

**National Association of the Deaf
Board of Directors Meeting
Salem, Oregon; Vancouver, Washington; and Portland Oregon
January 15-17, 2015**

January 15, 2015

The NAD board arrived at the Oregon School for the Deaf at 8:15am on January 15, 2015 for a tour provided by Robert Rich and Sharla Jones. The tour included a meeting with an overview of the school's programs and vision, followed by a walking tour of the school facilities with visits to students from all grades in their classes.

Board Members Present: President Chris Wagner (2014-2016), Secretary Joshua Beckman (2014-2016), Treasurer Philippe Montalette (2014-2016), Region I Representatives: Steve Lovi (2012-2016) and Michelle Cline (2014-2018), Region II Representatives: Jenny Buechner (2013-2016) and Richard McCowin (2014-2018), Region III Representatives: Gerald "Jerry" Nelson (2014-2018), Region IV Representatives: David Reynolds (2012-2016) and Sherri Collins (2014-2018), Appointed: Alicia Lane-Outlaw (2014-2016) and Pamela Lloyd Ogoke (2014-2016), and Ex Officio Member: Howard Rosenblum, Chief Executive Officer.

Excused: Vice President Melissa Draganac-Hawk (2014-2016) and Region III Representative: Larry Evans (2012-2016)

Staff Present: Lizzie Sorkin, Director of Communications, and Tawny Holmes, Education Advocate

January 15th Visitors Present: Michael Izak, George Scheler, Rick Wright, Dene L. Scott, Chad A. Ludwig, Sally Maxwell, Renwick Dayton, Beth Dayton, Karen Brush, Erika Lauren Aguillon, Susan Izak, Jeannie Davis, Kellie Shapard, James Christiansan, Misty Flowers

President Chris Wagner called the board meeting to order on January 15th at 1:15 pm, with board members present.

President Wagner began the meeting by swearing into office Sherri Collins as NAD Region IV Board member.

President Wagner reviewed the agenda and the plan for the Board meeting.

Treasurer Report:

Philippe Montalette led an extensive discussion of two proposed budgets: a new budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, and the adjusted 6 month budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

After discussion ended, **Jenny Buechner moved to approve the adjusted six-month budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. David Reynolds seconded, and the motion carried.**

Jenny Buechner moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget. Michelle Cline seconded, and the motion carried.

Philippe Montalette discussed his findings on the 501(c)(3) status for each state association.

In addition, Philippe Montalette discussed the board's duty to meet its fundraising goals.

President report- Chris Wagner

Recognized and thanked OAD President Chad Ludwig and OAD for handling all logistics and event planning for the NAD board meetings and events in Oregon/Washington.

Representation at Events:

- Presented at MERGE Tampa Bay
- Presented at the National Deaf Student Leadership Conference at CSUN
- Attended CSUN 50th Anniversary Gala
- Represented NAD at NAD Open House
- Participated in Dancing with the Deaf Stars

Involvement in Meetings

- NAD Executive Board Meetings
- NAD Past Presidents Council Meetings
- NAD / RID Certification Committee Meetings
- Region Meetings
- Meeting with James Tucker, CEASD
- President, conducted meeting of Council on Education for the Deaf (CED)
- Participated in NAD Finance Committee Meetings
- Participated in RID Board of Directors Meeting
- Meeting with Tom Galey, Director of Chestnut Lane
- Meeting with Dawn Witcher and Melvin Walker (RID)

Current Focus

- NAD-RID Certification Committee's recommendations for new NIC Testing System
- Council on Education for the Deaf – Sustainability
- Past Presidents Council – Role and Responsibilities
- Appointment of President Emeritus
- CEASD / Child First Campaign
- World Federation of the Deaf Congress
- Deaf Seniors of America – Gertie Galloway Memorial
- Fundraising Opportunities for NAD
- 2015 State Association Conferences

CEO report- Howard Rosenblum

Formal report given to Board electronically

Additional updates:

- Super Bowl plans set with NFL and Pepsi, and Treshelle Edmund to render ASL performance of the National Anthem and America the Beautiful
- Indicated that Annual Report has been distributed widely in the community with a great deal of positive feedback
- Reported on end of year giving results to date

Meeting recessed at 3:35pm; meeting resumed at 3:40pm

An OAD member in attendance commented on the excellent progress of the NAD board meeting.

Secretary report- Joshua Beckman

- Attended the “Austine Strong” Rally at Montpelier, Vermont on September 27, 2014
- Met with ASL expert on November 20, 2014
- Attended the NAD headquarter open house event on November 11, 2014
- Participated in the executive board meeting at NAD headquarter on November 12, 2014
- Updated events representation and board reports on Google Drive and Calendar.

Region IV- David Reynolds and Sherri Collins

- Education – David Reynolds reported that he has been involved as a member of the Core Committee/National Campaign: Language Equality for Deaf Kids (LEAD-K) in California. This campaign is developing some national movement with other states on legislative training and collaborating with NAD HQ (Tawny Holmes and Kim Bianco-Majeri). He has also met with EST and AEBSP, and has been involved in finalizing the Deaf Education manual which will be used as a resource for school administrators, families, educators, and others.
- Hawaii – there was concern with the hurricane coming through Hawaii, and state association representatives asked for assistance regarding FEMA and emergency alert accessibility. NAD Board and HQ provided assistance with contacts for FEMA and other resources.
- Washington – the state association has had some governance difficulties and assistance was provided to help resolve them.
- Oregon – the state association has done remarkable work with a legislative bill to expand the state Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and we reviewed the bill and provided feedback.
- New Mexico - the state association has had some governance difficulties and assistance was provided to help resolve them.
- Colorado – the state association is reorganizing with new by-laws, mission and other changes. Continued dialogue with CAD president to provide support and encouragement.
- Arizona – Sherri’s term on the ASDB Board expired and two deaf ASDB board members resigned which leaves no deaf representatives on the board. Sherri attended the ASDB board meeting on December 18th and expressed concern to the board regarding the lack of deaf representation. Sherri is working with AZAD’s Legislative Committee to come up with draft legislation on the composition of the ASDB board.

- California - Spoke with seniors at Fremont Chapter of BADSC. David met with AFTC (parent organization in California) to discuss possible becoming an affiliate member of NAD and how NAD and parent organizations) can collaborate to address deaf children's education concerns.

Region III Board Representatives- Gerald "Jerry" Nelson (on behalf of Larry Evans)

- October TVM meeting report:
 - Jerry provided an update on NAD's work on the priorities
 - Chris provided national info on where NAD is at with RID; CEASD 's concern over seven possible near/endangered schools for the deaf closings - three are in Region 3, OK, AR, ENC.
 - State Association recent highlights, dates and sites of upcoming state conferences – information entered into NAD SA Conference database.
 - Touched on need for interpreting licensure law; most in Region 3 will be pursuing this in upcoming state legislative sessions; NC and one other state already have such law in place.
- November TVM meeting report:
 - Going forward, Region 3 SAP will have monthly online meeting on third Tuesday of each month at 8 pm ET, 7 pm CT
 - Jerry provided an update on NAD's work on the priorities
 - Each SAP gave comments/ updates on their state association activities. The common theme/thread was the interpreter issues.
 - Arkansas State Association President expressed concern re court/ interpreter situation where interpreters can choose to use the foreign language process instead of simultaneous communications; shared this with Howard afterward.
 - Alabama Association's questions regarding upcoming NLTC was also brought to Howard's attention afterwards.
 - All state associations were encouraged to complete the RID-NAD survey, which will help NAD determine future directions regarding interpreting.
 - Discussion on the need for guidance on expanding knowledge and possible actions related to relay service funding - some state funds for relay services were raided by legislators/state govt for other purposes - some states need to include other funding sources such as wireless telephone subscribers - this varies with each state.
- December TVM meeting report:
 - Jerry provided an update on NAD's work on the priorities
 - Discussion about NAD State Legislative Coordinator, Kim Bianco-Majeri, and her availability to assist for training and monitoring. Much discussion focused on upcoming state legislative sessions. TN decided to defer its proposed interpreter licensure bill until there is more collaboration in place.
 - Group was informed that the NAD Annual Report will be released soon.
 - Confirmed SA conferences were added to the master list; there are still a few that are still working on dates/plans.
 - There were questions as to how FAD was able to host their biennial conference during even year; questioned if there was anything in NAD bylaws or rules that requires SA conference to be held during odd years.

Region II Board Representatives- Jenny Buechner and Richard McCowin

- Kim Bianco-Majeri has contacted State Association Presidents about the preparations of the upcoming state legislative sessions. Most of the SA presidents responded that they have or planned to have the legislative committee to prepare for any deaf-related bills.
- There is a monthly virtual meeting with State Association Presidents. The meetings in October and November were very productive. The next meeting will be in January 2015.
- Richard McCowin, as board liaison, had attended the virtual meetings with the members of Diversity Strategy Team.
- Richard McCowin, board liaison for Interpreter Section, had received the list of the members. He will work with the section to pick a chairperson.

Region I Board Representatives- Steve Lovi and Michelle Cline

- Lovi: Attended Rochester, Syracuse and Albany events respectively on behalf of NAD for interpreting licensure.
- Cline: Went to Connecticut Association for the Deaf 75th Anniversary gala. Met with Yael Agriss in DC regarding DCAD, which is undergoing challenges.
- Lovi: Governance with regard to BPM and SACC toolkit updates/LGBT Section
- Cline: Youth Committee regarding priority and mental health priority.
- Both: Held Region 1 VP meetings on 10/15, 11/12 and 12/10. Averaged 6-8 state association representatives during each meeting. Several SA's indicated they wanted technical assistance with their non-profit status to ensure they are in good standing or to file for such status. Majority of Region I SA's are actively involved in efforts to bring about state level interpreter licensure and will be a 2015 priority for Region I.
- VTAD continues to be active in regards to Austine School and state legislature efforts.
- Both: Region I SA members would like to have a Regional Conference in New England sometime late 2015/early 2016 at least 6 months before the Phoenix national conference.
- Lovi: Encouraged SA's to continue support NAD with yearly SA dues as well as individual membership.
- Both: Annual holiday fundraising appeal letters sent to family and friends

President Wagner reviewed the agenda for the next day's board meeting.

Meeting recessed at 4:33pm.

January 16, 2015

January 16th Visitors Present: Michael Izak, Renwick Dayton, Chad A. Ludwig, Mark Hill, Ricky Gray, Jacki Cline, David Poland, Eric Raff

The NAD Board arrived at the Washington School for the Deaf in Vancouver, Washington at 8:00 am. The Board had breakfast with student leaders, toured the school, presented to the students, and had lunch with school administration officials.

Meeting was called back to order at 1:07 pm in the Washington School for the Deaf conference room.

President Wagner began the meeting by expressing the Board's appreciation to the Washington School for the Deaf for the tour and chance to meet with students and staff.

President Wagner outlined the agenda for the meeting and started with a review of the 2014-2016 priorities:

- **PARS-** CEO Rosenblum reported that a white paper was posted on PARS and how the goals of this priority have been largely satisfied with respect to the Neutral Platform, but continuing to advocate for functional equivalence. Discussion with the Board focused on educating the community about PARS and the FCC, resulting in an action item for NAD HQ to create a vlog on the white paper and PARS status.
- **FEMA-** CEO Rosenblum reported that the committee has been fully formed and led by Neil McDevitt. The committee is working on developing resources to share with people as well as a position statement on optimal practices for emergency situations with the goal of encouraging all state associations to work with their government agencies.
- **Mental Health-** CEO Rosenblum reported that Steve Hamerdinger is continuing with a team of mental health expert to focus on developing a position statement that addresses the Affordable Care Act, as well as providing education and training to mental health professionals.
- **Education Strategy-** Education Policy Fellow Holmes is leading the EST and work continues to focus on various policies and strategies for deaf and hard of hearing children.
- **Youth Strategy** – The Youth Strategy Team is continuing to assess and develop various strategies to promote youth leadership, a full report to come from Lissette Molina-Wood during this meeting.

Appointed Board: Outreach - Alicia Lane-Outlaw

- Shared several NAD announcements on social media and engaged in discussion
- Annual community meeting at nation's oldest Deaf club (Minnesota) January 24
- Completed selection of outreach committee chair and members (see outreach chair report for details)
- Worked with outreach committee chair to complete proposed draft of goals and milestones for outreach committee. Major objectives (see outreach chair report for details):
 - Attract and retain a growing, engaged, more diverse membership base
 - Increase bequest gifts and annual giving to NAD
 - Build strong community equity
- Provided ongoing feedback to headquarters staff on various marketing/outreach issues.
- Put together a primer for building community equity through customer service best practices, and will present during report at board meeting.
- Created a list of potential community questions about recently released PARS white paper and summarized talking points to address those questions should they arise.
- Encouraged community members to take part of Deaf Awareness Week membership drive on social media in September.
- Recruited some committee members with professional fundraising expertise.
- Began discussing fundraising strategy with those committee members. They will develop a more indepth strategy as part of meeting the committee's goals and milestones.

Appointed Board: Affiliate- Pamela Lloyd Ogoke

- Sent out a request to each Organization Affiliate (total = 96) to update their contact information and received responses from approximately half. Nine provided back up contact information and sixteen bounced back. The feedback varied from "we are happy to be included" to "that's not our level of involvement."
- Drafted a survey to affiliates for Board review with timetable.
- Asked Board members to provide list of potential organizational affiliates.

Diversity Strategy Team- No report

Meeting recessed at 3:25pm, and resumed at 3:37pm.

Education Strategy Team - Tawny Holmes, chair

Provided an update on the activities and productivity of the Education Strategy Team.

Other reports:

The Board reviewed the electronic reports of the Youth Strategy Team (with questions answered by Youth Coordinator Allie Rice), the Public Policy Committee (with questions answered by CEO Rosenblum and Board Liaison Sherri Collins), and the Senior Citizens Section.

President Wagner reviewed with the Board regarding the remaining agenda and location for the Board meeting the next day.

Meeting recessed at 5:06pm.

January 17, 2015

January 17th Visitors Present: Eric Raff, Mark Hill, Jacki Cline, Jim House

Meeting resumed at 8:26am at hotel in Portland, Oregon.

NAD Board's Role in State Association/Affiliate Governance Issues - President Wagner discussed with the Board about how to handle state association or affiliate governance issues, and emphasized that as a federation, we do not oversee or resolve disputes within other organizations including state associations. Region board members are to encourage state associations to use our SAAC tool-kits to aid in their governance. The Board engaged in further discussion about how to handle future requests from state associations and affiliates.

NAD Biennial Conference 2016 and Deaf Nation World Expo Date Conflict - David Reynolds brought up concerns regarding the date conflicts between the NAD 2016 Conference and DeafNation World Expo in July 2016. The Board discussed possible ways to address community concerns and the overlapping events.

Use of Outside Media to Support NAD - President Wagner discussed with the Board on the use of social media and outside media organizations to promote the NAD. Wagner asked Vice President Melissa Draganac-Hawk and Appointed Board Member Alicia Lane-Outlaw to develop a strategy on such media strategies, and work with Director of Communications Lizzie Sorkin.

NAD Leadership Training Conference 2017 site selection:

NAD HQ staff explained that there were not many options for NLTC 2017 and provided the choices. **Philippe Montalette moved for the Board to accept Oklahoma City, OK to be our NLTC 2017 site. David Reynolds seconded, and the motion carried.**

President Wagner called for a recess at 10:33am and resumed the meeting at 10:45am

NAD Biennial Conference 2018 site selection:

The Board considered options for the 2018 site. **Sherri Collins moved that the 2018 biennial conference be held in Hartford, CT. David Reynolds seconded, and the motion carried.**

State Association and Affiliate Membership Criteria Discussion - Steve Lovi began a discussion about the criteria for State Association and Affiliate membership, and suggested that the board revisit the system of membership and have the region board members discuss with their respective regions as well as with the affiliates.

World Federation of the Deaf Action Items –

- President Wagner informed the Board that he was approached by the President of Canadian Association of the Deaf (CAD) regarding a motion to be brought before the WFD General Assembly seeking to gain regional representation for North America which does not have one now. **Gerald “Jerry” Nelson moved that the NAD President and CEO determine the best action for the NAD to be considered part of the Regional Secretariat under the auspices of WFD for North America. Sherri Collins seconded, and the motion carried.**
- President Wagner also discussed with the Board that the current US representative on the WFD Board, Joe Murray, is seeking to run for the WFD Vice President position and has asked the NAD Board to support his run. The Board discussed the conditions for supporting Joe Murray’s run for the position. **Philippe Montalette moved to nominate Joe Murray as Vice President for WFD. Richard McCowin seconded, and the motion carried.**

The Board recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:01pm with photos and video work to be done after lunch. The Board meeting resumed at 1:48pm.

Cerebral Palsy and Deaf Organization (CPADO) - President Wagner introduced President Mark Hill to come and talk about his organization, the Cerebral Palsy and Deaf Organization (CPADO). Hill talked about how important it is to work together to improve life for deaf people with cerebral palsy in different areas such as education, interpreters, video relay, and communication access.

Ratification Votes of Virtual Meeting Motions

- **Richard McCowin moved to ratify the virtual meeting vote to approve the PARS white paper. Steve Lovi seconded, and the motion carried with Board Members Chris Wagner, Jenny Buechner, Gerald “Jerry” Nelson and Philippe Montalette abstaining from the discussion and vote.**
- **Steve Lovi moved to ratify the virtual meeting vote regarding the July 2014 pre-conference board meeting minutes. Philippe Montalette seconded, and the motion carried.**
- **Sherri Collins moved to ratify the virtual meeting vote regarding the September 2014 board meeting minutes. David Reynolds seconded, and the motion carried.**

New Business:

- **Position Statement on Bilingual Education** - Tawny Holmes reviewed with the Board the updated position statement on bilingual education. She showed the video of Dr. Laurene Simms providing an explanation of the terminology on ASL and English bilingual education. **Joshua Beckman moved to adopt the new position statement on bilingual education with some editing to be done. David Reynolds seconded, and the motion carried.**
- The Board discussed the Gallaudet University search process for a new president, and what the NAD’s public stance should be. **Joshua Beckman moved for the NAD to**

submit a letter indicating our position to the Gallaudet Board regarding the qualifications for the new president. Michelle Cline seconded, and the motion carried with Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke abstaining from any discussion or vote on the matter.

- The Board discussed the issue of selecting a new President Emeritus given the need to develop clear rules for succession. **Jerry Nelson moved for the president emeritus succession guidelines to be developed and put into the Board Policy Manual (BPM). David seconded, and the motion carried. President Wagner referred the guidelines to the governance committee to finalize.**
- Board Fundraising Efforts – Treasurer Philippe Montalette discussed possible fundraising ideas for the Board to bring money to the NAD. Montalette indicated that he would monitor on a monthly basis the amount of money being brought in by the Board. Several ideas were reviewed:
 - State association conference where we can engage in fund raising.
 - Board members bringing funds raised to every board meeting
 - At each board meeting, host a fundraising party.
 - Work with professional fundraisers
 - Go to deaf events or host townhalls, and conduct auctions
 - Ask past board members to assist with fundraising.
- Theme for 2016 NAD conference - David Reynolds and Joshua Beckman demonstrated a proposed ASL theme for the 2016 NAD conference. David recognized those who participated on the committee to develop the ASL theme: Sherri Collins, Tawny Holmes, Lizzie Sorkin, Jenny Buechner, and Jerry Nelson. **Alicia Lane-Outlaw moved to approve the ASL theme of the 2016 NAD conference. Richard McCowin seconded, and the motion carried.**

Event Representation Calendar 2014-2016 - President Wagner discussed the list of known state association conferences and other events for which Board and staff representation is sought. President Wagner went through all the events and asked each Board and staff to identify which events they would attend as NAD representatives.

President Wagner reviewed with the Board the plan for tonight's dinner and expectations for the town hall meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:06pm

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Beckman, Secretary