

National Association of the Deaf
NAD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Austin, Texas
January 21-22, 2011

Friday, January 21, 2011

President Bobbie Beth Scoggins called the second board meeting of the 2010-2012 term of office to order at 8:00 am. She thanked Claire Bugen, Superintendent of the Texas School for the Deaf, for provision of meeting space and support services, Byron Bridges of 3 Bridges Interpreting, for provision of authentic breakfast tacos, and Allie Rice, for her handmade name tents for the board meeting.

Board Members Present: President Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Vice President Chris Wagner, Secretary Sheri Farinha, Treasurer: Mike Michner, Region I Representatives: Sean Gerlis and Margie English, Region II Representatives: Richard McCowin and Michael Berger, Region III Representatives: Judith Gilliam and Christopher Patterson, Region IV Representative: John Evans, Appointed Members: Melissa Draganac-Hawk and Kirsten Poston, and Ex Officio Member: Nancy Bloch, Chief Executive Officer. Excused: Region IV Representative Julie Rems-Smario.

Staff Present: Chief Operating Officer Shane Feldman and Youth Programs Coordinator Allie Rice.

Visitors Present: Steve Baldwin, Betty Bounds, Jack Busenbark, Jennifer Campero, Kathryn Caudell, Lindsay Darnall, Jr., Larry Evans, Gertie Galloway, Susie Grona, Seth Gerlis, Sharon Hovinga, Andy Lange, John Mills, David Myers, Marcus Myers, Cindy Nagy, Jerry Nelson, Stephen Patterson, Howard Rosenblum, Paul Rutowski, Peggy Ann St. John and Marianne Sasseen,

President Scoggins reviewed the board meeting agenda and plans for the weekend, with special thanks to the following for their generous sponsorship: AT&T, Communication Service for the Deaf, Convo Relay, Purple Communications, Tracfone Wireless and The Z, followed by 3 Bridges Interpreting, Communication by Hand, Dallas Captioning, iDeafNews, Let's Get Aroused!, LotuSIGN, Texas Association of the Deaf, Texas School for the Deaf and VAME Awards.

The board came to consensus on temporary policy for weekend board updates via Twitter, to be followed by development of policy governing board activities during and between meetings.

Region IV Representative Gilliam briefed the board on NAD-RID National Interpreter Certification (NIC) Task Force activities, as well as yesterday's presentation on the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) by the Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services within the Texas state government. Discussion ensued on NIC issues, challenges and upcoming plans.

Treasurer Michner gave a PowerPoint presentation on audited Fiscal Year 2009-2010 finances, current status of and year-end projections for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 finances by department and as a whole, proposed investment policy changes, upcoming challenges and opportunities, and recommendations for moving forward with transition to new accounting software by Inuit (Quickbooks Premier Nonprofit Edition).

2011/01-01 (Wagner) Modify NAD Investment Policy to include real estate, capped at 20% of overall portfolio. M/S/P

2011/01-02 (Farinha) Enter into closed session on personnel matters. M/S/P

The board went into executive session at 11:25 am, which ended at 11:30 am; the regular board meeting resumed immediately afterwards.

2011/01-03 (Farinha) Approve Treasurer Michner as Chief Financial Officer for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 and Fiscal Year 2011-2012. M/S/P

2011/01-04 (Evans) Approve adjustments to Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget including year-end projections. M/S/P

Treasurer Michner then presented preliminary Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget projections, indicating that these figures were not yet final.

2011/01-05 (Patterson) Send the draft Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget back to the Finance Committee for further review and to ensure balanced budget figures for all cost centers.

The board took a lunch break with TSD Jr. NAD officers and chapter members, with a delicious array of food provided by TSD culinary students.

Afterwards, Texas Association of the Deaf President Paul Rutowski gave a warm welcome on behalf the Texan deaf community and introduced his board members. Andy Lange (also NAD Past President) gave a brief presentation on leadership, on behalf of Purple Communications.

2011/01-06 (Patterson) Ratify email motion approval of September 2010 board minutes. M/S/P

President Scoggins noted Alice Hagemeyer's direct request to the Markku Jokinen, President of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) that they set up a planning committee for worldwide celebration of the 300th birthday of Abbé Charles-Michel de l'Épée during 2012. The NAD will recognize this milestone next year at its 51st Biennial NAD Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

She also noted that the requisite entrusting power, board nomination and award nomination forms have been sent to WFD for official NAD participation in the upcoming XVIII General Assembly and XVI World Congress in Durban, South Africa.

She urged board members to work with Region II Representative Berger to ensure NAD events representation/coverage during 2011 at conferences and key events across the nation, noting that a Google documents file has been set up for viewing ease by board members.

2011/01-07 (McCowin) Update NAD position statement on cochlear implants; refer to Public Policy Committee. M/S/P

The board then broke into work committees focused on three 2011 activities -- National Leadership Training Conference, Membership/Marketing and Telecommunications, followed by reports from each on plans for follow-up activities. Junior NAD officers and chapter members were paired up with board members for these work groups and the full board meeting that followed.

2011/01-08 (Gilliam) Committee to complete NAD position statement on telecommunications by February 28th. M/S/P

Junior NAD members reported that they benefited greatly from watching the board in action and learning from individual board members, which was met by applause by all in attendance.

The board meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Later in the evening, board members took part in a community gathering and NAD benefit fundraiser at the TSD Deaf Smith Center where an assortment of delicious cupcakes from a variety of local outlets and artwork by talented De'VIA artist and Austin resident Chuck Baird were auctioned - over 125 in attendance made for a very enjoyable event that included the presence of past presidents Gertie Galloway, Kent Kennedy and Andy Lange and remarks by Rachel Mazique as NAD Miss Deaf America 2010-2012. This was followed by a late-evening event to benefit NAD, TAD and VAME at Rebels Honky Tonk where brave souls tried out their mechanical bull.

Saturday, January 22, 2011

President Scoggins called the board into executive session from 8:35 am until 9:50 am; the regular board meeting resumed at 10:05 am.

Visitors Present: Jo Bienvenu, Jennifer Campero, Bill Collins Sr., Jade Delao, Brian Determan, Larry Evans, Jonathan Ford, Sylvia Gondowicz, Amelia Hamilton, Sharon Hovinga, Amy Johnson, Marisa King, Andy Lange, Rachel Mazique, Joan McCowin, John Mills, Mindy Moore, Mary Mostyn, Cindi Nagy, Jerry Nelson, Ryan Poindexter, Paul Rutowski, Tozzie Smith, and Peggy Ann St. John.

2011/01-09 (Patterson) Adopt the 2010-2012 Chief Executive Officer evaluation form as an appendix to the Board Policy Manual. M/S/P

2011/01-10 (English) Authorize the executive board (officers) to develop an exit package for Chief Executive Officer Bloch. M/S/P

Chief Executive Officer Bloch gave an overview of headquarters operations, noting that NAD had many accomplishments this fiscal year including passage of the landmark 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010, policy change through settlement of court cases, finalization of indirect rates with the U.S. Department of Education, successful transfer to new QuickBooks accounting system and projections for wrapping up the current fiscal year in a position of strength, allowing greater focus on planning for growth in the new fiscal year.

Vice President Wagner explained that Gallaudet University will celebrate its 150th anniversary during the first week of July 2014 and that the DeafNation World Expo would be during the third week of July 2014. By consensus, it was agreed that the board-headquarters planning committee for the 52nd Biennial NAD Conference would work on location and event dates.

He noted that next year's 51st Biennial NAD Conference would include vlogs on the theme of "Nothing About Us, Without Us!" as part of the overall event marketing strategy, and that focus on diversity and youth would be woven throughout the conference program. He went on to recognize the State Association-Affiliate Committee (SAAC) for their hard work on specific conference priorities and criteria being developed for State Association awards.

Chief Operating Officer Feldman reviewed plans for the May 14th NAD Spring Gala in Berkeley, California, explaining that the program includes Marlee Matlin as honorary chair, with the involvement of Region IV Representative Julie Rems-Smario as Gala chair.

President Scoggins welcomed Linsay Darnall, Jr. who gave an overview on his VAME (Visual Arts Media and Entertainment) Awards endeavor and how NAD as a cause would benefit from partnership.

2011/01-11 (Gilliam) Headquarters shall work with VAME to develop a Memorandum of Agreement. M/S/P

2011/01-12 (Wagner) Allow interim use of NAD logo in VAME promotional materials this year, with advance headquarters approval. M/S/P

The board took a lunch break with Jr. NAD officers and chapter members, with a yet another delicious array of food provided by TSD culinary students.

Region I Representative English reported on Membership/Marketing committee activities. This was followed by a report by Region IV Representative Evans on Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, with a request for feedback by February 28th. Next was Public Policy Committee Chair Howard Rosenblum, who briefed the board on various committee activities and position statements.

President Scoggins reported on CEASD and its Child First position statement, our support for this, the importance of focusing our legal/policy resources in partnering with them ESEA and IDEA reauthorizations, and how this effort ties to our Vision 2020 strategic plan.

Appointed Member Draganac-Hawk reported on Diversity Strategic Team survey plans, expansion to include additional members, upcoming diversity training and grant development efforts, and plans to work closely with Youth Leadership Programs for greater staff and youth participant diversity.

Region II Representative Berger reported on Youth Strategic Team plans to work with headquarters and Deaf Youth USA on screening efforts for this summer's WFD Youth Camp.

President Scoggins shared with the board copies of a letter she received which highlighted the friendship that Arthur L. Roberts, XXth NAD President, had with Grace Coolidge, wife of U.S. President Calvin Coolidge.

She went on to review dates for upcoming board meetings and noted that there are only three left prior to the pre- and post-conference board meetings at the 51st Biennial NAD Conference next year. The board next meets at Camp Lakodia starting with work sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday May 17-18, with the regular meeting on Thursday and Friday May 19-20 (Rosenblum and Feldman to arrive the day before). With this schedule, the board and staff will take part in an all day multi-state picnic/gathering on Saturday May 21 at the camp which will also feature mini-leadership training sessions.

Region III Representative Gilliam pointed out the need to involve former NAD board members in marketing and outreach efforts.

2011/01-13 (Wagner) Form ad hoc committee for NAD foundation establishment, with involvement of past board members having requisite knowledge/skills. M/S/P

Secretary Farinha pointed to the merits of an ambassadorship program tie-in for the future NAD foundation. President Scoggins further noted the need for greater involvement by past presidents in the activities of the NAD.

The board meeting adjourned at 2 pm. Later that evening, a gathering in honor of Chief Executive Officer Bloch was held at the home of Paul and Avonne Rutowski to sample culinary treats by deaf Chef Kurt Ramborger, sponsored by Let's Get Aroused!