DCARA Regular Board Meeting  
Tuesday, May 9, 2006  
Deaf Community Center, San Leandro, CA

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:27 PM

PRESENT: Don Baer, Jenny Cantrell, Raine Cheng, Dodi Ellis, Charles Farr, Michael Mac Aulay, Ken Mikos, Phillip Smith, Pam Snedigar, Nora Yates, and Butch Zein.

EXCUSED: Liz Brading, Clark Brooke, Tim Gough, Jeannie Leighton, and Beth Ann Prinz,

UNEXCUSED: Cat Cassidy

STAFF PRESENT: iCEO Brune and EA Carlson and CFO Cooper

INTERPRETER PRESENT: Donna Benedictos

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MO050906-1 Ellis (Yates) moved to approve the April 2006 minutes as read. MSPassed.

MO050906-2 Cheng (Yates) moved to close CaptionsOnline. MSPassed.

MO050906-3 Pedersen (Yates) moved to have DCARA write an open letter to Gallaudet University about our support on FSSA’s protest including their two demands. MSPassed. Cheng, Cantrell, and Snedigar abstained.

MO050906-4 Yates (Cantrell) moved to have DCARA donate $500 to Gallaudet University FSSA’s cause. MSPassed. Snedigar abstained.

MO050906-5 Cantrell (Ellis) moved to re-open the Chief Operating Officer position. MSPassed.

MO050906-6 Baer (Zein) moved that DCARA will use $13,000 from the DSS fund and $5,000 from unrestricted fund as bonuses for DCARA staff. MSPassed.

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NO CORRECTIONS TO THE APRIL 2006 MINUTES

MO050906-1 Ellis (Yates) moved to approve the April 2006 minutes as read. MSPassed.
OFFICERS' REPORTS:

President Report: Ken Mikos.
Exhibit A attached.

Vice President Report: Nora Yates.
Exhibit B attached.

Secretary Report: Don Baer.
Exhibit C attached.

Treasurer Report: Dodi Ellis.
Exhibit D attached.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

CEO Search Committee: Chair Liz Brading.
Exhibit E attached.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Chair Ellis.
It was conducted under Treasurer's Report

Deaf Culture/Education Committee: Chair Zein.
Exhibit F attached.

Fundraising Committee: Chair Ellis.
Exhibit G attached.

New DCC Fund: Chair Farr.
Exhibit H attached.

DCC Facilities: Co-Chair Pedersen & Cassidy.
Exhibit I attached.

Bylaws Update: Chair Snedigar.
Exhibit J attached.

INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT: Jim Brune.
Exhibit K attached.

OLD BUSINESS:
None.
NEW BUSINESS:

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Zein explained about interoperability issues and how that affects CSD/CSDVRS.

Farr announced that CSDF has selected a new interim Director of Instruction – Dee Kennedy. Clark Brooke will become Middle School principal.

Snedigar announced that Gallaudet University Regional Center which had a position vacant for 3 years was filled; that new employee is living in Colorado.

Cantrell mentioned that Bay Area Chapter of GUAA is inactive. We only need 4 new officers to activate the chapter again.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:08 PM

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Don C. Baer
Secretary

Accepted as read

Approved as corrected
President Report: Ken Mikos. Exhibit A

1. The By-Laws have been revised and copies emailed to every Board member. Please take the time to read them before the next Board meeting. Thanks to Pam Snedig and the other committee members (Dodi Ellis, Jim Brune, former members Richard Medugno and David Eberwein) for all their hard work.

2. A reminder to please attend the May 23rd meeting with Steve Hlibok at CSDF. It starts at 6 pm. Meet at the High School West Pod.

3. DCARA will also host the 2nd annual Picnic at Marina Park in San Leandro from 11:00 AM to 5:00 pm on Saturday, May 20th. Your attendance will be greatly appreciated.

Vice President Report: Nora Yates. Exhibit B

It'll be about Gallaudet protest and I definitely support it 100% if the Board agrees to support that protest, then I plan to encourage them to donate $$ toward the Gallaudet's protest. See the links below. (gallyfsaa.org)

The Tent City residents are thriving but yes, they are in need of more tents and tarps, including food and water. Their Director of Finances is responsible for purchasing all necessary supplies with the funds donated. Donations can be made through PayPal- by going to www.paypal.com and logging in with your email address and paying directly to info@gallyfsaa.org This email address is being protected from spam bots, you need Javascript enabled to view it.

Also, I plan to let the board know that I would like to make a motion by asking iCEO Brune to write a letter on behalf of DCARA to give the FSAA of Gallaudet University our support.

Links about Gallaudet protest:

www.gallyfsaa.org
www.joeybaer.com
www.ridorlive.com
www.xanga.com/elisa_abenchuchan
www.xanga.com/jennycat88

Secretary Report: Don Baer. Exhibit C

Please let's try to submit Officer/Committee reports ASAP after the Board meeting, while they are still fresh in our mind.
Treasurer Report: Dodi Ellis. Exhibit D

Finance Committee met last week; we discussed on many things. Brading is sick so we haven’t had a chance to discuss financial reports with her. We will hold it until next month. Everything looks stable; expense is under control. I would rather discuss with Finance Committee first before recommending that the Board accept the financial reports. Farr will discuss progress with New DCC Fund. They are planning to have three investment bankers to give their presentations about their services. Financial reports were NOT discussed last week, which is why they’re being held over until next month. CaptionsOnline was discussed; It has been losing money every month for the past few months. If COL is cut, need to consider captioning services to HOH organizations. Ellis favors dismantling COL. Zein asked why COL was doing well in November and December, then not so well lately. Brune explains that we had several clients we worked with, plus contracted with a company. Lost that major contract, plus a couple of the Seminary students graduated and moved on. One option is to sell the COL equipment to Jennifer Aggeler. Finance Committee is in favor of closing COL. COL was originally established during Rob’s time to bring in revenue.

We have excess DSS money due to few vacant positions. We can’t have more than 10% unspent. We suggested that some of DSS surplus can be used for bonuses to staff whose salaries are paid by DSS; those staff who aren’t paid by DSS, will use unrestricted funds for bonuses. One reason we are better not to give the surplus back to DSS — DSS will then think we don’t need that money and cut DCARA budget.

CEO Search Committee: Chair Liz Brading. Exhibit E

Brading is out sick, I, Smith will summarize. I had a discussion with Gerri about Community Night last time around; how that worked out, etc. Logistical challenges: split up into groups, but each group didn’t ask the candidates same questions as other candidates. As well, groups didn’t know what had been asked of candidates prior to that group. Search Committee will discuss how to organize and schedule a community night. Search Committee sent letters to two applicants saying that we were interested in them but were extending the deadline and accepting more applications. Next committee meeting is in May. We will discuss strategy for NAD conference in June.

Deaf Culture/Education Committee: Chair Zein. Exhibit F

No report, but I wanted to clarify that although announced at last month’s meeting that Deaf Culture Lecture Series is on hold; we will still be having events — Patrick Boudreault is one example. He may come back for another event. We hope he will present on something else. Maybe we will do pre-presentation cocktails as we did before with Genie Gertz.

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Fundraising Committee: Chair Ellis. Exhibit G

Fundraising Committee hasn’t met yet because I have been preoccupied with Finance Committee. I have not spending much with my family lately thus I am resigning as Fundraising Committee Chair.

New DCC Fund: Chair Farr. Exhibit H

How many of you have checked out the new Yahoo groups? Nice because can peruse at their own leisure instead of being bogged down on the spot with numbers. Also benefit of knowing exactly how much money is there NOW rather than finding out a couple months after the fact. Gough, Mac Aulay, and I will be attending facilities planning workshop thanks to DCARA. May 23rd meeting will be held at CSDF. Committee agreed to invite Marilyn Smith since she is very good with fundraising. Eberwein contacted her; MS will calculate her fees and let the committee know. Intent is for this to be a hands-on workshop; also intended for full Board, not just the committee.

DCC Facilities: Co-Chair Pedersen & Cassidy. Exhibit I

Simple report. Committee hasn’t had a chance to meet. We just met with Gerri to discuss changes that are desirable. EBDCD money is still here; for kitchen renovation only. $10,000 from EBDCD. Cassidy is working on looking into Extreme Makeover and how to apply for it. Pedersen took photos of the DCC so that the committee can discuss this some more at another time.

Bylaws Update: Chair Snedigar. Exhibit J

I would like to thank people who have been involved in working on the bylaws. I will email attachment for you all to review bylaws. I will need feedback from you in two weeks from tonight, on the 23rd. Once bylaws are done, we will work on Board Policy. It should be pretty straightforward. I need job descriptions includes committees, even "temporary" committees for the Board Policy.

INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT: Jim Brune. Exhibit K

Meetings/Presentations by the iCEO in April:

- City of San Leandro Community Assistance Program 2006-2008 funding "interview"/presentation
  - Update: We’ve been refunded for $9,000 a year ($1,000 less than last year - consistent with what I’m seeing nationwide in terms of federal cuts to the national CDBG program).
- CEPIN meetings (4 days)
  - Discussion of the progress we have made so far and discussion about the next funding cycle

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VP meeting with Patrick Bourdreault:
  - Update: he will be coming to the Bay Area for two days and will provide a presentation to DCARA staff on June 22 and on June 23rd, he will give a presentation to the community here at DCC on “Neo-Eugenics”

Personnel:

- We currently have 6 positions open:
  * CEO
  * EDD - San Francisco Job Developer/Interpreter
  * EDD - Campbell Job Developer/Interpreter
    - We are currently in salary negotiations with a candidate
  * EDD - Oakland Job Developer/Interpreter
  * EDD - Fremont Job Developer/Interpreter
  * Staff Interpreter (part-time)

DCARA Presentations/Workshops/Events for April:

- ASI Foreign Born Classes continue in San Jose – 14 participants
- Salon Series Interpreting Workshop in Santa Cruz – 3rd workshop in the series – this one focusing on “Old Signs” – 20 participants
- Eureka workshop to Kiwanis Club about DCARA services
- Yoga Class in San Leandro – 10 participants
- First Time Home Buyer Workshop – 20 participants
- Last Driver’s Education class in San Leandro

CalCLAD

- Letter of support on behalf of the Coalition for SB 1451: Emergency preparedness for persons with disabilities
- Letter of support on behalf of the Coalition for AB 2651: infant hearing screening bill
- Staff attended CPUC Universal Service Workshop and presented oral comments re: 1. adding broadband service to the Lifeline program and/or the DDTP, 2. adding wireless devices/service to the DDTP and 3. supporting strategic plan recommendations for DDTP
- Filed written comments with the US Dept of Transportation regarding proposed changes to regulations implementing Air Carrier Access Act to increase access for persons with disabilities
- Filed federal lawsuit against the Watsonville Hospital for failing to provide interpreters for Deaf patients

Miscellaneous:

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- Coalition meeting scheduled for May 25th
- There was a complaint by Deaf seniors associated with FOG (either living there or going to workshops hosted at FOG) about the reduced hours. I spoke with Buddy Singleton via VP and also went to FOG myself to speak to the Deaf seniors there (so that they could hear from "the horse’s mouth" so to speak). It worked out well. I’m committed to keeping a strong, positive relationship with the Deaf seniors because Buddy has expressed great interest – has mentioned it more than once – in transferring ownership of FOG to DCARA one day in the future (which would be great for DCARA in terms of revenue).
- Direct Mail Campaign – it continues to slowly increase. We’re now at $14,500 (for reference, last month, we were at $14,100 and last year’s grand total was $12,000).
- The board passed a motion stating that ASL should be and will be the language used when people first contact DCARA. To that end, we’ve been working on this and working on installing VPs at all employees’ work stations and publishing this information on our website. So far, we have published VP numbers for Janelle (front desk secretary at DCARA HQ), DCC/DeafStore, San Leandro office and the San Jose office.