

**NEAAD Annual General Meeting
February 10, 2007
At Hartford Deaf Club
Hosted by Bridgeport Deaf Club**

Meeting called to order at 1:55 pm by Robert Backofen, NEAAD President.

Lynn Williams making roll call, roll call sheet attached:

ROLL CALL: Robert Backofen (NEAAD President), George Szpakowski (NEAAD Vice President), Lynn Williams (NEAAD Secretary/Treasurer), Bruce Beston (NEAAD Sports Information Director), Henry Kwiatkowski (Worcester Deaf Club), Brenda Rennie (alternate – Worcester), Thomas Orscher (Holyoke Deaf Club), Richard Cornich, Jr (Alternate – Holyoke), Arthur Larson (representative for Bridgeport Men’s Basketball Team), Michael Chapenter (Bridgeport Deaf Club), Thomas Peets (alternate – Bridgeport), Anthony Cipriano (representative for Providence Hope women’s basketball), Allen Bradley (Providence Deaf Club), David Hatch (alternate – Providence), Paul R. Tomasian (representative for Providence Men’s Basketball Team), Terri Ditimi (representative for CAADA Women’s basketball team), Paul Ditimi (alternate – CAADA), Michael Carter (Vermont Ind. Deaf), Don Powers (representative for Vermont Men’s basketball team), Colleen Francis (MSAD), Ronda Mothersell (representative for MSAD women’s softball team), Lori Novak (alternate – MSAD), Dennis Palka (Hartford Deaf Club), Henry Sawicki (alternate – Hartford), Beverly Backofen (Chairperson for 2007 NEAAD Regional Basketball Tournament)

Dennis Palka spoke about team representatives shouldn’t stand for Annual Meeting that weren’t in NEAAD By-Laws. NEAAD should follow old by laws in representative representing annual meeting means delegate and alternate delegate.

DELEGATE ROSTER CHANGES:

Allen Bradley is a delegate for Providence and Anthony Cipriano, alternate delegate

Art Larson is a delegate for Bridgeport and Doug Carpenter, alternate delegate

Terri Ditimi is a delegate and Paul Ditimi, alternate delegate for CAADA plus chairman for 2008 NEAAD Regional Basketball tourney

Dennis Palka pointed out that NEAAD Regional Basketball chairperson cannot vote or voice except for basketball tournament.

Mike Carter is a delegate and Don Powers, alternate delegate for Vermont.

Colleen Francis is a delegate for MSAD and Rhonda Mothersell, alternate delegate

Jim Pedersen is a delegate at large and has been appointed as parliamentary for our annual meeting.

Correction of meeting minutes:

Motion 2006-10 correct from tem to teams noted by Lynn Williams

Dennis Palka moved to accept meeting minutes with correction made.

NEAAD PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Bob Backofen):

Will have 2 breaks today, to work with future tournament chairpersons,
And discuss with women softball reps about future softball plan.

Pagers aren't allowed during NEAAD meeting so we can move on smoothly.

Let everyone know that I am not happy with webmaster and we, NEAAD officers will make a motion.

I want to let know to reduce invitational tournament and change to friendly competition to help clubs/organizations have teams. If we have invitational tournament will have to go thru sanctioning plus higher fees, and it will hurt teams financially. So just drop this idea to find a way to get basketball program going by having some kind of basketball event at organization/club's site to help them make money.

We can have one or two invitational tournaments per year or even bring back the league. I'm just throwing in some ideas to delegates and get feedbacks.

This way after competition, they can get together at night at club for social event.

I am disappointed that many delegates did not read by laws, and when they contact me which made me read by laws and reply back to delegates. Want to work with them to help them understand by laws, likewise we make mistake, and they make mistake and hopefully we will reduce mistake by working together.

Want to see NEAAD improve with more social and events on Saturdays.

USADB tournament

Region president round table and region chatroom meetings last year and this year there were none this year. No chat room meeting and etc, it was quiet with Ira Hendon as president of USADB.

Disaffiliates with USADSF was brought to region round table meeting and eliminate additional fees with USADSF. If we are 501 c3, we could see fees reduced.....

At delegate meeting, one USADSF delegate came and explained breakdown of all of your 15 dollars fees and uncover a total of 5 dollars insurance coverage while the remaining fee covers USADSF's administrative cost. So USADB basketball council voted to disaffiliate with USADSF and will be under them for one more event during World Deaf Basketball Championship in china.

Lynn sent out USADB registration forms to the clubs/organizations and 15 dollars fee is not there, and now USADB set 20 dollars fee.

Any region team wins champion and goes to national will not pay registration fee, and for runner up pay 300 dollars fee.

WDB is not regionized under USADB since they did not follow 30 days grace period to prove USADB that they are good standing organization.

New USADB officers for 2007-2009:

USADB President: Ira Hendron from Texas

He's the first colored president.....

Temporary USADB Vice President: David Hamilton from Arizona

USADB Secretary: Keith W. from Indiana

USADB Treasurer - Lad Baird from South Dakota

USADB Publicity Director – Susan Maragolian from California

USADB Men Commissioner – Tom Morrision

USADB Women Commissioner - ??

During basketball tourney, Dynamingle won men's team champion for 2nd year in row and Bridgeport men's finished in 5th place. Vermont lost first game then won second game then lost third game.

Vermont women's team did good they played hard, won first two games then lost next two games.

USADB tournament will be in Indianapolis this coming April 11 to 14. Flyer is right here. And will give out flyers.

Indianapolis, we were hoping to bring tournament to NEAAD and dropped us and use the clock from Indianapolis and play in Florida, then Texas, then Oregon or Washington State which is his plan.

I had to argue with IRA and he said weather is the reason for his decision, then he did not say anything about looking forward to have tournament in Tampa Bay.....

I will find out more at USADB meeting and find out why.

This summer, there will be World Deaf Basketball event in China this coming June. It's my pleasure to announce that they choose three players from NEAAD, they are Ben Dimaro from RI, Steve Biskupiak from CT, Nick Lalanne from Vermont. For Women, Kristin Feldman from CT, and former CT resident Priscilla Biskupiak.

NSAD – I did not go to NSAD and I just visited my daughter, and Bruce took my place. NSAD was planning to come to today's meeting, and heard nothing from them and they are not coming to discuss possible merge of ESAD.

NSAD tournament will be in Dayton, Ohio during second weekend of August.

Last Annual Meeting, I forgot to announce appointment of 3 auditors, which are Mike Carter, Arthur Larson and Ken Osborne. Now, I'm asking them if they're willing to stay for another year. And will stay for one more year.

Hall of Fame, Jim Pedersen had announced that he's not running for any position and finally we appointed Dennis Palka to be Hall of Fame chairperson.

I got few letters.

Letter from USADSF, Larry Fletcher, USADSF President wants to let each region know that USADB disaffiliated with USADSF, it was just letter to let everyone know.

Letter from Ira Hendon III, WDB will not be recognized as region and FAAD will remain as basketball region.

Another letter from Ira, he wrote letter to USADSF want to go back to USADSF with understanding each athlete pay only 5 dollars.

Got letter from United States Deaf Golf Association, which need sponsor from NEAAD for \$100 or more from NEAAD \$100 or more to sponsor one tee sign (letter attached)

Dennis Palka suggest to put it in new business.....refer to new business

That's all of my report.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT (George Szpakowski):

Set up overhead projector for reading NEAAD By-Laws and new changes.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT (Lynn Williams):

Happy New Year!!

Want to thank everyone who voted for me to come back as NEAAD Secretary/Treasurer.

I wanted to thank NEAAD officers who took my place during NEAAD softball tournament when I was in Edmonton, Canada for World Deaf Golf Cup. USA men's and women's golf teams came in first place. I was surprised to see Jim Pedersen came to watch Deaf World Golf Cup. Thanks to him for supporting USA.

NEAAD finally got new lap top, this will be for NEAAD.

NEAAD finally had all three auditors being here this morning. In the past there were one or two auditors, this year we had 3, Mike Carter, Ken Osborne, Arthur Larson and our bank balance is 7,224.56. There were some outstanding check, and if you still hold, please deposit it.

Thank you all that I got all forms on time, and will have 4 men and 4 women team during NEAAD Regional Basketball tournament.

We received two new organizations for NEAAD, MSAD (Massachusetts State Association for the Deaf) and new independent team called NE Black Sox.

That's all of my report.

SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR REPORT (Bruce Beston):

Hello NEAAD officers, brothers and sisters!

Thanks for Jim Pederson for confirming to attend to all tournaments, he made us more bright days. Also, I was a kid to join in NEAAD that Jim Pederson pulled.

Additional comment, NEAAD always gets together and need any advises.
NEAAD always asks Jim for advise.

Welcome Dennis Palka to be our Hall of Fame chairperson..

I took over Bob's place to go to Ontiano, California as same time as being NSAD umpire at the tournament, too. It was perfect for saving NEAAD money for spending expenses of hotel and airline only.

About ESAD:

No money related EAAD who already split two organizations to ESAD(softball) and EAAD(basketball). FAAD split organizations. NWAAD already split to two organizations softball and basket ball.

Money issues:

NSAD donates \$1500 to US Deaf Youth for softball training for kids.

There were few sponsors for that tournament.

For NSAD Executive Board:

NSAD rejected an audiogram of CAAD player. That player objected to send third audiogram to NSAD. NSAD went to look thru third audiogram and approved for letting CAAD player to play at NSAD softball tournament.

Agree any audiogram by July 1st that is final decision by July 1st. There won't be any discussion of audiograms during NSAD tournament. All regionals agreed with that.

About residents for summer, there are a lot of arguments. Show their driver license or ID....

CPA already approved thru NSAD financial reports. There are two bank accounts that NSAD.

NSAD reduced NSAD membership from 15dollars to 5 dollars.

NSAD struggled CAAD and ESAD about which region that Pittsburgh should join. CAAD gave their words of okay to Pittsburgh women's softball team to CAAD. But CAAD didn't inform NSAD/ESAD that CAAD permitted Pittsburgh to play at CAAD Regional Softball Tournament. NSAD gave CAAD punishment of one year probation for violating the rules.

NSAD will send lineup forms to Regional officers.

No NSAD officers involved in playing softball.

Made a motion by Executive Board was NSAD permitted 3 coda players to play softball. They must show a proof that CODA player being a member of international CODA membership. BUT at the NSAD meeting that the motion reduced 3 CODA players to 1 Coda player. PASSED.

About adding 3 players signing before softball tournament and after tournament.

About a protest to NSAD. Any team must deposit 100 dollars for filing a protest. NSAD will hear the team's side. If NSAD is wrong to rule, \$100 will be back to that team. If team's rule rejects from NSAD then NSAD keep \$100 in NSAD account.

USSSA illegal bats: All teams must follow USSSA rules related to illegal bats or not.

Pitcher can move 6 feet away from the pitching box. Reason: Protection.

NSAD wanted to come to our meeting. NEAAD didn't let him to come to our meeting. Because ESAD and NEAAD agreed to not merge together that they discussed at NSAD tournament. The motion was passed at NSAD tournament was sending NSAD and ESAD to NEAAD meeting for a discussion of merging together thru softball. ESAD didn't respond anything to not come to NEAAD meeting. That's why we didn't let NSAD come to our meeting.

Mark Bella won the position of NSAD commissioner by beating Val.

Dawn from ESAD won the position of NSAD deputy commissioner by beating Gary Eskie.

Sheri Mize won the position of NSAD Secretary/Treasurer by beating Gary Eskie.

Sheri Mize and Gary.. Sheri Mize won by election for NSAD Secretary/Treasurer.

Kevin Ryan won the position of NSAD Sports Information Director by ACC.

Vance won the election of being NSAD Tournament Director by beating Ron from Buffalo.

NSAD tournament ran very smooth and wonderful. Vance ran the tournament very smooth. Great Job!

Maryland Eagles won NSAD championship. There were 3 free agents on Maryland's Team.. It supposed only 1 free agent. Not.

Maryland Timberfest won NSAD women's championship. Metrowest women's record was 2 wins 2 losses at NSAD tournament. Metrowest men's record was 0 wins and 2 losses.

John Philip Memorial Basketball Tournament at Learning Center on February 17th. There were 3 men and 3 women teams. There will be a robin round tournament and cash prizes.

For NEAAD Regional Basketball Tournament, there were 4 men and 4 women teams.

Great news: USADSF President already waived \$20,000 that USADB owed.

Break time at 3:45pm

Start 4:20 pm

2007 NEAAD REGIONAL BASKETBALL REPORT:

Beverly Backofen introduced herself to NEAAD delegates that she was NEAAD Regional Basketball Tourney co-chairperson.

On Friday, there will be an open house at Hartford Deaf Club from 6pm to 10 pm.

On Saturday there will be games all day from 9am to 4 pm. Then there will be a hall of fame dinner at Holiday Inn from 6 pm to 8 pm. After dinner, an entertainment will be from 8 pm until 1 am.

For Sunday, all games will be from 9 am until 5 pm.

Fans and Players will pick their registration in old gym on Saturday. All day until no busy then move to new gym..

Hotel blocked rooms will be deadline by tomorrow for reservation.

Refreshments will be all day on Saturday and Sunday.

Gym will be at American School for the Deaf. No drugs, no alcohol and no smoking.

Shot clock Art will double check with ASD if shot clock is working or not.

20 minutes each. No stop 35 second for women 30 seconds for men

Referee chief will take care of referees all 6 deaf referees. Must have 1 hearing ref and 1 deaf during games that we follow NEAAD by laws.

Hartford - Henry Sawicki

Flyer: Increase 2 dollars from Bridgeport's 2007 NEAAD Basketball Cost. NEAAD Regional Basketball Tournament will be on March 3, 2009.

Hotel will be at Holiday Inn. The gym will be at American School for the Deaf.

Old Business:

2006-01 motion dead

.6 9 to 1 passed

2006-10 PASSED 6 to 0

No more Old Business

Break at 5:30 pm (Dinner time)

Start at 6:25 pm

NEAAD President forgot all about committees' report:

Holyoke has been accepted by delegates to host 2007 softball tournament.

CAADA has been approved by delegate to host 2008 basketball tournament.

New Business:

2007-1

I, Dennis Palka moved that team photo must be included with the roster by deadline date at the annual meeting or February 1st for basketball and July 1st for softball.

Amendment #1

I, Arthur Larson amended that the team photo must be included with the roster and payment as stated on the registration form deadline.

Seconded by Tom Orscher.

PASSED 9 – 1

2007-2

I, Dennis Palka moved NEAAD donate \$100 to US Deaf Golf Championships which will take place on July 16 to 20, 200 in Caseyville, Illinois.

Seconded by Bruce Beston

PASSED

2007-3

I, Lynn Williams moved that NEAAD pays Lynn Williams \$500 for purchased laptop.

Seconded by Arthur Larson

PASSED

2007-4

I, Henry Kwiatkowski moved that NEAAD send certified mail to each organization. The certified mail will be included By-Laws revised and annual fee on organization.

Seconded by Arthur Larson

Amendment #1

I, Dennis Palka amended that put By-Laws Revise on website and annual fees.

Seconded by Mike Carter

PASSED

2007-5

I, Jim Pederson moved that NEAAD to establish Youth Leadership Program.

Seconded by Bruce Beston

Amendment #1

I, Dennis Palka amended new position select Youth Leadership Coordinator.

Seconded by Tom Orscher

PASSED

NEAAD President appointed Colleen Francis as Youth leadership coordinator.

2007-6

I, James L. Pederson moved that NEAAD shall work on tax exempt, 501-3 as an incorporation of NEAAD.

Seconded by Dennis Palka

PASSED

2007-7

I, Arthur Larson moved that John Philip Invitation tournament to take place in a month of December annually.

Seconded by Henry Kwiatkowski

PASSED

2007-8

I, Allen Bradley moved that he wants to talk about independent team should pay higher fees or ???

Seconded by Tom Orscher

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEES

2007-9

I, Dennis Palka moved that Independent teams shall pay \$300.

Seconded by Allen Bradley

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEES

2007-10

I, Dennis Palka moved that we form 2 “Houses”, one for delegates and other for players.

Seconded by Arthur Larson

PASSED (5 to 3)

2007-11

I, Allen Bradley moved that he wants to talk about February 24th Invitational Tourney and Dates.

Seconded by Paul Dimiti

FAILED (secret ballot 3 –yes and 8 – no)

2007-12

I, Henry Kwaitkowski moved that any organization which has outstanding debt with NEAAD and shall not be able to participate in any compete sport until the debt being paying off.

Seconded by Arthur Larson

PASSED

2007-13

I, Bruce Beston moved that NEAAD purchase new varsity first aid kit up to \$200 to replace outdated first aid kit.

Seconded by Henry Kwiatkowski

PASSED

2007-14

I, Bruce Beston moved to move to swap Sports Information Director and Hall of Fame positions with Dennis Palka effective May 1st.

Seconded by Dennis Palka

PASSED

2007-15

We, NEAAD Board moved to have NEAAD Annual Meeting on 3rd Saturday of January.

Seconded by Brenda Rennie

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEES

2007-16

I, Bruce Beston moved to have NEAAD set up organization chart and have Secretary/Treasurer report President, Sport Information Director, Hall of Fame Chairperson, Youth Leadership Coordinator and Webmaster report to Vice President.

Seconded by Dennis Palka

REFER TO LAW COMMITTEES

2007-17

I, Bruce Beston moved that NEAAD set up a separate position as Webmaster and served as NEAAD officer.

Seconded by Lynn Williams

TABLED

2007-18

I, Bruce Beston moved to have NEAD softball tournament on Friday night starting at 6:30 pm and all day Saturday with rain date on Sunday effective May 1st.

Seconded by Lynn Williams

PASSED

No more new Business motion

ANNOUNCEMENT

Jim and Sue Pedersen have taken over to run yahoo group listed as CTDeafNews@yahoo.com and has 80 subscribers. I do have instructions with me showing people how to sign up for CTDeafNews Yahoo group subscription.

Arthur Larson who ever won the NEAAD tourney and go to USADB/NSAD and show them that NEAAD is still strong standing.

Seedings at NEAAD Regional Basketball tournament

NEAAD WOMEN's

Providence Hope #1

Bridgeport # 2

Vermont # 3

CAADA # 4

NEAAD MEN's:

Bridgeport # 1

Vermont # 2

Hartford # 3

Providence 4

Adjourned at 9:45 pm

law

