

1 **GREATER LOS ANGELES AGENCY ON DEAFNESS, INC.**
2 **Executive Agency Board of Directors**
3 **Wednesday, August 28, 2013**
4 **MINUTES**
5

6 **President Sidansky called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m. A quorum was present.**
7

8 **I. ROLL CALL**
9

10 Board Members Present:

11 Robert Sidansky-President, Mark Jones-Vice President, Fred Lovitch-Secretary, Elaine Aikins, Barbie
12 Gomez, Modela Kurzet
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14 Absent:

15 Robert Sutton –Treasurer, Jonathan Weiss, Karen Bowman
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17 Visitors:

18 None
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20 Staff Present:

21 Dr. Patricia Hughes
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23 Interpreters:

24 Kayelle Morgan
25

26 Recording Secretary:

27 Jainah Ranger
28

29 **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting of April 24, 2013**

30 Page 4, line 3, revise “Acers” to “ARCE”

31 Page 4, line 11, revise “that LS that” to “that LS”

32 Gomez moves to approve the minutes with corrections. Kurzet seconded. **MSC.**
33

34 **III. OFFICER’S REPORTS**

35 President’s Report:

36 Sidansky reported that he and Hughes discussed recently that GLAD will give Ken Paves an award for the
37 wonderful job he worked with GLAD on the House of Blues (HOB).

38 Sidansky mentioned that he found a person who was interested in being on the board but unfortunately had
39 other commitments that prevented this person from joining the GLAD board.
40

41 Vice President’s Report:

42 No Report
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44 Treasurer’s Report:

45 No Report. Jones suggested that the Treasurer’s Report should be emailed to the board since Sutton will
46 be teaching every Wednesday till January 2014 and will be unable to attend board meetings to give the
47 Treasurer’s Report so the board is aware of what is happening.
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Secretary’s Report:

Lovitch reminded the board that the next board meeting will be September 25, 2013. Jones moved that the board should meet on November 20th. Aikins seconded. **MSC**. Sidansky informed the board that Ramirez resigned from the board due to other obligations.

IV. CEO’S REPORT

Hughes reported that all of GLAD departments were kept busy with providing services exceeding contract requirements. Staff was great and I could not ask for better staff.

LIFESIGNS (LS)

LS will host a workshop for interpreters who have over five years of medical interpreting experience led by Lori Whynot. Interpreters will earn CEU points to keep up with their certification. It will be held one day on September 26th at 3:30pm to 9pm. Here are the numbers of our LS services for the month of July:

Filled Request:	850
Cancellations:	149
No Interpreter Available:	38
Emergency:	279

LifeSigns is going through growing pains with an increase in interpreter requests from numerous contracts which is great. We are looking at cost of running LS and how it can be more cost efficient. I had to make the decision to close the dispatcher office at CODIE on August 30th for two reasons: to reduce overhead costs since LA office has all operations for LS dispatching, billing, and collecting, as well as paying interpreters and to give CODIE more office space. It has an impact of 2.5 staff members; however, one will be transferred on September 3rd. The change is transparent because both LS office locations use the same toll free numbers. Emory attended the RID conference representing LS and he had an opportunity meeting with directors from other interpreter referral agencies. We submitted three proposals to the City of LA Department on Disability for regular, emergency, and video interpreting services. I want to commend LS office staff. They are hard working staff and they take turns working on weekends.

HUMAN RESOURCES

We have a total of 71 employees as of last Friday.

LA:	31
CODIE:	13
BGLAD:	3
OCDEAF:	5
TRI-GLAD:	4
EDD:	16

We have three job openings which are:

- Public Relations Director
- Bookkeeper
- Health Educator

HUMAN SERVICES

DAHC (Deafness Affordable Housing Corporation)

We have two new tenants that moved in the month of July. We had an inspection form LA HUD which happens approximately every ten years. We passed the inspection with flying colors.

Tenants had a yard sale raising funds for our Domestic Violence/homeless program allowing us to purchase food cards like Mc Donald’s, Subway, and Burger King because they are near GLAD and we pay for some hotel nights if necessary like if we are unable to find a shelter for the individual. We keep a strict tracking system following where cards go to prevent potential abuse. With the hotel, we pay for the room in advance and the hotel understands that GLAD’s credit card would not be used for other amenities.

Our residents are using our van for field trips, etc.

ADVOCACY

1 We see an increase in consumers asking for assistance in applying for affordable housing; consumers are
2 starting to see social workers, for example at their residence and social workers did not bring interpreters
3 causing a communication breakdown and worked with consumers how to study for the US citizenship
4 exams. We continue working with providers to remind them they must have interpreters present and not to
5 rely on family or friends to interpret. There was a situation where an attorney was representing a consumer
6 and there was no interpreter there; thus, the hearing was postponed. The attorney told the consumer to
7 bring his mother. Our advocate explained to the attorney that an interpreter must be provided. We do this
8 kind of service on a daily basis.

9 In our Bakersfield office we have a challenge because there was a change in bus route affecting our
10 consumers' travel to our BGLAD office. Our staff at BGLAD is working with a coalition of agencies
11 representing different interests in Bakersfield.

12 HEALTH EDUCATION

13 We distributed over 300 packets of breast cancer prevention materials nationwide and we got numerous of
14 requests to send materials to other agencies. We are thrilled because the goal behind the project is to get as
15 many people as possible learn about breast cancer and hopefully lead them to get mammograms.

16 Our Senior Tech Lab ended on June 30th with positive comments. We developed an instructor's manual
17 for future computer classes. We are in the process of working out a budget to see how much we charge
18 anyone for a class so we can pay instructors. My goal is as low as possible encouraging more people to
19 take classes. We still have equipment and want to make good use of them.

20 EDD

21 We made a total of 39 placements in July. I have asked that they break down the count to seasonal,
22 temporary, and permanent job to reflect more accurate statistics.

23 CNN.COM

24 There will be a meeting in San Francisco to meet with attorneys on CNN.com to see if any progress has
25 been made.

26 DSS

27 We are also dealing with DSS's new guidelines on submitting budget modifications and contract
28 amendments. It has been a very frustrating journey. Our proposal to do a contract amendment was turned
29 down due to the fact that the Department of General Services (DGS) must get amendment proposals 90
30 days prior to June 30th. We got a green light from the Office of Deaf Access but DGS had the last say. We
31 also struggled with budget modification because many costs in our opinion are direct services but ODA
32 looked at them as administrative or indirect costs. I am swallowing a coal and will submit the final
33 invoices this week. I have requested I have asked Michael Michner to start preparing budget modifications
34 and a contract amendment to be submitted in September because we already know that there would be
35 some surplus due to some vacancy and in the hole due to some higher costs than anticipated. I know at the
36 end we will reach the same understanding with DSS ODA. They are new with DGS guidelines, too.
37 The big audit has started. The auditor will be done with DAHC first due to federal government having a
38 different deadline.

39 PUBLIC RELATIONS

40 House of Blues (HOB)

41 We have approximately 64 seats sold (from sponsors and people who bought tickets). We managed to pay
42 for the buyout of HOB, thanks to Sorenson for being the title sponsor. They gave us 10k. We got 5k each
43 from ABC Family/SAB and Regal Entertainment Group. We also got \$2,500 from City National Bank.
44 We really need more tickets purchased by individuals and get more sponsors as it is our biggest fund
45 raising event.

46 Our PR department has increased its circulation providing information to different outlets about the
47 upcoming HOB event. We have two office interns assisting with outreach. There are several staff
48 members participating in contacting our vendors. We will have Michael Spady, a star in the Championship
49 Rounds as a special guest. We are hoping to get two more celebrities to be the MC of the show soon.
50 President Sidansky and I had a good talk about our wish to recognize Ken Paves for his extraordinary work

1 with us on HOB the past two years. We will give him an award at HOB. If he is not available to receive
2 the award in person, we will mail him the award. I am very pleased with the agreement.
3 I need all of your help in getting friends to buy HOB tickets. Please explain to your friends that regardless
4 what fund raising events we have, it is to help GLAD financially. Their purchases of HOB tickets will
5 help us continue our services. Just remind them about GLAD's mission statement. Elizabeth Luttrell is
6 doing a great job working on the HOB project as Rachel Braver is working for LS twice a week.

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8 **V. SUBSIDIARY REPORTS**

9 LIFESIGNS Chair Report:

10 No Report

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12 DAHC Chair Report:

13 No Report

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15 CODIE Report:

16 No Report

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18 TRI COUNTY Report:

19 Aikins reported that last May Tri had a booth at the Strawberry Festival. Tri made a profit. Mark
20 Rosenthal will donate a new popcorn machine for the Strawberry Festival next year. The funds will be
21 used for Tri's 30th anniversary. The mental health program will end this year. Tri is trying to decide what
22 the new project will be. We went to Fremont High School last June for a potluck and meeting to find out
23 what the community wants. Some of the attendees would like to have a senior program. Sidansky stated
24 that they encouraged the people to volunteer to start the senior program since there are only 4 staff working
25 at Tri. President Sidansky invited board members and Tri Staff to his house to show his appreciation for
26 the Tri Staff working hard year round. There are three new board members on the Tri Board; Lara Wall,
27 Mike Wall, and Mark Rosenthal. Tri has also started renting a storage unit for \$60 a month and also
28 recently received new folding chairs.

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30 OC-DEAF Report:

31 Jones reported that the board will meet on September 6th. OCDEAF is trying to organize ASL classes.
32 Deaf Awareness Day at Knott's Berry Farm will be on September 21st and tickets cost \$35.00 each.

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34 **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

35 Finance Committee Report:

36 No Report

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38 Governance Committee:

39 No Report

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41 Nominations Committee:

42 No Report

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44 **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

45 **Adhoc Committees**

46 A. GLAD Building- Lovitch moved to table to the next meeting. Kurzet seconded. **MSC.**

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48 **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

49 Sidansky volunteered to work on the Five Year Plan with Hughes.

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1 **IX. PUBLIC INPUT**

2 None

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4 **X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

5 None

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7 **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

8 Meeting adjourned 9:04 pm. The next Board Meeting will be September 25, 2013 at 7pm .

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Fred Lovitch
Board Secretary