

Maryland Association of the Deaf Board Meeting
Saturday, June 27, 2020
Zoom Conference

Present: Richard Jeffries (President), Kirsten Poston (Vice President) ,Jacob Leffler (Secretary), Marie Campbell (Treasurer), Steven Gagnon (Board Member at Large), MaryLynn Lally (Appointed Board Member), Jade Sims (Appointed Board Member), Penelope Miller (Appointed Board Member), and Vikki Porter (Appointed Board Member)

Absent: Jill Owens Brick (Board Member at Large)

President Richard Jeffries called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Previous Board Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed minutes from previous board meeting on February 15, 2020 and March 19, 2020.

Marie Campbell moved that MDAD approves the February 15, 2020 meeting minutes as read.
Seconded by Jacob Leffler
CARRIED

Penelope Miller moved that MDAD approves the March 19, 2020 meeting minutes as read.
Seconded by Jacob Leffler
CARRIED

President's Report

President Richard Jeffries discussed the Maryland Coalition which it began a while ago with around 40 organizations in the State of Maryland and met every 3 months. President Jeffries asked the former President, Lee Smith to revamp the Coalition and had a committee for it. The Committee identified 15 organizations for the coalition. The first meeting was on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. The next meeting is on July 21, 2020. MDAD has lead for now then in the future, it will become a stand-alone.

President Richard Jeffries gave updates on the mandates from the 2019 State Biennial Conference.

Mandate #1 – Text-to-911

Fund has passed for Text-to-911 for the counties/City of Baltimore. MDAD will invite the Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to speak during the Symposium.

Mandate #2 – CDI Legislation

It is on hold as MDAD is working on the Sign Language Interpreter Licensure.

Mandate #3 – Sign Language Interpreter Licensure

The Working Group is back on the schedule and began to work last week. Hopefully, the website will be updated shortly. It is a plan to submit the bill in January for its new session. The Working Group will communicate with the community.

Mandate #4 – Taskforce for the online Video Accessibility

No Progress

Mandate #5 – Scholarship Programs

President Jeffries asked Vikki Porter to lead the committee. President Jeffries has few names who would be good for this Committee. Once the Committee get together, they will develop the project.

Mandate #6 – End Language Deprivation in the State of Maryland

The Working Group is supposed to have a meeting but it is on hold due to COVID-19. President Jeffries will follow up to get them back on the track.

Mandate #7 – New Traffic Signals

The Frederick County has it as a pilot and will identify what works and what does not work. It is on hold due to COVID-19.

Mandate #8 – Send the Governor a letter regarding the Telecommunications Access of Maryland

It is completed and close this mandate.

Mandate #9 – Equal Numbers of Hearing and Deaf and Hard of Hearing workers in the Office of Genetics and People with Special Health Care Needs in the Maryland Department of Health

President Jeffries received an email from the author requesting to withdraw this mandate. He discussed this issue with the Bylaws Committee and we cannot withdraw this mandate because members voted during the business meeting.

President Jeffries provided an update with the NAD Conference. The dates are not confirmed as of now however it probably will be on October 1-4, 2020. It will be in afternoon to meet the different time zones.

President Jeffries gave an update on the Town Hall and Survey regarding Black Lives Matter. Penelope Miller is leading on this effort and working with the Baltimore Black Deaf Advocates. The President thanked Kirsten Poston, Penelope Miller, and Vikki Porter for working on the statement regarding the Black Lives Matter.

Vice President's Report

Vice President Kirsten Poston had a meeting with the Baltimore Black Deaf Advocates (BBDA) and National Black Deaf Advocates to help BBDA to get recognized as a chapter. Vice President Poston requested that the Board re-visit the request from BBDA regarding \$5,000. President Jeffries stated that he will meet with BBDA and will include Kirsten Poston, Penelope Miller, and Vikki Porter.

Vice President Poston also worked with the Howard County Association of the Deaf to have a panel regarding the Black Lives Matter and suggested to partner with them for the Symposium.

Secretary's Report

The minutes from previous meetings are posted on the website. The MDAD Calendar for events has been updated and shared with the Board.

Treasurer's Report

As of May 31, 2020

Bank Account: \$69,756.25

Investment Accounts: \$64,950.47

Total Balance: \$136,288.72

Treasurer Marie Campbell discussed about the MD State Reporting that MDAD is on good standing. She also couldn't find the 501(c)3 letter and will continue to find it. If she cannot find it, MDAD will send a letter to IRS and requesting a copy of the letter.

The Finance Committee will meet soon to discuss about finance for MDAD.

Committee Report

Maryland Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (MD EHDI) – Trudy Suggs

MD EHDI is supposed to have a meeting but was rescheduled due to COVID-19.

Maryland Digital Culture Digital Library (MD DCDL) – Michele Westfall

The website is done but is not public yet. They plan to have a kick off meeting.

2020 Symposium – Steven Gagnon

The date for the symposium is on July 25, 2020. Steven and the Committee will develop survey or google form to collect priorities proposals from Members to pass on to the National Association of the Deaf. The Board will have a meeting after the symposium to discuss the priorities.

It is still planned to partner with the Deaf Grassroot Movement and expand the program to have some workshops.

Special Project – Jacob Leffler, Vikki Porter, Steven Gagnon, and Marie Campbell
The Committee had a meeting and developed an action plan.

The Board went into recess.

The Board resumed from the recess on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at 5:05 p.m.

New Business

Kirsten Poston moved that MDAD established a State Biennial Conference Committee
Seconded by Jade Sims
CARRIED

Marie Campbell moved that MDAD pays the fee for 501(c) 3 letter if MDAD cannot find the copy.
Seconded by Jacob Leffler

Kirsten Poston amended to insert “within 7 business days.”
Seconded by Vikki Porter
CARRIED

The main motion, MDAD pays the fee for 501(c)3 letter within 7 business days if MDAD cannot find the copy.
CARRIED

Kirsten Poston moved that all receipts must be turned in to the Treasurer within 14 business days.
Seconded by MaryLynn Lally

MaryLynn Lally moved to table the motion until we get the feedback from the Finance Committee.
Seconded by Steven Gagnon
CARRIED

President Richard Jeffries adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Jacob Leffler
Secretary