-Large Perrodin reports good work with the Community Spotlight Committee. The committee achieved guidelines and opened the spotlight to Cammy Gaspar. There is a spotlight on nominees coming soon, and more spotlights are scheduled ahead. Stay tuned for a surprise! For nominations from members and visitors, please submit to the chairperson, Floyd Perrodin.

- 8.3. Member-at-Large Zeringue reports an idea for a fundraising drive that will be discussed with the Board.

9. Executive Director's Report

- 9.1. Executive Director Isch reports that a grant is received, and under the grant, another staff is hired to Deaf Focus for the case management program. Then, three candidates for Special School District's superintendent are reported unqualified because of a research on their backgrounds. As for the Biennial Conference, a presentation from Stephen Hilbok is reported to be added to the program of the conference. Then, David Myer will give a presentation about the journey through Deaf activism at the conference. Without further ado, Sheena "Queen Forever" Lyles is booked for the entertainment portion of the conference, and this encourages members and visitors to attend on June 1st to 4th. The election of officers will be electronic, which is an exciting part. The Executive Director's report ends with a patient wait for construction papers/blueprints from the contracted company for the Office Renovations Committee.

10. Standing Committees' Report

- 10.1. **Bylaws:** Refer to 5.1.
- 10.2. **Ways and Means:** No report.
- 10.3. **Auditing:** Chairperson Katrina Williams reports that two missing receipts have been found to complete the auditing.
- 10.4. **Nominating:** No report.
- 10.5. **Investments:** Refer to 7.1.
- 10.6. **Office Renovations:** Refer to 9.1.
- 10.7. **Community Spotlight:** Refer to 8.2.
- 10.8. **Youth:** A schedule of student lunch meetings has been created with LSD's Jr. NAD sponsor, Jennifer Fraser, and student lunch meetings are to teach students skills needed in governance. The committee is also working on sending students to YLC around 2024. Youth Committee's Survey has been completed with the Board's support and is currently getting a video promotion before the release to the public.
- 10.9. **Website:** Jay Isch reports that Deaf Focus and LAD websites are merging into one website by using LAD's web address, www.lad1908.org. A part of LAD's website will redirect to Deaf Focus upon a click. Then, services for the website will be downsized to save costs. Then, Isch reports with urges for the public to send information to info@lad1908.org and add alternative descriptions for the Blind.

- 10.10. **Senior Citizens:** Refer to 8.1.
- 10.11. **2023 Biennial Conference:** Refer to 9.1.
- 10.12. **Annual Christmas Toy Drive:** Refer to 5.1.

11. Unfinished Business

- 11.1. **Office Renovations:** Construction papers are almost complete. **(9/14/2022)**
- 11.2. **LAD Biennial Conference:** Jay is working to finalize conference schedule and registration. The objective is to release right after the membership enrollment period ends. **(1/18/2023)**
- 11.3. **Bingo Account:** We will need to train new employees before we start up operations. Bingo isn't as dependable or lucrative as it has been for decades. Bingo Suppliers are struggling as well. We also have nearly \$8,000 worth of uncashed checks due to Bingo workers refusing to cash them and collect unemployment checks while working for LAD. Further discussion is needed for re-entry. **(8/3/2022)**
Nigel Burkhalter (Norma Zeringue) moves to remove 11.3 from the Unfinished Business. **The motion failed.**

12. New Business

- 12.1. **Alexandria Association of the Deaf's Letter of Request**
Sherry Crosby (Floyd Perrodin) moves to contribute \$300.00 to Alexandria Association of the Deaf for water damages. **The motion carried.**
- 12.2. **Revisions on Membership Form**
Nigel Burkhalter (Floyd Perrodin) moves to accept membership forms revised by Secretary Burkhalter and start enrolling members through the revised forms after the expiration of New Year's special rates. **The motion carried.**
- 12.3. **Release of the Youth Committee's Survey**
Sherry Crosby (Norma Zeringue) moves to release the survey created by the Youth Committee to the public. **The motion carried.**
- 12.4. **Ratification for Electronic Consent on Letter about Special School District's Superintendent Candidates**
Norma Zeringue (Katrina Williams) moves to ratify the Board's electronic consent for releasing the letter to the public about Special School District's superintendent candidates. **The motion carried.**
- 12.5. **Background Wallpaper for Low Visions**
Sherry Crosby (Norma Zeringue) moves to buy collapsible background wallpaper for audiences with low vision. **The motion carried.**

13. Announcements

- 13.1. Paul Zeringue announces Greater New Orleans Association of the Deaf's "Battle of the Sliders" at Lion's Den on February 11.
- 13.2. Thelma Covello announces Lafayette Athletic Association of the Deaf's superbowl event happening on February 12 at LAAD's clubhouse.
- 13.3. Jay Isch announces LAAD's St. Patrick Party on March 18, crawfish bowl on April 18, picnic on May 6, and summer picnic on June 10. The announcement ends with an encouragement to support LAAD
- 13.4. Floyd Perrodin announces Segregated School for the Deaf's or New Orleans Black Deaf Advocates' 85th reunion on June 9-10 at Southern University.
- 13.5. Sherry Crosby announces Krewe of Dalphine's masquerade party happening on March 18 at Metairie, LA. More information available on the calendar on LAD's website.
- 13.6. Jimmy Gore announces the Board's encouragement for individuals to enroll as members at LAD. "We need you to come and join!"

Meeting is adjourned at 11:49 AM.

Next quarterly board meeting will be on April 1, 2023, at Shreveport, LA.

Respectfully submitted,



Nigel Burkhalter
Interim Secretary