

GREATER LOS ANGELES AGENCY ON DEAFNESS, INC.
Executive Agency Board of Directors
Thursday, November 21st, 2024
MINUTES

Ron Herbold called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. A quorum was present.

I. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Ron Herbold – President, Scott Hostetler—Vice President, Mitch Kurs, Lauren Miller, Sharon Wilson

Absent:

Jeff Jackson, Stacey Woods (has reached 9 years) D’yann Crosby,

Visitors:

Ed Kelly

Staff Present:

Patricia Hughes, Ph.D.

Interpreter:

Teamed – Karen Sexton and Jarris Wright

Minutes Recorded by:

Ashley Hernandez

II. APPROVAL OF September Minutes: Minutes approved by all.

III. OFFICER’S REPORTS

President’s Report:

- Ron Herbold discusses the results of the election, the possible cuts and services that may come in the next 4 years
- Ron Herbold shows appreciation for the state of California’s support in GLAD’s organization, providing us funding so that GLAD can continue their services.
- Ron states that GLAD has to continue with the same budget, which could be tough in the case of inflation.
- GLAD is going through an audit. Ron will bring up new business later in the meeting regarding the CEO’S bonus.
- Ron Herbold states that in the bylaws, it states that board members are to make an annual donation. He is hoping for 100% participation from all members.
- Ron opens the floor to any discussion to which Scott states that everyone in the board should contribute some sort of amount.
- Ron discusses the challenge of trying to get more members, the board has gone from 12 to 9 members. Ron introduces Ed Kelly who was a former administrator of OC Deaf, he will take over as the LifeSigns representative which was Stacey Wood’s former role.

- Ron re-introduced Lauren Miller who is the representative of Tri-County GLAD, she has attended 2 meetings so far.
- Ron checks to see if the board has any other questions before continuing.
- Ron will go ahead and remind Alicia, the regional director of OCDEAF, about the need to get a representative from OCDEAF board.
- Ron tells the board to let Dr. Hughes know if they plan on attending the lunch on December 4th. Dr. Hughes clarified that there would not be a Holiday celebration, there would be a staff in-house training.

Vice President's Report:

- Scott is no longer on the board of OC Deaf as he has many responsibilities to manage. He has informed OCDEAF Board Chair.

Treasurer's Report:

No Report

Secretary's Report:

No report

IV. CEO's REPORT

- Dr. Hughes discusses that we are seeing more consumers being worried about the future due to the new presidency and potential new policies regarding immigration.
- GLAD has received 10-12 turkeys from LA County Board of Supervisor Hilda Solis' office. GLAD plans to distribute turkeys to consumers who need the most.
- Dr. Hughes discusses financial report, it is still in the auditing process. The auditor chose our EDD contract to focus on for the audit as well as other contracts. All necessary information is ready.
- Dr. Hughes states we got a surprise augmentation to our DSS contracts; however, the increases were not sufficient to add more personnel. The increase helped with other line item expenses.
- GLAD has been providing employment services under EDD contract for years. However, current contract, EDD asked us to provide equipment to our ES staff. We are still in the process of setting up equipment in their offices at EDD sites (8 offices). We are naming the department as GLAD Employment Services (ES). Our ES staff will work at OCDEAF, CODIE, and GLAD once a week to improve interaction between advocates and ES staff.
- Dr. Hughes talked about a new grant with Riverside Regional Center (RC) to develop surveys to ask of deaf plus individuals receiving services from RC. It is still in the development stage. Once after the RC's director signs the agreement, we will then be able to meet and discuss what kind of survey questions they want us to ask individuals. We will use different communication modes ranging from ASL to miming to get answers.
- Dr. Hughes talked about a new grant to set up counseling program at GLAD which will resulted in hiring 2.5 staff positions. It is a two year grant and we need to start working with LA Mental Health Agency to continue the service.
- On December 14th there will be a Children's Holiday Celebration at GLAD. Bakersfield GLAD (BGLAD) will host its annual Holiday event that includes community members and children on December 21st.
- Dr. Hughes had higher hopes for better and more comprehensive sidewalk project bids; however, we will need to get more information on pros and cons if GLAD should keep trees. GLAD will contact the City of LA to see if they have tree specialists that can consult GLAD.

- Dr. Hughes informs the board that the decision on whether to keep or get rid of the trees will have an impact on costs..
- Dr. Hughes will try to get someone from the City of LA to consult us on trees.. Our City district #14 got a new representative replacing Kevin De Leon. GLAD plans to set up a meeting with the new representative in early 2025 to see if her office can find financial assistance with the mandate to retrofit the building.

V. SUBSIDIARY REPORTS

LifeSigns Report:

- Dr. Hughes mentioned that LS Advisory LifeSigns Board met last Tuesday. We talked about freelance interpreters being able to negotiate their rates due to AB5.

DAHC Report:

- The house is full.

CODIE Report:

- On December 18th CODIE is having high school students help wrap gifts.
- On December 19th or 20th the board is having their annual lunch gathering.
- On December 20th CODIE will be having their Holiday Drive Thru Event, it will take place behind the building again. It will be decorated with VW classic cars and lights, the Grinch and Santa will greet the children.
- There was a \$3000 donation from Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP). The funds will be allocated for DIY craft kits for families, food items, and gifts for distribution
- It's been hard to find new members for the board, CODIE is trying to find younger people that are interested in serving on the board.

TRI-COUNTY Report:

- The Prevention and Early Intervention workshop on October 12th was successful.
- The next workshop will take place on January 18, 2025, this event will be focused on counseling services in Ventura County. This event will have a licensed counselor/therapist.
- TRI-GLAD will be involved in the Christmas parade on December 17th.
- There's a Children's Holiday Celebration on December 14th in Ventura
- There will be an ASL story reading event on April 5, 2025.
- ARC in Ventura will have the Strawberry Festival Fundraiser on May 17-18, 2025.
- TRI-GLAD Counseling is looking for more board members, especially Santa Barbara and SLO County.

OC-DEAF Report:

- The Holiday gathering that has typically been at the Whittier Club for the Deaf, but they have unfortunately shut down but they used the remaining funds with the board WCD and LACD. They have raised \$300 which they would use for the holiday celebration, but it seems everyone has their own celebration. There was a total of about \$6000 and that was split between the three organizations which includes the OC Board.
- The OC Deaf Regional Director, Alicia is trying to recruit a board president, they are checking different areas in the community.
- There will be a holiday drive-thru gathering on December 14th.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee Report:

1 Not available (no financial reports)

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3 Governance Committee:

4 No Report

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6 Nominations Committee:

7 No Report

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9 Personnel Committee:

10 No report

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12 Adhoc Committee

13 No Report

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15 Fundraising Committee:

16 No Report

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18 **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 19 - The board will continue with the tree-root situation at GLAD.

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21 **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- 22 - The board passed a motion to give the CEO of GLAD a bonus due to her 20+ years of employment,
23 this will be paid before the year ends.
24 - The board had the idea of having plaques with the names of donors for 2025, on a tree design or any
25 other design. A motion was passed to create a committee of 3 for organizing this was made. The
26 committee will have a report made by February. Mitch Kurs, Sharon Wilson and Dr. Hughes

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28 **IX. PUBLIC INPUT**

29 None

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31 **X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 32 - Ron Herbold informs the board that meetings will be on the 4th Thursday starting January 23, 2025.
33 - Lauren Miller informs everyone that the Dickens Christmas Festival will have interpreters on
34 November 30th, December 7th and 14th for several shows. Everyone will be dressed in Victorian
35 attire, there will be crafts available too.
36 - Riverside Senior Citizens have a lunch on December 11th at the Riverside golf course with a fee of
37 \$60+, there will be food and a show.
38 - Palm Springs will be having a Hanukkah celebration by a Jewish organization.

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40 **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

41 The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM. The next Board Meeting will be held on January 23,2024 at 6:30PM.

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44 Board Secretary
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