Meeting Called to Order: 6:12 PM

Present: Joe Fercho, Chris Held, Michael Higgins, Patty Lessard, Sunnie Kaufmann, Isidore Niyongabo, Liann Osborne, Andrew Phillips, Roberto Solorzano

Excused: Jenny Cantrell, Jaime Jackerson, Karina Pedersen

Staff Present: Executive Director Jim Brune, Katie Canfield, Leona Galindo

Interpreters: Jacqueline Levesque, Deanna McDaniels, Robin Mills, Dan Veltri

Visitors: None

MO41409-01
Solorzano (Niyongabo) moves that the Board accept the finance committee reports for November 2008, December 2008, January 2009, and February 2009. MPASSED

MO41409-02
Niyongabo (Solorzano) moves that the Board approve moving approximately $25,000 in restricted investments to either a CD or into a/the money market account—whichever has less fees involved. MPASSED
NOTE: Board has decided not to list corrections to the minutes.

Corrections to the March 2009 minutes:
Corrections were tabled Brune (Phillips).

Officers’ Reports

President: Liann Osborne
President Osborne expressed gratitude for all of the help from the board members who showed up at the Deaf Community Night (DCN), and worked hard to make the event a success! The staff members and volunteers did an amazing job! The Masters of Ceremonies (MC), Daniel Girard, did a wonderful job of keeping things smooth. The DCN committee will be meeting for the last time to wrap up and discuss what worked and what did not work—to prepare for next year.

An individual approached me after the event and shared her frustration in the lack of diversity. I encouraged her to invest some time in helping make DCARA’s upcoming events more attractive to people of color in the Deaf community. We both agreed to meet again in May and address some of the issues she raised. ED Brune and President Osborne are very aware of this issue and will continue to work on it.

Vice President: Roberto Solorzano
None

Secretary:
None

Treasurer: Patty Lessard
Standing Committees

Board Development and Recruitment: Solorzano for Pedersen

The Board will have its first board training event on Tuesday – April 21st from 6pm until 10pm at the DCC. It will be about reading financial statements and hosted by Steve Mutti. Mutti will also be meeting with the Finance Committee, ED Jim Brune, and Patty Souza at 3:30pm at the DCARA Headquarters.

Also on June 20th the board will have a day-long retreat. The Board Development committee is working on planning the agenda and deciding which topics will be discussed. The committee is determined to make sure that this event is effective and collaborative; so that there will be an opportunity for the board to discuss various ideas and concerns. It is important that each board member is able to attend. More information will be provided at the next board meeting.

Fundraising Co-Chair: Chris Held

DCN was a big success! The board members should have received an email from Katie Canfield with a breakdown of expenses and earnings from the event.

The Fundraising committee will be meeting with the Finance committee on May 17th.

Reports from DCARA

Executive Director: Jim Brune

Personnel:

• One position has been filled:
  * EDD – Fremont Job Developer/Interpreter: Marsha Hoyt
• Information & Referral Specialist position: Natalee Franck is no longer with us. The position has been re-posted as of Monday April 13th.
• DCARA currently has 4 positions open (including I & R position):
  * CSS – Family Life Educator (position just re-posted. Interviews scheduled for two weeks from now)
  * EDD - San Francisco Job Developer/Interpreter
April 14, 2009  
DCARA Board Meeting Minutes

* Staff Interpreter (part-time)

DCARA Presentations/Workshops/Events in March:

- On-going computer classes at DCC, San Jose, and FOG (beginner and advanced classes). Right now, we have four different series of computer classes going on.
- On-going ASL classes for HOH/LD people
- Gallaudet Leadership Institute classes provided by Jack Levesque: “Deaf Culture, Deaf History, Deaf Leadership”
- Deaf Foreign Born classes in San Jose
- Staff from GLAD in Los Angeles came and did a breast cancer research study with the general Deaf senior population in Fremont as well as with breast cancer survivors.
- A 3rd grade class from CSD Fremont came to DCC and I gave a presentation on DCARA services and DCARA history. They then did a little bit of volunteer work at DCC. It was part of their Deaf Culture Class and Global Youth Service Day.

Fundraising:

- The postponed House Party at Dan Girard, Melinda Harrison and Heather Montero’s home in Hayward has a new date: Saturday evening May 30th.

Miscellaneous:

- **EDD RFP:** The EDD RFP was just released. EDD is now finally back on the State Fiscal Year. The total amount they are disbursing is the same ($1.5 million) so DCARA will be applying for the same amount of funding ($390,000). The format and parameters of the funding is the same. It is due May 15th.
- **DeafLink and Annual Report:** Board members will see in their packets at the meeting DCARA’s latest edition of the DeafLink and our 2007-2008 Annual Report. ED Brune decided that DCARA will be releasing its 2008-2009 Annual Report in October 2009 instead of the following spring – which bucks DCARA’s trend - because it makes no sense to be releasing the Annual Report nearly a year after the Fiscal Year has ended!
- **Deaf Community Night:** DCN this year was a huge success. DCARA had more than 125 people show up. Everyone really enjoyed themselves. We had three diverse speakers and a very dynamic MC – Dan Girard. Those who won awards including Iris Stetson-Miller (Volunteer of the Year), Ron Hirano (ED Award) and Alyce Slater Reynolds (Hal Ramger
April 14, 2009
DCARA Board Meeting Minutes

Award) were truly touched and speechless. The dessert auction went very well – people were very much involved and bidding became very exciting! Brune heard nothing but positive things about that evening.

- **DCC Rates and Policies**: Brune is working with Brian Martinez and Patty Souza to update DCARA’s policies as well as revert back to a hourly rate schedule. This is part of DCARA’s effort to begin aggressively marketing DCC and bringing more revenue to DCARA.

- **Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority**: Brune is attending an all day workshop on Tuesday April 14th to learn more about funding that is available to meet transit needs of senior citizens with the idea of possibly purchasing a van to transport Deaf seniors to appointments, etc. Paratransit has drastically cut back its weekend and evening services which impacts FOG seniors and deaf seniors elsewhere. However, it is expensive to have a van service (gas, insurance, maintenance, driver, etc) and this grant can only cover the purchase of a van and NOT operating expenses.

- **Deafhood Foundation**: Brune had a meeting with Ella Lentz and Butch Zein to discuss ways that the two organizations could collaborate. Many ideas were discussed. It was acknowledged that DCARA would like to explore Deafhood more internally as only two staff members have taken the class. It was acknowledged that Deafhood Foundation has just started and has many issues to iron out. But, one idea that was discussed was to provide a series of training to DCARA staff on Deafhood. Another was to offer Deafhood training to the DCARA board and to the DCARA management team. Brune, Lentz and Zein are scheduled to meet again on April 28th to further discuss this possible collaboration.

- **San Francisco Club for the Deaf**: Brune and Canfield had a meeting with SFCD. In exchange for $5,000 sponsorship, SFCD wanted to see a higher Return on their Investment (ROI). So, it was agreed that DCARA would advertise SFCD and its events on DCARA’s website, E-News, and DeafLink.

- **Volunteer Appreciation**: DCARA will be having a small, simple, low-cost appreciation party for DCARA’s many volunteers on Tuesday April 28th as a way to show gratitude for the many hours they have collectively contributed to DCARA’s overall success.

- **Coalition**: The Coalition will have its first meeting in over a year (?) at GLAD this coming Friday, April 17th in Los Angeles. The agenda has not yet been set but Brune imagines that they will be discussing the impact of the economy on all of the sister agencies and how they can pool together their resources/minimize the impact of future cuts. Brune will have a report for the Board at next month’s meeting.

- **San Leandro House**: This is something for the board to consider: DCARA has now been approached by two different groups about
April 14, 2009
DCARA Board Meeting Minutes

purchasing the SL House – the Bay Area Coalition of Deaf Senior Citizens (for an assisted living facility) and by the Regional Center of the East Bay/Housing Consortium of the East Bay.

- **Deaf Employment Training Center**: Next month, Chriz Dally will be giving a presentation on the Deaf Employment Training Center program plan to the Board at the May 12th meeting.

- **Note**: Brune will be on **vacation** starting three days after the May 12th Board meeting. He will be out of the country May 15th until May 28th. He will be back in time for our internal Full Staff Meeting on May 29th and the House Party on May 30th.

**Old Business**

The Board closed old minutes and will allow DCARA staff and committees to go through the old motions which need to be revisited (see March 09 minutes).

**New Business**

**MO41409-01**
Solorzano (Niyongabo) moves that the Board accept the finance committee reports for November 2008, December 2008, January 2009, and February 2009. MPASSED

**MO41409-02**
Niyongabo (Solorzano) moves that the Board approve moving approximately $25,000 in restricted investments to either a CD or into a/the money market account—whichever has less fees involved. MPASSED

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

DCARA will have a booth at the ASL Festival on May 30, 2009 by the Embarcadero in San Francisco.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

DCARA Regular Board Meeting
April 14, 2009
Deaf Community Center, San Leandro, CA
Page 6 of 6
DCARA Regular Board Meeting
April 14, 2009
Deaf Community Center, San Leandro, CA
Page 7 of 7