

FINAL

NAD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

National Association of the Deaf

Silver Spring, Maryland

April 15-17, 2010

Thursday, April 15

In attendance: President Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Vice President Chris Wagner, Secretary Lynn Z. Null, Treasurer Ron Sutcliffe, Region 1 Board Representatives Julie Bourne and Sean Gerlis, Region II Board Representatives Jack Cooper and Mike Berger, Region III Board Representatives Lissette Molina and Judith Gilliam, Region IV Board Representative Astrid Goodstein, Appointed Board Representatives Kirsten Poston and Melissa Draganac-Hawk, and Ex- Officio Board Member and Chief Executive Officer Nancy J. Bloch.

Staff: Chief Operating Officer Shane Feldman and Law and Advocacy Director Rosaline Crawford.

Board and staff members met at 8:30 AM at the Longworth Office Building to kick off NAD Legislative Day (also virtual by members across the nation) for a refresher on the 21st Century Communication and Video Accessibility Act, followed by meetings with Congressional members and staff from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Jamie Berke of Caption Action 2 joined the team, which included Seth Gerlis of iDeafNews who captured video footage throughout the day. Board members afterwards convened at the NAD headquarters.

President Scoggins called the board meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Motion 2010-07: Gerlis moved that the board enter into executive session to discuss the CEO search process, succession plan and contract. **CARRIED**

The board went into executive session at 5:01 PM.

Motion 2010-08: Poston moved that the board end the executive session. **CARRIED**

The board resumed its regular meeting at 8:24 PM.

Motion 2010-09: Bourne moved to approve revised wording for the CEO Search timelines. **CARRIED**

The board meeting recessed at 8:31 PM.

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Friday, April 16

Staff: Chief Operating Officer Shane Feldman, Law and Advocacy Director Rosaline Crawford, Staff Attorney Debra Patkin and Youth Leadership Programs Coordinator Allie Rice.

Visitors: Ann Cooper, Seth Gerlis, Cathy Ingram, James “Manny” Johnson, Anya Mayer, Tayler Mayer, and Deborah Titus.

The board meeting resumed at 8:20 AM.

President Scoggins welcomed Vice President of Community Relations Ron Burdett and Director of Regulatory Affairs Mike Maddix of Sorenson Communications, who shared their perspectives on current and pending telecommunications relay issues.

By consensus, the board entered into executive session at 9:00 AM to discuss biennial national conference award nominations and prospects for the currently vacant board Region IV representative position; the regular board meeting resumed at 10:20 AM.

Motion 2010-10: Sutcliffe moved to appoint John P. Evans as NAD Board Region IV Representative, to fill the remainder of James “Manny” Johnson’s term. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-11: Wagner moved to add a new Media Advocacy Award category to be presented during biennial national conferences. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-12: Goodstein moved to establish specific nomination procedures for the Andrew J. Foster Memorial Award. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-13: Wagner moved to draw upon restricted funds designated for the Randall McClelland Memorial Award, until these funds are no longer available. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-14: Gilliam moved to accept the board’s decision during executive session on award recipients for the upcoming biennial national conference. **CARRIED**

Award recipients are to receive notification letters by mid-May.

Treasurer Sutcliffe presented the FY2011 budget as proposed. He also shared a chart showing six years of financial history (FY2005-FY2010). Board discussion on the budget ensued, which included the following subjects: outreach exhibits-return on investment; board lodging during the biennial national conference; increase in membership and biennial conference registration fees; creative fundraising strategies including use of Twitter; estate bequests/planning and rates for board honoraria.

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Motion 2010-15: Bourne moved to accept the FY 2011 budget as presented. **CARRIED**

The board expressed its appreciation to the Finance Committee for their commitment to present a balanced budget during this board meeting.

Motion 2010-16: Goodstein moved that the Finance Committee review restricted and unrestricted funds and report back with recommendations to the board by June 15. **CARRIED**

The board recessed for lunch at 12:10 PM; the meeting resumed at 1:00 PM.

Vice President and Governance Chair Wagner provided an overview of plans for this summer's biennial national conference. Seventy workshops and commissions have been accepted (names and presentation titles are already online). Dialogue ensued on ways to foster diversity, starting with the welcome ceremony and ending with the closing ceremony/banquet and auction. It was agreed transformation necessitates openness to and sharing of diverse ideas, perspectives and strategies.

The board previewed a draft vlog prepared by Seth Gerlis of iDeafNews depicting their successful Legislative Day visit to Capitol Hill.

Motion 2010-17: Goodstein moved to enter into executive session to discuss board personnel matters. **CARRIED**

The board went into executive session at 2:35 PM; by general consensus the board resumed its regular meeting at 4:25 PM.

Wagner reviewed plans for the upcoming 50th Biennial NAD Conference including budget, communication, roles and schedule, with optional attendance at meal events other than the closing ceremony/banquet.

Motion 2010-18: Poston moved that the headquarters expand its pursuit of sponsorships outside of its traditional base for the 50th Biennial NAD Conference. **CARRIED**

Feldman explained that headquarters has sent out requests for proposals for the 2012 biennial national conference which will take place in Region II; this went to cities identified earlier by the board.

The board meeting recessed at 5:15 PM.

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Saturday, April 17

Visitors: Heidi Burghardt, Ann Cooper, Veronique Graves, Tawny Holmes, James “Manny” Johnson, Joe Murray, and Alexander Zernovoj

The board meeting resumed at 9:10 AM.

Motion 2010-19: Molina moved to accept the January 22-23, 2010 board meeting minutes as corrected. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-20: Goodstein moved to accept the Schools for the Deaf position statement as proposed by the Public Policy Committee. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-21: Molina moved to accept the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention position statement as proposed by the Public Policy Committee. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-22: Gerlis moved to accept the Dual Language Development and Use in the Educational Environment position statement as proposed by the Public Policy Committee. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-23: Gilliam moved to accept the draft, Promoting a Bill of Rights to Ensure Appropriate Direct Mental Health Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals, with further edits to be carried out by the Public Policy Committee. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-24: Molina moved to accept the draft, Model Mental Health for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals Bill of Rights Act, with further edits to be carried out by the Public Policy Committee. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-25: Gerlis moved that headquarters ensure that all position statements once finalized are electronically distributed as well as posted online. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-26: Poston moved that headquarters establish processes to ensure crucial information is electronically distributed in a timely manner. **WITHDRAWN**

It was explained that electronic distribution, once activated, takes place in batches, which means that not everyone receives the distributed message at the same time.

Dialogue then moved onto the draft letter to be mailed next week to major dictionary companies requesting that “audism” be added as an entry, providing rationale and support for inclusion of this word, along with proposed dictionary definitions.

Motion 2010-27: Bourne moved that headquarters (Feldman) work with her to complete the Vision 2020 strategic plan draft by June 1. **CARRIED**

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Joe Murray, who serves as a member of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) Board, gave a report on WFD budgetary challenges, deaf association financial involvement and support, United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CPRD), and the 2011 World Congress of the WFD in Durban, South Africa.

The board recessed for lunch at 12:00 PM and resumed at 1:00 PM.

Wagner then gave a presentation on the Board Policy Manual, explaining changes and additions made. Considerable dialogue ensued on the need for increases to state association and organizational membership fees.

Motion 2010-28: Molina moved for a \$100 increase in state association affiliate fees, effective January 1, 2011. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-29: Gerlis moved for an increase in non-profit, government, and organizational affiliate fees, effective August 1, 2010 (specifics below). **CARRIED**

Expanding further on **Motions 2010-28 and 2010-29**, fees shall increase as follows:

State Association Affiliates:

From \$100 to \$200

Non-Profit Affiliates:

National (10 states or more) – From \$200 to \$300

State (1-9 states) – From \$150 to \$200

Local – From \$100 to \$200

Government Affiliates:

Federal – From \$200 to \$300

State – From \$150 to \$200

Local – From \$100 to \$200

For-Profit Affiliates:

National (10 states or more) – From \$1,000 to \$2,000

State (1-9 states) – From \$500 to \$1,000

Updated conflict of interest, document retention and destruction, and whistleblower policy statements were distributed during the meeting.

Motion 2010-30: Molina moved to accept the Board Policy Manual (BPM) as revised. **CARRIED**

Tawny Holmes, chair of the Youth Strategic Team, gave a report on her team's progress to date including recommendations made.

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Motion 2010-31: Draganac-Hawk moved that headquarters review recommendations made by the Youth Strategic Team prior to this summer's biennial national conference. **CARRIED**

Discussion ensued on board-generated bylaws amendment proposals worthy of Bylaws Committee consideration.

Motion 2010-32: Bourne moved that the Bylaws Committee review and come up with recommendations for shorter and staggered board terms of office. **CARRIED**

Motion 2010-33: Cooper moved that board lodging expenses be covered in full during the 50th Biennial NAD Conference. **FAILED**

It was agreed that the board will make an effort to keep costs down and within budget for board expenses related to travel and lodging associated with the conference. Molina will contact each board member to arrange shared rooms.

The board by general consensus entered into executive session at 4:41 PM to discuss matters involving legally binding agreements.

The board meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.

This was followed by a festive "An Evening in Paris" - 2010 Spring Gala event in tribute to Anita Farb, who retired as Director of Communications and Operations last fall, after 23 years of service to the NAD and the American deaf community. Generous sponsorship for the gala was provided by Access Interpreting, Communication Service for the Deaf, Deaf Access Solutions, Gallaudet University, National Technical Institute for the Deaf at RIT, Purple Communications, Sorenson Communications, Verizon Foundation, and The Z.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Z. Null
Secretary