

**AAIDD Meeting Minutes
Louisiana Chapter
November 12, 2009**

Members Present: Kristy Buras, Alycia Burch, Sharon Delvisco, Julia Lott, Joyce Loudon, Hilda Trahan, David Van Gossen, Elizabeth Watts,

I. Agenda: Meeting was called to order with a welcome by President Delvisco. There were no minutes from the Annual Meeting. A copy of the agenda was distributed and approved by the Board. The Board Roster was distributed and corrections were made. It was noted that Cynthia Green had called to say that she could not attend.

II. Review and Discussion of By-Laws: We need to send the by-laws to the membership. There should be a 5% approval to the by-laws.

~Action: Sharon will compare the old and new by-laws and make changes.

A motion was made by Hilda Trahan to send out the By-Laws to members, the motion was seconded by Julia Lott. All approved.

III. Review and Discussion of Vision and Mission: Elizabeth Watts suggested that there were problems with the mission. We seem to have lost our focus. We should be more geared to helping people with disabilities. After much discussion, it was agreed that this board could look at and redirect the mission of the Board. On paper the mission did not change, and at this point will not change.

IV. Website: David has placed all award winners on the Website and pictures from the Annual Meeting. David has the responsibility of keeping the web site current. The contact person on the website will be the President of the Board.

V. Board Roles and Responsibilities: There is a listing of Board Responsibilities in the By-laws, and a more comprehensive list that was written by each officer of practical responsibilities. Hilda asked if we can get the Bulk rate approved and suggested that this is something that should be considered because this would be our way of getting information to our membership who may not have access to e-mail. Hilda also suggested that we need to decide what supports the foundation means.

~Action: Sharon will check with Cynthia and ask her to take responsibility for the bulk rate.

~Action: Joyce will check to see if OCDD has a list of providers, and if Central Office can do a blast e-mail or fax to all providers. If this is not available, the following persons will be responsible for getting a list of providers for their regions.

Julia – Region 6 and 7; Sharon – Region 1 and 10; Joyce – Region 2; Hilda – Region 5; Alycia – Region 3 and 4; Elizabeth – Region 8; Kristy – Region 9.

VI. Vice President of Membership Report: Julia stated that we are doing well. We met our goal of 135 members for November 1, 2009. We need to set our goal for the coming year. We may want to maintain the goal of 135 members. In January 2010 we

will have a sense of where we are. We will probably lose members in January, but we should hold our goal of 135 members.

VII. Vice President of Conference: There was much discussion of the Annual Meeting. Several locations were suggested with pros and cons of each location. After discussion, it was motioned by Kristy and seconded by Alycia that we hold the Annual Meeting in the Alexandria/Pineville area at the Best Western Conference Center. It was suggested that anything that a person makes or designs can be brought to the Annual Meeting and set up on a table and be sold by them. This is something that we need to work on at the next meeting. It should be placed on the agenda.

It was also suggested that the Annual Meeting be held on either a Tuesday/Wednesday or a Wednesday/Thursday. Starting at 10:00 A.M. for pre-conference in the morning and keynote in the afternoon with a break out at evening and the following day. Have Hugh Ely from the Office of Aging and Adult Services and Kathy Kliebert from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities come in a present a State of the State talk. The call for papers to be presented at the Annual Meeting should go out in February.

Some suggested tracts include: Health and Wellness, Community Involvement, Technology, SIS/La plus, Electronic ESP, Signs and Symptoms of Illness.

It was also suggested that we continue the Arts Show. We have to solicit award nominations. They do not happen automatically, we have to solicit those persons.

It was suggested that the President's Award be included in the program. It was motioned by Hilda Trahan that President and the President Elect be recognized at the Awards Banquet. It was seconded by Kristy. There were no objections and the motion was approved by all.

VIII. Vice President of Training: With the impact of Budget Cuts, it was motioned by David that we offer one training in the spring of the year in the North and in the South. It was seconded by Joyce. Some possible topics are PBS and Quality Assurance Plans. A motion was made by Hilda that we charge \$35.00 for non members and \$25.00 for members with a no refund policy. David seconded. There were no objections and the motion was approved. We can get the meeting registration set up on PayPal.

IX. Strategic Planning: The Display Board is with Sharon Delvisco.
~Action: Sharon will bring the Display Board to the next meeting and give to the Vice President of Marketing, David Van Gossen to be updated.

The next meeting will be held on January 21, 2010 at Families Helping Families in Pineville.

Joyce S. Loudon, Ph.D.
AAIDD Secretary