



AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Online Board Meeting Minutes Sunday, March 14, 2021 Time: 6:30 PM [EST]

Topic: ASLTA's Zoom Meeting
Time: Mar 14, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84885534197?pwd=NTdhWDRGdi9BL1VZU3FKY1ovZHFpUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 8553 4197
Passcode: 512309

1. Roll Call

James Wilson, Vice President
Jason E. Zinza, Treasurer
David Martin, Communications Director
Lorraine Flores, Professional Development Director
Amy June Rowley, Evaluation and Certification Director
Bo Clements, Chapters Affiliation Director
Jessica Parker, ASLHS Coordinator

Participants:

Damon Johnson
Sara Bianco
Kim Bianco Majeri
Hunta Williams
Arlon Nash
Heather Arazi

Absent:

Janice Smith-Warshaw, President
Rhonda Jennings-Arey, Secretary

2. Meeting called to order by Vice President Wilson 6:37 pm EST

MOTION #2021-12: I, David Martin, move to approve the meeting minutes from 02/07/2021 as read.

Seconded: Lorraine Flores

Vote: Passed

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **ASL Can-Do Statements:** No report to share.
- **ASLTA Awards Criteria:** Lorraine Flores.
 - ◆ Developed the Awards Rubric for each category,
 - ◆ Will make new videos soon (will release the video around the last week of April) 5 videos done by 5 signers.
 - ◆ Received Ohio ASLTA logo.
 - ◆ Will contact DeafRoots to make the awards for this coming summer (same artist who produced awards for the 2019 conference).
- **ASLTA Logo:** David Martin received three draft designs and shared with the Board. Committee is meeting this week for revisions. Comment from Hunta Williams that black logos / text can be better for DeafBlind individuals, or a muted blue / darker shades are preferred to brighter colors.
- **Nomination:** James Wilson. Have been meeting regularly. Nominations will be open March 29 on the website and close on June 29, following the 90 day window required by bylaws. Nomination form will be digital via the website. President, Secretary, and Professional Development positions will be open for nomination. Brenda Falgier is the chair of the committee and will be the point of contact for the nominations process. Next week, Rey Vega will release a video draft and once approved, David Martin will release the video in an eblast to members on March 29. Jason Zinza will post the digital nominations form online prior to that date.
- **Bylaws:** James Wilson. Bylaws met on February 10 and decided to hold off and collect more information for further bylaws amendments. Meeting this coming Wednesday to discuss issues related to ASLTA chapters based on information received from the CPA. Some of the proposed amendments may be moot given this new information so we will need to look at it with that lens. Phase 7 amendments will be released in May related to the budget and chapters.
- **Chapter Handbook & Guidelines:** No report to share.
- **Evaluation Advisory:** No report.
- **IPPG:** Created a task list to track the unfinished business / uncompleted tasks and who is completing each, along with proposed completion dates. Will work on prioritizing the tasks.
- **Membership:** Video appeal sent to members. Zero response to serve on the membership committee.

- **Strategic Planning:** Damon Johnson. Working on the mission and how to sign the mission in ASL equivalent to English, so been working on that. Also working on a vision statement survey that we will be sending out on Facebook to help guide ASLTA's vision. Work in progress.
- **Regional Representatives:** Damon Johnson. NE (Brenda Schick): Working with colleges in the area to promote collaboration on projects. Possibility of setting up an New England chapter. Announcement: Greater Rochester ASLTA will host an event "Understanding Intersectionality and Influences on the Signing Community" Dr. Alesia Alan, on April 7 in the evening. Recruiting Aisha Knight-Shaw co-Creator for the De'Via art exhibit at the upcoming conference and Dyer Arts center (virtual art gallery). Still need to contact NJASLTA to update email addresses to facilitate communication. SE (name): Vyron Kinson planned meeting. Discussing Angela McAdams ASL chapter in Tennessee. Midwest (Damon Johnson). Kansas is interested in establishing a chapter. Canadais also interested in a chapter - following up. Working with Brenda to start up research - regarding K12 licensure requirements. Be great to post on the ASLTA website. Bluegrass ASLTA contacted Bryan Bowen regarding chapter does - got hold of him but no action yet from Bluegrass. Also working on gathering bylaws. Minnesota ASLTA bylaws need a vote to be approved before we can get 501c3 status - that's on hold until the bylaws are voted on. West (Heather Azari). SDASLTA had a meet and greet, and also attended the WA-ASLTA workshop with Buck Rodgers. Utah ASLTA discussions to restart its chapter status. There are issues with payment - Jason Zinza to look into this.
- **DEI:** Hunta Williams. Looking forward to touching on lots of issues and expecting many changes in the future (not overnight). Have received 5 expressions of interest from people to serve on the DEI committee. Interested in 5 more, will be making another outreach effort. Some concerns from prospective members about affordability of membership. BIPOC concerns with fees is an issue. Been discussing with Janice and Lorraine, since committee participants must be ASLTA members. What is the resolution to this? Sponsorship or fees paid by ASLTA? Question is who will be the point of contact to handle this issue? It's an urgent issue - really need it done by next Friday at the latest.

3. President's Report

- a. (Remarks from Janice via James). Welcoming Hunta to his first ASLTA Board meeting as DEI committee chair.

4. Vice President's Report

- a. Nominations: Brenda Falgier is the nomination committee chair. A new folder for 2021 NPDC has been created. Most documents from 2019 had been modified, especially for President, Secretary and Professional Development Director. Based on ASLTA Bylaws, the 90-day limit will begin on March 29th and will end on June 29th. Nomination form will be made available on ASLTA website on the 29th, too. Rey Vega will do the announcement video within a week prior to the 29th and will send

out via e-blast on the 29th, too. Videos of officer descriptions prepared by President Smith, Secretary Jennings-Arey and Professional Development Director will be included in the e-blast.

- b. Bylaws: the previous meeting was rescheduled to this coming Wednesday to better prepare for an active meeting agenda. Per February 16th meeting, Amendment #37 for Chapter Affiliation will have to hold due to recent information that President Smith, Treasurer Zinza and myself learned from our CPA and Mark Apodaca. I have made Chapter Affiliation Director Clements aware and agreed that training will be developed for existing chapters and newly formed chapters.
- c. ASLPI: After email correspondence with Loretta Roulit, ASLPI Services Director at Gallaudet University, we met via Zoom. She wanted to communicate with the ASLTA at large as well as members to inform them of the situation that the ASLPI Office is currently dealing with. She may communicate with Communications Director Martin about the possibility of posting her vlog into the ASLTA website and e-blast. New applicants for ASLPI evaluations are on hold for the time being, and then will re-open for appointments at a later date. Will impact ASLTA evaluation. ASLTA should also release a follow up or statement regarding the ASLPI.

5. Secretary's Report

- a. No report

6. Treasurer's Report

- a. ASLTA is currently - \$10,690.54 in the red. Strong membership growth for ASLHS and conference registration has cut the deficit by 50%.
- b. Having Stripe account technical issues that are beyond my ability to address, so am actively seeking professional assistance (routing payments to multiple accounts). This has affected completion of:
 - i. ASLHS store
 - ii. Adding donation subscription options to membership renewal
 - iii. Automated payment plan options
- c. Proposal: To promote transparency and member input, I propose ASLTA invite members to review and comment on the annual draft budget before enactment by the Board of Directors. Proposed schedule:
 - 1. Treasurer & (proposed) Finance Committee develop a draft budget in August of each year.
 - 2. September 1, release draft budget to members and solicit comments. Comment window closes after 2 weeks.
 - 3. Treasurer and (proposed) Finance Committee review draft budget as needed.
 - 4. Draft budget is brought to the Board no later than October 1 for review and enactment, as required by the bylaws.

James: Please hold on this. Will discuss this in more depth during IPPG.

d. Membership update.

- i. Pleased to announce that ASLTA has now surpassed the membership goals set for 2020-2021. At 766 members, we are still down significantly from peak membership in 2019.

Current ASLTA Membership (as of 3/14/21)			
Membership Category	Current #	Last Meeting #	2020-2021 Goal
<i>Supporting - 1 year</i>	89	78	85
<i>Supporting - 2 years</i>	56	50	36
<i>Associate - 1 year</i>	280	246	218
<i>Associate - 2 years</i>	154	150	104
<i>Certified - 1 year</i>	111	104	100
<i>Certified - 2 years</i>	66	62	48
<i>Retired - 1 year</i>	1	0	2
<i>Retired - 2 years</i>	0	0	2
<i>Retired Certified - 1 year</i>	4	4	5
<i>Retired Certified - 2 years</i>	5	5	3
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	766	700	603 (-20%)
<i>Institutional Members</i>	16	12	15
<i>ASLTA Chapters</i>	12	10	10

h. Schwab update.

Current ASLTA Financial Status (as of 3/14/21)			
Bank of America Accounts	Bank Balance	QuickBooks Balance	Needs to be Processed
<i>ASL Honor Society</i>	\$ 66,248.57	\$ 64,247.86	36
<i>Evaluation & Certification</i>	\$ 2,732.36	\$ 2,515.23	0

<i>Main Checking</i>	\$ 247,761.82	\$ 147,349.10	148
<i>Conference</i>	\$ 26,500.00	\$ 3,895.91	0
<i>External Donations to the NPDC (2021 Patrons)</i>	\$ 0		
<i>National Standards</i>	\$ 3,107.40	\$ 3,107.40	0
<i>Professional Development</i>	\$ 1,171.89	\$ -2,150.21	1
<i>Inclusion & Equity</i>	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	0
<i>Investment</i>	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	1 (transfer \$100.00 from Main)
<i>External Donations to Main Checking Account</i>	\$ 95.00	N/A	Donated from Network for Good
TOTAL ACCOUNT VALUE	\$ 347,722.04	\$ 219,165.29	
Schwab Long-Term Investment Accounts	Account Balance	Available Funds (cash)	Investment Notes
<i>L1 Initiatives Fund</i>	\$ 8,642.39	\$ TBD	+\$5.92 (+.07%)
<i>LF2 Fund</i>	\$ 4,501.40	\$ 0.00*	+\$3.37 (+.07%)
<i>Riggs Fund</i>	\$ 7,377.43	\$ 0.00*	+5.71 (+.08%)
<i>Main Investment Fund</i>	\$ 91,545.64	\$ 9,977.30	+\$157.43 (+.17%)
<i>External Donations (specify account)</i>	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
TOTAL ACCOUNT VALUE	\$ 112,066.86	\$ 10,200.10	+\$172.43 (+.15%)
*Fund cannot be used until it has reached \$10,000.00 in value.			

7. Professional Development Director Flores

- Certification Preparation Courses Online Program. Survey was sent out regarding the pilot program for ASLTA certification prep courses. Wanted to get a pulse on reactions. Sent to 400 people (people who signed up for the webinar). 65 responses thus far. Overwhelmingly positive YES responses, 60% and higher yes in each

question - except for for credit (approx 50% yes). Thinking about a 4 month time frame and completion of each 8 week course by September 1.

Comment from Damon Johnson. The survey looked almost spam-like so that might be a concern from some people.

2021 Virtual Conference Report by Lori Woods and Arlon Nash (presented by Arlon).

1. Conference Website - complete. Committee duty explanations are expanded, support and donation info is set. Will be adding video and are committed to being DeafBlind friendly. Reached out to the DEI committee for guidance which was appreciated.
2. Conference Schedule in progress. Will be released this month with some changes. Trying to accommodate all time zones.
3. Registration - 221. Great to see this. Interested in discussing caps or no caps on the number of attendees.
4. Swag Pack - 90 people have added the swag bag option.
5. CEU's - 39 people have added the CEU option.
6. Call for Presenters - need more and extended to March 31st. So far, 20 people have submitted proposals. Really need more proposals. After March 31 will begin the screening process.
 - a. 6 - Linguistics/ Research
 - b. 8 - Curriculum/ Technology
 - c. 3 - P-12/ Deaf Studies
 - d. 5 - Social Justice

8. Evaluation and Certification Director Rowley

- Almost done with revising draft for MOU with Gallaudet. Working with MASLED and UNC program reps / directors. Have a draft MOA in place developed by the IPPG. A few issues that the programs want but ASLTA can't provide for a variety of reasons. Working out the details and will make a more formal announcement.
- Met with UNCO TASL Program Director and Dept Chair to discuss MOU.
- Many issues with technical support for applicants and evaluators, unsure how to address? Ideas? Challenges for evaluators, for applicants, and others. Need ideas on how to provide better tech support. Bogs down the system and the end result is that applicants have longer wait times than we'd like. Really need how-to stuff - how to apply, how to get a receipt, how to etc. on the front end of the website for people.

9. Chapter Affiliation Director Clements

1. I had a meeting with Vice President James Wilson about Phase 7 or 8 for revised Chapters By-Laws. We discussed the new requirements for chapters in the future.

2. We had a region reps meeting last Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Our next meeting will be on April 13, 2021 at 7:45 pm EST.
3. 12 chapters as of today -

1 - FASLTA, 2 - San Diego ASLTA, 3 - Virginia ASLTA , 4 - WA-ASLTA, 5 - Greater Rochester ASLTA, 6 - NJ ASLTA, 7 - Maryland-ASLTA, 8 - Willard ASLTA, 9 - Ohio-ASLTA, 10 - NC-ASLTA , 11 - SC-ASLTA, & 12 - Minnesota ASLTA

4. We discussed plans for each region to host their future chapters' meetings to check for their issues, concerns, suggestions and their supports.
5. Announcements of this month chapters' webinars and future chapters' webinars:

- **Maryland ASLTA** chapter & Mid-Atlantic Coalition of High School ASL teachers. **“Creating Design Products Using Google”** by Robin Newsom-Wuertz and **“Teach ASL with Comprehensible Input”** by Rosemary Stifter. Date: **March 19, 2021 at 6 pm - 9 pm EST and March 20, 2021 at 9 am - 3 pm EST (\$25.00)**
- **SCASLTA** chapter hosts a webinar workshop **“Black American Sign Language”** by Vyron Kinson. Date: **March 27, 2021- 10:00 am - 11:30am EST (\$20.00)**
- **San Diego ASLTA** chapter hosts a webinar workshop **“Zero Textbook Workshop”** by Garrett Bose. Date: **March 27, 2021 - 10:30 am - 12:00 noon PST (free)**
- **Ohio ASLTA** chapter hosts **“Introduction to Self Care and Trauma Informed Care in the ASL Classroom”** by Andrew Altmann. Date: **March 27, 2021 - 9am - 11 am EST**
- **NCASLTA** chapter hosts Virtual PD Conference **“ASL Strategies for Vision Teaching You The Skills”** by Keynote speaker Dr. Dan Hoffman, and two workshops speakers Dr. Rhonda Jennings-Arey and Wanda Riddle Date: **April 23-24, 2021**

10. Communications Director Martin

- No Report

11. ASL Honor Society Coordinator-Jessica Parker

- 200 members
- We gave away 3 black history books to three of our members in honor of Black History month.

- We are going to give away “Deaf Culture: Exploring Deaf Communities in the United States” to ASL teachers who submit entries into the upcoming ASLHS Literature Competition.
- We have an upcoming ASLHS Literature Competition (Visual Vernacular) being judged by Justin Perez. We’ve made a suggested lesson plan to help teach VV- https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ASYqnvOEwYqeMIC_NAq5usdphF2_jPKv_zN2L9IPqh0/edit?usp=sharing
- We have a new logo!



MOTION #2021-13: I, Amy June Rowley, move to enter into closed session to discuss conference issues.

Seconded: Lorraine Flores

Vote: Passed

MOTION #2021-14: I, Amy June Rowley, move that we end the closed session.

Seconded: Jason Zinza

Vote: Passed

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:20 pm EST

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Treasurer Zinza on behalf of Secretary Jennings-Arey.

Future meetings: *ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 6:30 PM EST*

March 28, 2021

April 11, 2021

April 25, 2021

May 9, 2021

May 23, 2021

June 13, 2021

June 27, 2021

July 11, 2021