

1 **GREATER LOS ANGELES AGENCY ON DEAFNESS, INC.**
2 **Executive Agency Board of Directors**
3 **Wednesday, January 26, 2011**
4 **MINUTES**
5

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

8 **I. ROLL CALL**
9

10 Board Members Present:

11 Stephen Schultz-President, John Arce-Treasurer, Fred Lovitch-Secretary, Robert Sidansky, Robert Sutton,
12 Mark Jones
13

14 Absent:

15 Etta Stecker-Vice President, Modela Kurzet, David Kurs, Jonathan Weiss
16

17 Visitors:

18 None
19

20 Staff Present:

21 Dr. Patricia Hughes
22

23 Interpreters:

24 Norman Galapin and Laura Ripplinger
25

26 Recording Secretary:

27 Jainah Ranger
28

29 **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting of November 17, 2011**

30 Page 1, line 40, change "president" to "President"

31 Page 1, line 41, change "Kurs mentioned that he has served on the board for seven years and thanked the
32 board for an as he will be resigning" to "Kurs mentioned he will not be renewing his term as the President
33 and thanked the board for the seven years he has served as President on the board"

34 Page 2, line 26, change spelling from "Maurece" to "Maucere"

35 Page 2, line 47, change from "January 3, 2011 is when demolition will begin and February 3, 2011 will be
36 the end date" to "The time line shows that demolition should begin January 3, 2011 and should end
37 February 3, 2011".

38 Sidansky moves to approve minutes with corrections. Sutton abstains. Arce seconds. **MSC.**
39

40 **III. OFFICER'S REPORTS**

41 President's Report:

42 My first goal as president, in line with the 5-year plan, is to form an independent foundation group with the
43 mission to help GLAD raise at least 5 million dollars for the new building fund. Dr. Patty and I have
44 identified this individual who we believe would make a tremendous asset to the foundation group if she
45 accepts the role to lead it. Her name is Renata Simril. If she accepts the role, I believe she would be a
46 powerful leader based on the following as read in the December 12, 2010 Los Angeles Times article, "How
47 I Made It: Renata Simril." She is a managing director at commercial real estate services firm Jones Lang
48 LaSalle. She advises institutional clients such as the City of Los Angeles and USC on what to do with their
49 real estate. It is my belief that she knows many power players in the city that she could be a great asset as a
50 leader of a foundation group to GLAD. My proposal is to come up with a strategic approach to try and

1 interest her to lead, or at least, help establish a fund raising arm of GLAD. Dr. Patty, John Arce, and David
2 Kurs will work with me in this effort to try and recruit Ms. Simril.

3 Another goal of mine is to encourage continuation of improvements to GLAD's website. I'm still hearing
4 complaints that it's not easily navigable or as user friendly for both, deaf and hearing users. This includes
5 improving background sounds which otherwise appear to be distracting to some hearing users. We also
6 need to get into media outlets especially newspapers more. We should consider exploring outside P. R.
7 services to get our success stories out to wider audiences. Needless to say, the public needs to hear from us
8 more often.

9
10 Vice President's Report:

11 No Report

12
13 Treasurer's Report:

14 The Controller's Report as of today's date was given to the finance committee with the following
15 information -

- 16
- 17 • Overall cash position today for DAHC, GLAD and LifeSigns is \$630,237.
- 18 • Overall accounts receivable balance is \$1,116,102 which comprised of GLAD balance of \$402,143
19 and LifeSigns balance of \$713,959.
- 20 • Overall accounts payable is \$13,895.

21
22 Financial reports as of 12/30/10 was given to the finance committee presented by our controller with the
23 following information –

24
25 Consolidated profit and loss for year to date (six months ending 12/31/10) shows a loss of \$(89,164) as
26 compared to a income of \$22,294 a year ago.

- 27 .
- 28 • Consolidated year to date revenues as of 12/31/10 was \$3,016,824 which is \$74,743 less than prior
29 year.
- 30 • GLAD's 12/31/10 net loss was \$(29,412) as compared to prior year net loss of \$(51,449).
- 31 • LifeSigns's 12/31/10 net loss was \$(49,588) as compared to prior year net income of \$89,897.
- 32 • DAHC's 12/31/10 net loss was \$(9,931) as compared to prior year net loss of \$(16,154).

33
34 Arce reported there are some issues with the new system AgencTRAK1000. We cannot transfer
35 information from AgencTRAK1000 (AGT) to QuickBooks. The new interpreters love the new AGT
36 system.

37 AR is a few months behind as we are still waiting for the vendors to pay us for interpreting services.

38 Hughes stated DAHC is doing much better than in the past. There were 3 residents that moved into
39 different apartments and we had to pay for renovations. Now the residents are required to stay in
40 apartments for at least a year before being allowed to move another apartment.

41
42 Secretary's Report:

43 Lovitch inquired when the board would like to be reminded about upcoming board meetings. Discussion
44 ensued. Lovitch stated he will email the board one week before board meetings to remind them about the
45 upcoming meetings and for board members to please let him know by Sunday if they can't attend. Then
46 Lovitch will inform Schultz if there are enough board members attending for a quorum for the board meeting.

47
48 **IV. CEO'S REPORT**

49 Here we are into 2011 and already a challenging beginning for us. For instance, we have approximately 5

1 RFPs and three quarterly reports due around the same time.

2

3 *LIFESIGNS*

4 During the month of December:

5 Filled Requests	854
6 Cancellations	110
7 NIA	19
8 Emergency	106
9 Emergency NIA	0

10

11 We are posting an opening in LA LS for a community interpreter position (staff) as one staff interpreter
12 left to work on her academic goals. Please spread the word that we are looking for a community
13 interpreter.

14 *HUMAN RESOURCES*

15 There is a total of 70 employees.

16 We have 8 job openings. 6 are with EDD; one for Outreach Coordinator located in Bakersfield and one
17 Program Assistant for Health Ed and Services in LA. Mary Jane Williams, one of our longest employees
18 will retire on Monday, January 31st. We wish her well and an adventurous journey.

19 *HUMAN SERVICES*

20 We will have VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) from February 2nd through April 2011. It is
21 beneficial for people who are low income and use short forms. They will meet with tax accountants via
22 videophone. It worked out well last year; thus, we will continue this year.

23 We will have a Black Deaf History Month on February 5th partnering with NAOBI (National Alliance of
24 Black Interpreters) hosting a workshop here at GLAD.

25 Success: a consumer came to our advocate with good news. After months of tolerating with her roommate
26 who was abusive and a bully, she finally built up courage to remove her roommate from her home. She
27 got independent living skills and peer counseling from our advocate building up her confidence to do so.
28 We had in house staff training last January 21st on social media, such as vlog, Face Book, and YouTube.

29 *B-GLAD*

30 Challenges: our consumers contacted our advocate inquiring after getting around \$100 reduction in their
31 SSI checks; they were unable to keep up with rent, utilities, and food. Our advocate developed a network
32 relationship with Community Action Partnership of Kern/Food Bank. They agreed to provide 3-5 brown
33 grocery bags full of bread, dry and frozen foods based on family size and income only by referral by B-
34 GLAD office.

35 We found a community room at the New Vision organization and we can use the room for once a week for
36 community gathering such as board meetings, socials, and workshops at no cost in exchange of allowing
37 three employees of New Vision's to take our ASL classes for free.

38 *Hard of Hearing Program*

39 Trends:

40 More professionals from outside hearing agencies are contacting us for information about hearing
41 loss/support group resources for their late deafened consumers.

42 Hard of hearing consumers are seeking assistance with determining appropriate accommodations at their
43 work place.

44 More deaf, hard of hearing, and late deafened consumers are seeking assistance with job placements and
45 are referred to EDD.

46 *The Annual Children's Holiday Celebration* was a successful event in spite of rain. Approximately 168
47 children and 120 adults showed up.

48 *EDD*

49 Mary Jane Williams will be retiring after 27 years of working for GLAD. 9 placements as it was
50 challenging to place jobs due to rain, flood, and lack of Job Developer/Interpreter staff. We have four Job

1 Developer/Interpreter vacancies. We actively posted the opening and it is a huge challenge trying to fill
2 the void. We used Job Developer/Interpreter from the nearest EDD office to interpret for consumers from
3 the EDD office.

4 *Health Education and Services*

5 Health Fair will be held at CSDR on February 16th.

6 We had approximately 75 people attending our World AIDS Day even which featured four guest speakers
7 (one speaker appeared remotely from Hawaii).

8 We are nearing the completion of developing the Breast Cancer Prevention Research manuscript.

9 California Department of Public Health issued two Requests for Applications, one for CCG (Community
10 Challenge Grant) and IE (Information and Education). We have asked the director of CCG to consider our
11 special population because the RFA has been overhauled and made it impossible for us to educate deaf/hh
12 youth in the greater LA area as we have been doing for the past 16 years. The new RFA is restricted to
13 “hot spots” where high birth rates are. Students from High Schools are mainstreamed and not necessarily
14 in the hot spot but their residence may be in hot spot. It put a severe restriction on our abilities to educate
15 as many as we can. Hope to hear from their administrators on our request to remove the barrier from us.

16 *Public Relations*

17 Annual Campaign \$5,825. We sent Thank You letters right away upon receipt of donation.

18 Courtyard Marriott Monrovia will be presenting GLAD a check for \$2,500 for its 4th quarter fundraising.

19 We Do Good Awards Ladies Home Journal (LHJ). Hilari Scarl will make \$5,000 contribution to GLAD at
20 the Red Carpet Gala on February 20th. LHJ originally planned to donate \$2,500 to Hilari; however, after
21 they learned more about the movie (See What I’m Saying) and about GLAD, they upped the donation to
22 \$5,000. We are receiving it due to our community partnership with Hilari’s project. The donation will be
23 used for our domestic violence project.

24 The House of Blues’ date has been changed and we will release the new date soon. We are trying to secure
25 title sponsorship and funds for Beethoven’s Nightmare (BN) performance. We will need \$15k to cover
26 HOB rental and BN support. We are in negotiation with a famous celebrity hairstylist who knows how to
27 sign to be the event MC.

28 Sprint 4G Mobile Marketing Vehicle Launch (\$5,000 facility rental agreement) on February 1st, 4 pm to 8
29 pm.

30 We will have a purse fundraiser campaign – Social Butterfly campaign with Flutters, Inc (at no cost to
31 GLAD, \$60.00 each/100% proceeds to GLAD).

32 Casino Night (will need sponsors to cover production costs)

33 We are in the development of Annual Report (09-10). We will need a letter from David Kurs as he was the
34 president during this term and Stephen Schultz will have the opportunity to write his first letter in our next
35 annual report.

36 If you stop by Eagle Rock Mall, you will see GLAD in one of its hubs and we will have an information
37 booth at the Community Corner starting Feb 4th 1pm to 3 pm. It will be a monthly event.

38 We will have a booth at the upcoming CAL-ED Conference March 12-14 at Doubletree Hotel in Norwalk.
39 Red Carpet See What I’m Saying DVD Launch Gala Event is on February 20th at Universal Studios.

40 *MISC*

41 *DEMOLITION*

42 It is now in works. We selected Interior Demolition as the company to do the abatement and demolition.

43 Interior Demolition is to secure bonds from Surety Bond Company to meet contract requirements. We are
44 about one month behind the schedule. The City is aware and working with us on this.

45 *AB 2072*

46 Assembly member Mendoza called a town hall meeting last Friday to discuss how we distributed
47 information to parents whose children are hard of hearing and deaf. He said it is more for his research
48 needs; however, it appears that his staff is pretty undetermined on what they actually need from the
49 townhall meeting.

50 *Palm Springs Gala*

1 Will be attending Deaf Senior Foundation Gala representing GLAD and CODIE this weekend. We are
2 working on a small proposal with PS (Palm Springs) CDBG hoping to set up a once per month satellite
3 office in PS from CODIE. I will know more after I talk with some PS residents at the GALA this
4 weekend.

5 25.35

6 DSS' line item for ODA (Office of Deaf Access) remains untouched and we are keeping a close eye on it
7 to make sure there won't be any reductions to this line item.

8

9 *Board Resolution*

10 The City of Palmdale requires a Board Resolution to be passed by the GLAD Board for grant CDBG 2011-
11 2012 authorizing Hughes to sign the grant. Sutton moves that the Board bestow Hughes the authority to
12 sign for ANY grants/proposals in order to solicit funds for GLAD. Sidansky seconds. **MSC.**

13

14 **V. SUBSIDIARY REPORTS**

15 LIFESIGNS Chair Report:

16 Arce reported that the LifeSigns board tries to meet every 3 months. We passed the budget for the staff
17 holiday 2010 bonuses.

18

19 DAHC Chair Report:

20 Hughes reported that we had a very minor fire and everyone is fine. A resident left a candle lit while he
21 was out. The strobe on the stand alone smoke detector was going off in the apartment across from the
22 apartment where the candle was lit. A resident saw the light flashing from the outside and checked the
23 apartment but found nothing. Later it went off again but residents checked the other apartment where the
24 candle was lit. The apartment was full of smoke. Smoke drifted into the corridor then the fire alarm for
25 the whole building went off. The fire department arrived within 10 minutes. We had a meeting with the
26 residents to inform them that they cannot have candles.

27

28 CODIE Report:

29 Kurzet sent her report via email. February 12th CODIE will host Valentine bowling, February 24th there
30 will be a medical workshop, and February 26th there will be town hall meeting after the deaf hood
31 workshop at CSDR. For March 2nd there will be a USCIS workshop, March 5th is Deaf Awareness Day at
32 Disneyland, March 23rd there will be an SSA workshop. For April there are be two workshops on how to
33 use an interpreter (the dates are still being worked out). May's senior citizen awareness month (there will
34 be 4 events TBA; visiting the Richard Nixon Library Museum, tour at Mission inn, bowling at Arlington
35 Lanes). A Heath Fitness Day will be hosted by CODIE May 25th at the Janet Goeske Center.
36 Next board meeting at CODIE will be on February 11th at 4:30 p.m.

37

38 TRI COUNTY Report:

39 Sidansky reported his main focus is the Strawberry Festival. Longo was very motivated about starting a
40 support group for mothers of deaf children and the first meeting was on January 19, 2011. Unfortunately,
41 no one showed up to the first support group meeting.

42

43 OC-DEAF Report:

44 Jones mentioned that last January 14, 2011 was the board holiday party at local restaurant. Twelve board
45 members attended. It was a nice change to have the board meeting in a different place. February 4th is
46 when the next board meeting will be. The next event is Deaf Awareness Day at Disneyland March 5th.
47 Schultz inquired if Jones had asked if any of the advisory board would be interested in joining the GLAD
48 board. Schultz hopes we establish a foundation board of at least 3 people who will recruit more board
49 members.

50

1 **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

2 Finance Committee Report:

3 Hughes stated the board donated 100% to the annual campaign. Potential funding sources take into
4 consideration the percentage of board members that contribute to GLAD. Board members contribute in
5 many different ways. The board will need to clearly define what counts as board contribution and then
6 included in the Treasurers Report which board member contributed. Arce will inform the board annually
7 by December 15th if the board has contributed 100% or not.

8 Sutton moves to establish a stronger governance policy requiring the board to pay 100% participation.
9 Sidansky seconds. Discussion. The board will need to come up with guide lines for the governance policy.
10 Discussion closed. **MSC.**

11
12 Governance Committee:

13 No Report

14
15 Nominations Committee:

16 Lovitch and Arce will be in contact with Hithe-Hultgren to follow up on two individuals that are being
17 considered for future board members.

18
19 Personnel Committee:

20 No Report

21
22 Fundraising Committee:

23 No Report

24
25 **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

26 Hughes stated that we are trying to work through paperwork required by the city for demolition of the
27 annex.

28
29 **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

30 None

31
32 **IX. PUBLIC INPUT**

33 None

34
35 **X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

36 Schultz encourages board members to attend DSF (Deaf Seniors Foundation) gala at the Riviera Resort and
37 Spa, Palm Springs Saturday, January 29, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. this weekend.

38
39 **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

40 Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm. The next Board Meeting will be held at 7pm Wednesday, February 23, 2011.

41
42
43 _____
44 Fred Lovitch
45 Board Secretary
46