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COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES MEETING

50th Biennial NAD Conference
National Association of the Deaf
July 6-10, 2010
Philadelphia, PA

Tuesday, July 6: Session I

President Bobbie Beth Scoggins called the Council of Representatives (CR) meeting to order at 9:10 AM, and opened with welcoming remarks in line with the conference theme, “Celebrate Our Heritage. Invest in Our Future.”

Michael Berger, Region II Representative and Credentials Chair, reported that there were 100 out of 127 official delegates present:

Region I:	26
Region II:	24
Region III:	18
Region IV:	15
Affiliates:	17

President Scoggins introduced the conference parliamentarians, Gerald “Bummy” Bernstein and Elizabeth “Libby” Pollard who reviewed parliamentary procedures with delegates.

This was followed by an announcement by Barbara Jean “BJ” Wood on formation of the Nancy J. Bloch Leadership and Advocacy Scholarship fund by the NAD Board of Directors. She and her committee explained that fundraising efforts would be conducted throughout the conference in honor of outgoing Chief Executive Officer Nancy J. Bloch for her exemplary service during the past eighteen years.

President Bobbie Beth Scoggins then reviewed standing rules and prior minutes with delegates, which resulted in the following motions:

CR 2010-01: Larry Devenny (Arizona) moved to accept CR standing rules as presented. CARRIED

CR 2010-02: Joshua Beckman (New Jersey) moved to accept Regional Caucus standing rules as presented. CARRIED

CR 2010-03: Christopher Patterson (Georgia) moved to approve 2008 CR minutes as read. CARRIED

The following individuals were appointed to the CR Minutes Review Team: Alex Zernovoj, District of Columbia (Region I), Jennifer Buechner, Wisconsin (Region II), Mary Moore, Florida (Region III), Larry Devenny, Arizona (Region IV) and Steven Schumacher, Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf (Affiliates).

CR 2010-04: Byron Heath (Virginia) moved to accept the appointed individuals to serve on the CR Minutes Review Team. CARRIED

President Scoggins welcomed the 2008-2010 NAD Board to the stage, and publicly expressed her appreciation to board members for their diligent work for the past two years.

Lissette Molina Wood, Region III Representative on behalf of the Board, presented State of the NAD Highlights for 2008-2010.

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Reports from board strategic teams were provided: Diversity Strategic Team by Melissa Draganac-Hawk and Kirsten Poston, Appointed Board Members and Co-Chairs; Vision 2020 Strategic Team by Julie Bourne, Region I Representative and Chair; and Youth Strategic Team by Jennifer Yost Ortiz on behalf of Tawny Holmes, Chair.

Reports from board standing committees were provided: Finance Committee by Ron Sutcliffe, Treasurer and Chair; Development by Julie Rems Smario, Chair; Governance Committee by Chris Wagner, Vice President and Chair; Public Policy Committee by Howard Rosenblum, Chair; and Membership Committee by Margie English, Chair.

President Scoggins informed delegates that the above-mentioned reports will be posted on the NAD website.

CR 2010-05: Mary Moore (Florida) moved to accept Standing Committee and Strategic Team reports as presented. CARRIED

Lunch recess took place at 12:15 PM.

Tuesday, July 6: Session II

President Scoggins called the meeting to order at 1:45 PM.

Michael Berger, Credentials Chair, reported that there were 92 delegates in attendance as follows:

Region I:	26
Region II:	21
Region III:	17
Region IV:	12
Affiliates:	16

Jack Cooper and Michael Berger, Region II Representatives, presented the Robert M. Greenmum Memorial Award to Cynthia Weitzel (Minnesota).

Tom Kober (South Dakota), Bylaws Chair, reported that there were three proposed amendments to the bylaws. The Bylaws Committee recommended acceptance of these amendments, as follows.

Proposed Amendment 1:

ARTICLE FOUR. Board of Directors

§ 4.03 Elected Regional Board Members.

Regional Board Members shall be elected by ballot by delegates of their respective regions at the biennial national conference. No person shall be eligible to hold office who has not been a member of both the Association and his/her State Association for the two years immediately preceding the election.

Regional Board Members must have official residency status in their respective regions in order to maintain their eligibility. ~~Regional Board Members shall represent the geographical divisions of the United States as follows:~~ The United States shall be divided into four (4) geographical regions, and each region shall be represented by two (2) Regional Board Members, one of which is elected two (2) years apart from the other.

- (a) Region I. Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- (b) Region II. Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.
- (c) Region III. Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virgin Islands.

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- (d) Region IV. Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Rationale: Clarification of current practice – each region within the four NAD regions has two Regional Board Members serving staggered terms (e.g., one member serves from 2006 to 2010, the other from 2008 to 2012). The bylaws amendment puts this into writing.

Proposed Amendment 2:

ARTICLE FOUR. Board of Directors

§ 4.06 Terms of Office.

- (a) Elected Officers. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Association shall be eligible to serve for no more than ~~three (3)~~ two (2) consecutive ~~two~~ four-year terms.
- (b) Elected Regional Board Members. Regional Board Members of the Association shall be eligible to serve for no more than two (2) consecutive four-year terms.
- (c) Appointed Board Members. Appointed Board Members of the Association shall be eligible to serve for no more than ~~three (3)~~ two (2) consecutive ~~two~~ four-year terms.

Rationale: The current length of elected officers is not adequate to provide leadership and continuity for a non-profit organization that serves the interests of deaf and hard of hearing individuals at the national level.

Proposed Amendment 3:

ARTICLE FOUR. Board of Directors

§ 4.15 Compensation.

Members of the Board of Directors shall serve without receiving compensation except for standard expense reimbursement for costs incurred in discharge of duties.

Rationale: The addition of the word "receiving" further clarifies that any member of the Board of Directors shall not experience any financial gain through his or her service to the NAD.

Inquiries were brought to the floor in regards to the 2008 proposals related to Deaf Youth USA affiliation. Tom Kober, Bylaws Chair, explained that it is yet to be determined, and is an ongoing process that may take at least two (2) years to be introduced into the bylaws.

CR 2010-06: Linsay Darnall Jr. (Nebraska) moved to amend Proposal #2 to reflect a change to section (a), so that it becomes effective in 2012.

CR 2010-07: Christopher Patterson (Georgia) moved to recess for 15 minutes. CARRIED

The meeting resumed at 2:27 PM.

CR 2010-08: Linsay Darnall Jr. (Nebraska) moved to withdraw his amendment as a whole. CARRIED

CR 2010-09: Christopher Woodfill (Wisconsin) on behalf of Region II, moved to amend Proposal #2 by inserting "staggered" in section (a). Jack Lamberton (USADSF) moved to table this motion to this Saturday. FAILED

CR 2010-10: Sheri Farinha (California) moved to refer Proposal #2 to the Bylaws Committee. CARRIED

CR 2010-11: Christopher Patterson (Georgia) moved to close for vote on Proposal #3. CARRIED

CR 2010-12: Larry Devenny (Arizona) moved to close for vote on Proposal #1. CARRIED

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Tom Kober, Bylaws Chair, made a formal report that his Bylaws Committee will deliver a conclusive decision on Proposal #2 for vote by this Saturday.

Julie Bourne, Region I Representative and Chair of the Steering Committee, reported that the 34 priorities were accounted for as previously explained in the Delegate Manual. Bourne walked through the priorities and reported that the Steering Committee consisted of David Nelson, District of Columbia (Region I), Pamela Siebert, Kansas (Region II), Glenna Cooper, Oklahoma (Region III), Larry Devenny, Arizona (Region IV) and Jim Brune, DCARA (Affiliates).

CR 2010-13: Sheri Farinha (California) moved to suspend CR standing rule #8: Presentation of the top 30 proposed priorities from the General Forum shall be made by the president or her designate, in a manner deemed appropriate. Once all 30 proposal priorities have been reviewed, CR delegates shall then debate and vote on the top 20 priorities to become official for the 2010-2012 term of office.

CR 2010-14: Dean Russo (New York) moved to recess for 10 minutes and discuss Farinha's motion.
CARRIED

The recess resumed at 2:45 PM, and the consensus moved to agree that the previous motion by Sheri Farinha did not carry.

CR 2010-15: Larry Devenny (Arizona) moved to accept the Steering Committee's report as presented.
CARRIED

Ronald Sutcliffe, Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee, provided a snapshot review of the budgets for fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

CR 2010-16: Larry Devenny (Arizona) moved to accept the Finance Committee report as presented.
CARRIED

The day's agenda concluded at 4:22 PM. Linsay Darnall Jr. (Nebraska) made a special announcement that there will be a special prayer circle in the hall right across from the meeting room at 8:20 AM.

Saturday, July 10: Session III & IV

President Scoggins called the meeting to order at 8:50 AM with formal recognition of Junior NAD delegates and DYUSA non-voting delegates for their diligent observations throughout the CR sessions. She then gave an overview of the CEO search process that began 15 months ago, as already provided on the NAD website.

Michael Berger, Credentials Chair, reported that there were 83 delegates in attendance, as follows:

Region I:	18
Region II:	22
Region III:	17
Region IV:	15
Affiliates:	12

Tom Kober, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, reported on the committee's recommendation to hold off Proposal #2.

CR 2010-17: Larry Devenny moved to refer Proposal #2 to the Bylaws Committee for the next conference with the goal of it becoming effective in 2012. CARRIED

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Representatives of NAD and RID (Registry Interpreters of the Deaf) took part in signing a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), repeating the ceremony that was held at last year's national RID conference.

Patrick and Doreen Sell (Iowa) presented President Scoggins with two copies of the Iowa State Directory, 2009-2010 in celebration of Edward Booth Bicentennial event for the NAD archives.

President Scoggins then presented the Spirit of the NAD award to Past President Benjamin J. Soukup (South Dakota) for his dedication and service to NAD and the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Astrid Goodstein, Region IV Representative and Ronald Sutcliffe, Treasurer, presented the Knights of Flying Fingers Awards to the following individuals: Tawny Holmes (Maryland), Alexis A. Kashar (New York), Melissa Malzkuhn (District of Columbia), Sheila Conlon Mentkowski (California), Jeffrey T. Rosen (Maryland), and Louis A. Schwarz (Florida).

Astrid Goodstein, Region IV Representative and Elections Committee Chair, introduced the Elections Committee, which included Michael Berger, Region II Representative and Gertie Galloway, Past President. She then provided the slate of candidates for the 2010-2012 term, as follows:

President: Bobbie Beth Scoggins (South Dakota)
Vice President: Chris Wagner (Florida)
Secretary: Sheri Farinha (California) and Alexander Zernovoj (District of Columbia)
Treasurer: Michael Michner (California)
Region I: Margie English (District of Columbia) and Alexander Zernovoj (District of Columbia)
Region II: Richard McCowin (Nebraska)
Region III: Christopher Patterson (Alabama)
Region IV: David O. Reynolds (California) and Julie Rems Smario (California)

Past President Benjamin J. Soukup moderated elections and announced the new officers of 2010-2012 as follows:

President Bobbie Beth Scoggins (by acclamation), Vice President Chris Wagner (by acclamation), Secretary Sherri Farinha, Treasurer Michael Michner (by acclamation), Margie English joining Sean Gerlis as Region I Representatives, Richard McCowin joining Michael Berger as Region II Representatives, Christopher Patterson joining Judith Gilliam as Region III Representatives, and Julie Rems Smario joining John Evans as Region IV Representatives. Past President Merv Garretson conducted the oath of office for the new Board of Directors.

Region III Representative and Silent/Live Auction Coordinator Judith Gilliam announced that the silent auction would close today at 12 PM, and then the live auction would take place after the banquet tonight, opening the doors to conference attendees.

Kevin Clark (California) announced that there would be a group picture taken at the historic Liberty Bell site this afternoon.

Vice President Chris Wagner announced that a call for committee volunteers would be posted on the web and encouraged members to express their interest and areas of expertise.

President Scoggins indicated that there would be a special announcement after the live auction tonight.

Past President Merv Garretson shared words of wisdom with delegates.

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Past President and current Gallaudet University President Alan T. Hurwitz also shared that he was in awe of delegates and that the NAD is in good hands.

Past President Libby Pollard shared her words of wisdom as well..

The consensus moved to recess for fifteen minutes. The recess started at 10:27 AM and the meeting resumed at 10:45 AM.

Official 2010-2012 **conference resolutions** were announced as follows:

Title: Feasibility Committee for State Association Coordinator at NAD

Code: 2010-PA-RES-001

Whereas, the relationship between the state associations and the NAD as a whole is very important to the overall health of the NAD;

Whereas, there was an obvious knowledge gap here at the conference between the experienced and the new delegates;

Whereas, there are fiscal constraints at the headquarters that demand careful prioritization and decisions on staffing;

Resolved, that a feasibility committee be formed to explore the merits of creating and funding a position within the headquarters to focus on coordinating information sharing with all State Associations and Affiliates.

Title: Recognition of Nancy J. Bloch's Service to the NAD

Code: 2010-PA-RES-002

Whereas, Nancy J. Bloch has served faithfully for the last 18 years at the National Association of the Deaf as its first female Chief Executive Officer;

Whereas, Bloch has steadfastly fought for equal access for the deaf and hard of hearing citizens of the United States with dedication, perseverance, and grace;

Whereas, Bloch has been the longest-serving executive who has provided strong support to nine different Boards of Directors and six presidents through eleven conferences;

Whereas, Bloch has announced her planned departure scheduled for spring 2011;

Resolved, that the Board of Directors along with the members of the NAD community expresses their sincere appreciation and recognition for Nancy J. Bloch's lengthy service to the National Association of the Deaf.

Title: Recognition of NAD Chief Executive Officer Finalists

Code: 2010-PA-RES-003

Whereas, Nancy J. Bloch announced her planned departure as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Association of the Deaf;

Whereas, the Board of Directors implemented the CEO Search Committee to seek out a strong pool of candidates to replace Bloch after 18 years of service;

Whereas, the CEO Search Committee has proposed to the Board four outstanding finalists;

Whereas, Shane H. Feldman, Charity Reedy Hines, Howard A. Rosenblum and Darlene Goncz Zangara were named finalists;

Resolved, that the 2010 Council of Representatives and the Board of Directors, along with the members of the NAD community expresses their sincere appreciation and recognition to the four finalists for expressing their interest to serve as the next CEO and sharing their vision with the membership.

Title: Recognition of Outgoing NAD Board Members

Code: 2010-PA-RES-004

Whereas, several members of the NAD Board of Directors have completed their board service;

Whereas, Lynn Z. Null has served as Region III Board Representative and as Secretary for the past eight years;

Whereas, Ronald Sutcliffe has served as Treasurer for the past two years;

Whereas, Julie Bourne has served as Region I Board Representative for the past four years;

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Whereas, Jack Cooper has served as Region II Board Representative for the past eight years;
Whereas, Lissette Molina Wood has served as Region III Board Representative for the past four years;
Whereas, Astrid Amann Goodstein has served as Region IV Board Member for the past four years;
Whereas, Kirsten Poston has served as Appointed Board Member for the past two years;
Whereas, Melissa Draganac-Hawk has served as Appointed Board Member for the past two years;
Resolved, that the Board of Directors, along with the members of the NAD community expresses their sincere appreciation and recognition to the outgoing board members for their dedication, perseverance and loyalty to the NAD.

Title: **Save Deaf Children**

Code: 2010-PA-RES-005

Whereas, the NAD needs to focus on Deaf children in America;

Resolved, that the NAD educate the public that there are Deaf children in all K-12 school programs nationwide and we need to assure that every child is aware of life opportunities during and after completion of school.

Official 2010-2012 **conference priorities** were announced as follows:

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-010

2010-2012 Priority: **Protect Schools for the Deaf**

NAD shall work to protect schools for the deaf, such as residential schools of the deaf, deaf day schools, and deaf charter schools, by establishing a task force focused on reaching the deaf community about the risks of deaf schools closing and lobbying to redefine how deaf and hard of hearing students are placed according to priorities set forth in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Ranking: 1 (95 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 1.2

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-007

2010-2012 Priority: **ASL-English Bilingualism**

NAD shall make it a top priority to promote the practice and prioritization of American Sign Language-English bilingualism in all NAD and affiliated organization activities, including those that are political, social and educational in nature. NAD shall also work to ensure that parents of children with cochlear implant and other listening assistive technology receive exposure to Deaf Culture and American Sign Language.

Ranking: 2 (84 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 1.2

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-019

2010-2012 Priority: **Federal Legislation on Visual Technologies**

NAD shall pursue federal legislation (e.g., Americans with Disabilities Act, HR 3101/S 3304, Rehabilitation Act, Telecommunications Act, etc) to include coverage for devices such as new communication technologies, pagers, videophones and videophone relay, internet relay, cell phones, high quality television captioning in all broadcast markets (local news and special programming), movie theatres and internet media outlets to be fully accessible to individuals who are deaf.

Ranking: 3 (81 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 1.3

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-022

2010-2012 Priority: **Human Rights**

NAD shall inspire community stakeholders, legislators and legal staff to write a comprehensive bill detailing the human rights for all deaf individuals. The bill will include the right to American Sign Language (ASL) for all deaf people, including every deaf child, the right to ASL/English bilingual education, as well as other rights (e.g., Audism) mentioned in current laws. This could be modeled after the Human Rights Act.

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Ranking: 4 (80 votes)
Vision 2020: Goal 1

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-014

2010-2012 Priority: **Early Intervention**

NAD shall commit to actively being involved in the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) programs nationally. This includes setting up training programs for deaf professional involvement and employment in early intervention services.

Ranking: 4 (80 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 1.1

Priority Code: 2010-PA-GOV-002

2010-2012 Priority: **Junior NAD Chapters**

NAD shall work to ensure that Jr. NAD Chapters are directly affiliated with their respective State Associations of the Deaf in order to enrich the relationships between two organizations.

Ranking: 5 (79 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 3.4

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-001

2010-2012 Priority: **Deaf History Month**

NAD shall research and identify Congressional members to sponsor a federal bill to proclaim March 13-April 15 as National Deaf History Month (NDHM), with an emphasis on American Sign Language.

Ranking: 6 (76 votes)

Vision 2020: Guiding Principles on Language and Attitude

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-004

2010-2012 Priority: **Deaf Olympic Athlete Equity**

NAD shall work to amend the Ted Stevens Olympic Amateur Sports Act (ASA) to ensure that Deaf Olympic athletes have the same protection and support as other athletics for the Olympic and Para-Olympic Games.

Ranking: 6 (76 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 3.1 through coalition leadership

Priority Code: 2010-PA-GOV-007

2010-2012 Priority: **National Data Resource Center**

NAD shall establish a central National Data Resource Center to collect data and statistics to document, support and make data driven decisions that will focus in the areas of civil, human and linguistic rights of Deaf Americans.

Ranking: 7 (74 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 3.3

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-013

2010-2012 Priority: **Federal EHDI Oversight**

NAD shall advocate for legislative changes to Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) oversight from the Centers for Disease Control so that it is instead under the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

Ranking: 8 (72 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 1.1

Priority Code: 2010-PA-GOV-004

2010-2012 Priority: **One Stop Resource & Action Center**

NAD shall create a “one stop” location on its website for State Associations to share their success stories, disseminate advocacy related information and “calls to action”.

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Ranking: 9 (65 votes)
Vision 2020: Objective 3.4

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-017
2010-2012 Priority: **Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship**
NAD shall form a task force to study and make recommendations on approaches to support self-employment and entrepreneurship among deaf people
Ranking: 10 (62 votes)
Vision 2020: N/A

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-020
2010-2012 Priority: **Access to Medical Services**
NAD shall continue to educate professionals within the medical field about making services accessible to deaf people.
Ranking: 10 (62 votes)
Vision 2020: Objective 1.3

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-011
2010-2012 Priority: **Parental Sign Language Strategies**
NAD shall form a task force with American Society for Deaf Children (ASDC) to study approaches taken by other countries to encourage parents of deaf children to learn sign language and make recommendations on strategies to pursue in the United States.
Ranking: 11 (61 votes)
Vision 2020: Objective 1.1

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-025
2010-2012 Priority: **RSA-Funded Deaf Service Centers**
NAD shall collaborate with the Rehabilitative Services Administration (within the U.S. Department of Education – Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services) to identify funding opportunities for the establishment of federally funded Deaf Service Centers.
Ranking: 12 (60 votes)
Vision 2020: N/A

Priority Code: 2010-PA-GOV-007
2010-2012 Priority: **Political Action Committee**
NAD shall spearhead research into establishing a National Association for the Deaf-Political Action Committee (NAD-PAC) organization. This research will focus on the advantages and disadvantages of having a new 501(c)(4) or 527 organization for political action purposes.
Ranking: 13 (59 votes)
Vision 2020: Objective 3.2

Priority Code: 2010-PA-DEV-002
2010-2012 Priority: **Increased Fundraising Efforts**
NAD shall increase fundraising efforts by reviewing membership fees, increasing the number of individual donors, tapping into foundations, small/large businesses, earned income, government grants and contracts, and federated campaigns such as United Way, and other financial resources.
Ranking: 14 (58 votes)
Vision 2020: Objective 4.2

Priority Code: 2010-PA-PUB-024
2010-2012 Priority: **Deaf Media Center**
NAD shall research, gather community input and seek funding opportunities to expand the existing deaf

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media room into a deaf media center at NAD, and include a strategic media marketing plan for the center.

Ranking: 15 (57 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 3.3 with future applicability towards multiple objectives

Priority Code: 2010-PA-GOV-006

2010-2012 Priority: **Deaf Advocacy Day**

NAD shall create a national system for which each State Association will participate in a yearly (or as needed) Deaf Advocacy Day in the nation's Capitol around issues impacting the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Ranking: 16 (56 votes)

Vision 2020: Objective 3.4

Priority Code: 2010-PA-GOV-001

2010-2012 Priority: **Deaf Culture and History**

NAD shall change the title heading of the Library Friends Section to a new heading called the Deaf Culture and History Section.

Ranking: 17 (55 votes)

Vision 2020: Guiding Principles on Language and Attitude

Harvey Corson (Connecticut), on behalf of the Council of Representatives, expressed appreciation to Julie Bourne, Region I Representative, for her efforts as chair of the Steering Committee.

CR 2010-18: Al Sonnenstrahl (Maryland) moved to accept the priorities as ranked. CARRIED

President Scoggins adjourned the Council of Representatives meeting at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Z. Null
Secretary