

American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA)
Board Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2007 @ 1:00PM to 3:00PM

Attendance: President Glenna Ashton, New-elected Vice President Larry Forestal, Secretary Dorothy M. Wilkins, Treasurer Betti Bonni, Keith Cagle, Evaluation Chair, Past Vice President Thomas Riggs, & Pat Beech, Chapter Affiliated Chair. **Absentee:** Trix Bruce, Professional Development Chair

Members: Sharon Staehle, Gerry Francini, Jason Zinza, Lance Forshay, Amy Kurz, Darlene Sarnouski, Lynn Jacobs, Alysse Ramussen, and Judie Cronlund,

I. Call to Order: 1:24 p.m.

II. Mission Statement. Dorothy M. Wilkins signed the statement.

III. Approval of Minutes from meeting during June 1-2, 2007 will need to be approved by email.

IV. President's Report (Glenna Ashton)

- a. President Glenna had the Code of Ethics for Larry Forestal as a new elected Vice President and Betti Bonni as a Treasurer.
- b. There were two VRS offers to ASLTA to use as one of the revenues.

V. Unfinished Business

- a. **The committee was set up (from the June 1-2 meeting):**
 - Ad Hoc Committee will investigate the ACET official transcript for the Professional Development. The suggestion was to contact Nina Coyer, Trix Bruce, Janice Remier-Castella, and James Womack). Treasurer Betti Bonni will ask those people to be on the committee.
 - Ad Hoc Committee will study the new professional development for requirements for ASLTA certifications. Keith Cagle will contact Tom Willis.
- b. **Motions from the 2005 Conference**
 - Motion 1: Conference in spring instead of fall due to new staff scheduling. (Referred to the conference committee)
 - Motion 2: Appoint Professional Certified person to represent ASLTA at any non-ASLTA ASL-related conferences.

- Motion 3: L2 curriculum be transferred from Gallaudet Department of Education to ASLTA webpage. Secretary Dorothy Wilkins will contact Matt Disch on that matter.
- Motion 4: Contact American Medical Association to create national policy stating that ASL as babies 1st, 2nd, and/or Primary 1 language. Larry Forestal will elect 3 new members to form a committee.
- Motion 5: Create representative positions for K-12 and college interest groups who will coordinate with the board (those will not be Board members). They will collaborate with the Board to develop programs, policies, etc. as needed. Glenna Ashton will contact Delia Lovanto and other members for the interest groups of K-12 for L1, K-12 for L2 and Higher Education for L2.
- Motion 6: Creates a new team of L1 evaluators using ASLPI (Referred to ASLTA Evaluation team).
- Motion 7: Appoint 2 new chairs (1 as the National curriculum project chair and the other as National Legislation chair). Larry Forestal will appoint 2 new chairs.
- Motion 11: Appoint a committee to work with each state board of education and legislation to promote implementation of ASLTA's LI and L2 teacher certification. Thomas Riggs will work with Glenna on that issue.
- Motion 12: Set up a committee to investigate developing praxis test for K-12 or 9-12 (Foreign Language). Pat Beech and Amy Kurz will set up that committee.
- Motion 16: Current professional ASLTA certification required by the National Council on Accreditation Teachers Education, NCATE for college professors (Referred to the Evaluation Committee). Committee for the state/national level will work on different levels for getting ASLTA certification to be recognized. Glenna Ashton, Keith Cagle, & Amy Kurz will work on it by Dec. 2007.

V. New Business

- a. The future site for Conference 2009 will be in Phoenix Area, Arizona.

Motion #1: Betti Bonni made a motion that ASLTA assigned Gerry Francini as an ASLTA Conference Chair in 2009. Seconded. Carried.

FYI: Leslie Greer is willing to be a coordinator of ASLTA evaluation at the NAD convention 2008 if Keith Cagle can't come there.

b. **Switch to a different website:**

Motion #2: Keith Cagle made a motion that ASLTA use www.deafvision.net as a web master. Seconded. Carried.

c. **Bylaws revisions**

d. **ASLTA General Business Meeting Motions Referred**

- Motion#3: Larry Forestal moved that those ASLTA members with the Qualified-level certificate have the option to maintain this certificate permanently as long as they are ASLTA members in good standing (referred to Evaluation Committee).
 - Motion #4: Mary Jean Shahren moved that national ASLTA create and maintain a certification database (Pro, Q, Prov) because K-12, colleges, and universities can look to the website to ensure that their teachers are appropriately certified and taught (already in Bylaws, but need to follow-up with committee).
 - Motion #5: Mary Jean Shahren moved that National ASLTA assist all the state chapters in creating a national letter template (or website page) that states can pass on to their state colleges, universities to educate the program administration on the importance of hiring teachers with ASLTA certification. Otherwise we will not see an increase in ASLTA membership and attendance. (Referred to ASL in IHE)

Amended: insert \$5,000 as ASLTA's financial support to develop survey to find out which school/colleges/universities use ASL and the entrance level and to develop information kit. Before the information kit goes out, it will need to have the approval by the board members.

- Motion #6: Mary Jean Shahren, move that National ASLTA create and maintain a login and username to access the resources, guidelines, information sharing, files, lesson plans, etc. (referred to Webmaster).
- Motion #7: Lynne Jacob moved that ASLTA website server offer the place (links) for all the chapters that host their own websites. (Referred to Chapter Affiliation and Webmaster).
- Motion #8: Delia Lozano and Jennifer Furlano moved that ASLTA

recognizes L1 (ASL), develops ASL L1 curriculum and trains k-12 teachers. (Already in bylaws – 2005 ASLTA General Meeting, Motion #5, 11 & 12)

- Motion #9: Jennifer Furlano moved that ASLTA provide grant writing workshop. (Referred to conference committee)

It was recommended to have workshops for teaching ASL instructors on how to write syllabus, develop lesson plans, acquire assessment tools, and explain different teaching methods and research at the next conference.

e. **Remaining motions from Yesterday's ASLTA General Business Meeting**

- Motion #10: Timothy Gough moved that ASLTA worked with NESINC (National Education Systems) regarding to nationwide state exam for ASL Teachers, and urges NESINC to make the nationwide state exam available to 50 states. (Already made the motion #12 in 2005 ASLTA General Meeting Minutes).
- Motion #11: Molly Estes moved that ASLTA Mission Statement needed to be updated to include new statements for L1 and L2. Seconded. Carried.
- Motion #12: Mary Jean Shahan moved that one of the ASLTA board members become a full-time staff with pay. Betti Bonni will investigate and report it on January 2008.

VI. Announcements

- a. Treasurer Betti Bonni, Treasurer, made a check of \$91,275.40 as a final bill to the hotel for the conference.
- b. Keith Cagle reported that 15 candidates for the professional interviews were completed and one candidate didn't show up.
- c. Almost all of the presenters signed the waive form for the CSD-TV. Keith Cagle will follow up with all the presenters to send their power point presentation to him before Dec. 1, 2007 to be printed on the CD-Rom proceedings. It was a pleasure working with Jim DeBee.

VII. Adjournment: 3:15 p.m.

Submitted by
Dorothy M. Wilkins
ASLTA Secretary
2007-2009