Meeting Called to Order: 6:10 PM

Present: Liann Osborne, Joe Fercho, Andrew Phillips, Jaime Jackerson, Roberto Solorzano, Patty Lessard, Michael Higgins, Jenny Cantrell, Sunnie Kaufmann, Chris Held

Excused: Karina Pedersen

Staff Present: Executive Director Jim Brune, Leona Galindo

Interpreters: Leah Bartell and Jewel Jauregui

Presenters: None

MO102009-1
Phillips (Higgins) moved change the frequency of board meetings from monthly to every other month.
   Higgins (Phillips) amended “effective January 1, 2010” at the end of the motion.
   APASSED
   MTABLED

MO102009-2
Cantrell (Osborne) moved to transfer signature authority from Katie Canfield to LaRonda Zupp, effective immediately.
MPASSED

Officers’ Reports

President: Liann Osborne
None

Vice President: Roberto Solorzano
Solorzano encourages all board members to actively recruit new members.
Solorzano and Phillips have made a Vlog and it will be posted on DCARA website about board recruitment. Solorzano will also email board members with a flyer regarding this issue soliciting new members.
Treasurer: Patty Lessard
Report made by Michael Higgins

For the fiscal year of 2008-2009, DCARA ended the year with a deficit of approximately 52 thousand dollars. For the first month of the new fiscal year, DCARA came in over budget by approximately 16 thousand. Since the board has a deficit target of 22 thousand dollars for the year, this will require careful monitoring to ensure we are on trend to meet this goal.

However, we are seeing positive signs in the area of fundraising, and a balanced budget may be achieved with careful expense reduction. At our next meeting, we will review the first quarter report and there may be additional actions to take to ensure we have a manageable deficit.

Standing Committees

Board Development and Recruitment: Pedersen
None

Fundraising Committee: Chris Held
None

Reports from DCARA

Executive Director:

Jim Brune

Personnel:

- Director of Community Relations position is now vacant. Katie Canfield’s last day with us was September 25th.

- Webmaster/IT Support Specialist will become vacant. LeRoy Boren’s last day with us will be November 13th.
  - The position has been internally posted. If there are no results from the internal post, it will be posted externally tomorrow morning.
  - I will be working with LeRoy to develop a transition plan/contingency plan if we are not able to hire someone by the time he leaves so that our technology infrastructure remains intact.
DCARA Presentations/Workshops/Events in September:
- We staffed a booth at the San Leandro Senior Resources Fair on September 11th.
- We staffed a booth at Great America Deaf Awareness Day on September 26th.
- We staffed a booth at DeafNation on October 10th.
- We have begun a new series of parenting skills classes in both San Jose and San Leandro within our Family Connections program. This is exciting as we are expanding our services to include Deaf parents.
- We are continuing to provide an exercise class for Deaf seniors at FOG.
- We had an Ojo workshop provided for our Deaf community at the San Jose office.

Upcoming Presentations/Workshops/Events in October/November:
- We will be staffing a booth at CS D's Homecoming game during the 150th Anniversary Weekend this Saturday October 24th. This is a great opportunity to recruit potential board members.
- We will begin a new computer class series in San Jose. There will be more computer classes coming in the New Year.
- An ADA and Self Advocacy workshop is coming up for the Walnut Creek Deaf seniors.

Grant Writing:
- We received notice from two sources of stimulus funding that we were denied funding:
  - Department of Rehabilitation
  - US Department of Education: Funding for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE). They received 291 applications and awarded funding to just 29 organizations.
- First Five Alameda County: After much discussion, a decision was made not to apply for First Five Alameda County. This was a difficult decision to make because we had been waiting for this RFP to come out to make our Family Connections program stronger. However, it was agreed upon that our focus right now needs to be making the Family Connections program stronger and assessing what the needs are among hearing parents of Deaf children and Deaf parents of either hearing or Deaf children before we seek further funding.
- Department of Labor: I had reported last month that we would review this possible stimulus funding through DOL. Upon further review, it was decided that it was not the right fit for the Deaf Employment Training Program.
50th Anniversary Celebration Committee:

- The 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee has been meeting monthly and we are working now on scouting locations. Each of us on the committee has been doing research and scouting potential locations and venues based on the criteria we agreed upon. We have begun to visit locations as well and expect to continue scouting locations through the next few months including Yerba Buena Center in San Francisco and the Claremont Hotel and Spa in Berkeley.

Personnel Manual Committee:

- I reported last month that the Personnel Manual has been meeting to address many much needed revisions to the Personnel Manual. No new news to report other than that the "Language Subcommittee" continues to meet to address the tedious but necessary language changes that are necessary.

Fundraising:

- Recent fundraising results:
  - Chevy’s: Just under $200 was raised at our Chevy’s Restaurant Night Event in San Leandro on August 27th.
  - California Pizza Kitchen: Just under $200 was raised at our CPK Restaurant Night event in San Jose on September 21st.
  - Oktoberfest Event on October 3rd:
    - Live Auction: $2,955
    - Silent Auction: $624
    - Sponsorships: $5,900
    - Ticket Sales: $4,840
    - After expenses, our profit was approximately $11,400.
  - *hands wave*

- Upcoming fundraising opportunities:
  - Tom Holcomb and Sandra Ammons’ Show on Friday evening December 4th at DCC. This is to celebrate their 50th birthdays and the show will be about taking a look at the last 50 years in Deaf Culture. Tickets are $50. Maximum attendance: 125 people. I expect tickets to sell FAST. Flyers and tickets will be available starting this Saturday October 24th at CSD’s booth. Goal: raise $5,000 after expenses.
  - I am hoping to schedule a house party with Shelly Lawrence, the coordinator of Ohlone’s IPP program. The Ohlone IPP
program has been a wonderful partner with us sending interpreting students to our various offices and with DCARA providing Ohlone with mentoring opportunities with our Deaf professionals. The house party would be focused mainly on the interpreting community – an untapped resource in terms of fundraising.

- We are hoping to have ASL Films’ 4th movie “Gerald” show at DCC in January. Details to come soon.
- We’ve just finished Oktoberfest. Now we will need to start thinking about the planning of Deaf Community Night in Spring 2010.
- The next Fundraising Committee meeting is next Tuesday, October 27th.

Concerns:
- I would like to address a couple of concerns that I have:
  - I had mentioned at the last meeting that at our Chevy’s Restaurant Night, we had just 1 out of 12 board members show up. The next event, our CPK Restaurant Night on September 21st, we had just 3 out of 11 board members attend.
  - Direct Mail: Thank you very much to the 7 board members who submitted names for the Direct Mail and to the 1 board member who will pass out a generic letter. I would like to stress – again - that we had a long discussion about the 2009-2010 and agreed to increase our fundraising goals. The Direct Mail campaign is a very NOT-labor-intensive effort to fundraise just by submitting names. It CAN (and should be) be an easy way for 100% of this Board of Directors to be involved in this aspect of our fundraising initiatives.
  - I had mentioned last month that I am very concerned about board recruitment and having a large enough of a board starting January 2010 with people leaving/being termed out. However, I am confident that with the vlog and the application being posted this week and our recruitment efforts this coming Saturday, we can and will get a great pool of candidates if we are proactive about recruitment. However, my next big concern is the leadership on the board. Liann is leaving and my understanding is that no one has expressed interest in the President position. This greatly concerns me as I do rely on Board leadership to
support my work and support DCARA. Without Board support, I will burn out fast in my job.

Ending my report on a more positive note: Toronto Deaf Culture Centre.

Old Business

None

New Business

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MTABLED

MO102009-2
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MPASSED

***In a closed session, the Board voted unanimously to cut the salary of the Director of Community Relations position by 20%. This cut limits the salary of this position to only DSS money and no money can be added from the general fund. (One member of the Board had to abstain from this closed session).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Osborne announced that a former board member is hosting a black tie event on Nov 14, 2009. Tickets are $45 for couples and $25 for singles.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Phillips
Secretary

DCARA Regular Board Meeting
October 20, 2009
Deaf Community Center, San Leandro, CA
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5  _____Accepted as read   _____Accepted as corrected