

HLAA Long Beach/Lakewood Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 24, 2018

Members Present: Gail Morrison, Joyce Bowlby, Craig Bowlby, Ilga Dravnieks, Van Von Burg, Ram Kakkar, Maxine Barton- Bauman, and Linda DeGuire.

Board Meeting started at 12:17 PM. Craig Bowlby set up 4 table microphones. No connection cord was available to link up to the loop. Used volume control of microphones. Craig re-explained how to use the microphones. Some batteries for the microphones were dead. It was difficult to find replacement batteries. Gail Morrison finally was able to call the meeting to order.

Minutes of March Board meeting: Minutes of the August 22 Board meeting were in the packet that Gail forgot for the Oct. 24 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Craig answered questions on September Treasurer's report. Vanguard entry was explained as a donation. Suggestions were made for the format of the report.

President's Report: Gail thanked those who ran the September chapter meeting while she was gone. It was a retreat to get to know one another, to discuss why we joined DRC, and to plan future goals. She suggested a mission statement to be announced at each meeting. Other Board members thought that National HLAA mission statement was adequate for our chapter. There was a request for a speaker on lip reading. Either Linda DeGuire or Katie Wright will do it. Nominations for national awards was requested by National HLAA. Someone to get nomination form from National.

Vice President's Report: Joyce Bowlby asked if there was interest in additional meetings of Board members to discuss our future goals for our chapter. We have major issues of funding, and leadership development to deal with. Discussion followed. Most members stated that our problem was declining membership. Ilga related that the younger generation use the internet and that we need to update our website to capture this audience. Van suggested that we may need help in marketing our chapter. It was stated that we can get help by attending the National Convention for more ideas. Gail related people just do not volunteer or come to meetings anymore. On a vote of 6-2, members felt additional meetings beyond the monthly Board meetings were unnecessary.

Corresponding Secretary: Van reported he sent out 5 postcards for visitors (4 from chapter meeting; 1 HAT).

Committees:

Publicity and Programs: Ram related that we need more publicity. Lively discussion on effective publicity for our meetings and HAT followed. A flyer in pdf form may be more effective for publicity. Younger generation uses the internet. Discussion followed regarding hiring someone to do the flyers as well as the website. Programs are set through February.

Walk4Hearing: Craig reported the amount received for Walk 4 Hearing (see Treasurer's report).

HAT: Ilga gave a report on HAT for Katie Wright.

Lip Reading Classes: Linda DeGuire reports lip reading Classes on Wednesday are going well. Monday classes are attended by a faithful 6 students.

Loop/ALDs:

Ram reported on need to report benefits of looping that will occur to city residents when advocating the loop to a city council or entity. Maxine reported that City of Long Beach now has a looping plan for the entire city. No progress report on looping the main room at Weingart Senior Center.

Ram brought up looping publicity. Newspapers (Press-Telegram) won't publish looping news. But we can publicize on our website and newsletter. Some online publications such as the Long Beach Post might publish it.

Membership/Funding:

It was reported that Boeing needs an employee to apply for grants. Chapter may not be able to apply for funding from the Port of Long Beach because we meet in Lakewood not Long Beach.

Outreach Committee: Katie Wright was absent. No report.

Refreshments: Adela has signed up members to bring refreshments for November.

Website:

Website has been discussed under Vice President's report and publicity. It was suggested that the chapter hire someone to update the website and possibly maintain it. Craig pointed out there would be a cost which needs to be inserted into the budget as an expense. It was discussed that it would cost more to set up the website than to maintain it.

Sound System: Craig related that Carl Curtis is interested in helping him with the sound system at the meetings. Board approved getting a key to the file cabinets with equipment for Carl.

Nominations: Ram asked that we announce at the Chapter meeting and ask members to make nominations.

Calendar: Next two Board meetings are scheduled earlier due to the holidays: November 14 and December 19.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:50 PM.
Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Bowlby
Vice President substituting for Katie Wright, Recording Secretary