

**Eastern Athletic Association of the Deaf
Delegates Meeting
Friday, March 9, 2012
Jochem Center at the New Jersey School for the Deaf
West Trenton, New Jersey**

President Stewart Gerlis called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM

Roll Call:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| John Perry | Northern Virginia Diplomats |
| James Vail | NJ Sport Club |
| Carl Colon | NJ Warriors |
| Roxanna Aguilo | Fanwood Alumni Association Officer |
| Wendell Forbes, Jr. | Fanwood Alumni Association |
| John Thomas | Brooklyn |
| Robert Jones | Greater Philadelphia |
| Christina Costello | EAAD Vice President |
| Stewart Gerlis | EAAD President |
| Paul Mitchell | EAAD Tournament Director |
| Heidi Schumacher | Delegate At Large |
| Tom Sparks | Delegate At Large |
| Charles Wallace | Delegate At Large |
| Tim Lavelle | Parliamentarian |

Late Arrivals:

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Carl Sorrento | Rochester City Blazers |
| Joshua Strack | Rochester Midnight Crushers |
| Chad Duhon | Northern Virginia Women |

We had a moment of silence for Mr. Al Lepre who passed away December 2011.

The officers received a letter from the delegates who expressed concern about Mr. Zeke. They want Mr. Zeke to leave the meeting immediately. Since there are 2/3 signatures on the letter (7 out of 10) The request was granted and Mr. Zeke left the building.

Minutes from March 3, 2011 meeting was approved as corrected.

Corrections were:

- Add Tim Lavelle's name on roll call as Parliamentarian
- New Business Report #4 states that we do not wish to unaffiliate from NDBO but we have not unaffiliated from NDBO yet. (this is an incorrect information)

- New Business Report #4 states that Carl Colon made the motion whereas it was John Thomas.

Treasurer Report:

As per Christina, we have \$8,407.77 as of February 29, 2012

President Report: (Stewart Gerlis)

1. Welcome to our 67th Annual Men and 21st Annual Women EAAD Basketball Tournament. Allow me to applaud Chairmen Carl Colon and Chuck Wallace for their hard work to make this event a success.
2. Unfortunately, Michael Shiffer, EAAD Secretary/Treasurer broke his hip while playing basketball and is unable to put together the financial report for us tonight. After he recovers, he will send you all the financial report. We have the bank statement here if you wish to look over it.
3. Kim Arrigo has agreed to help out tonight as temporary secretary.
4. I am proud to share that I kept my promise to you and accomplished two goals. EAAD now has its own liability insurance which cost EAAD \$589.95 for six months (Nov.19, 2011 – March 12, 2012) for a coverage of two million dollars and a website (www.eaad.us). The website is not completed but when it is done, you will see many photos, archives, hall of fame, basketball brackets, all star players, most valuable players, etc. The website designer is Daniela Farkas. EAAD will pay her for her services. **This will be discussed in the new business.**
5. I had to cancel EAAD basketball invitational tournament at Fanwood on Saturday, February 4, 2012 due to insufficient teams. It hurt EAAD financially. Without your support and participation, EAAD cannot provide you with better prizes, etc. Keep in mind that EAAD has expenses such as liability insurance, website and national basketball dues, officers, etc. and we need your help.
6. I learned that the National Deaf Basketball Organization (NDBO) violated its constitution and by-laws by affiliating other region while EAAD is still affiliated with NDBO. Christina, EAAD Vice President made several attempts to reach them via email but got no response. I do not think we should continue to affiliate with NDBO because they betrayed us. I will leave this to the delegates to decide. **This will be discussed in the new business.**
7. There is a new organization called the Eastern Basketball Association or Athletic for the Deaf (EBAD) I just want you all to be aware that EAAD has everything to offer you and your teams that the other organization cannot. EAAD has Section 501 (c)(3) under the Internal Revenue code. EAAD has liability insurance to protect you all. EAAD has tax-exempt status under two states, new website, rich history since 1946 including archives and hall of fame. What can EBAD offer you?
8. My next vision is to make EAAD financially stable. I expect it will take about four years. I plan to write letters to foundations or sponsors for

donations. It won't be easy due to the economy but I will try for a miracle.

9. In conclusion, we need your support. Please participate in the invitational tournaments. It will help EAAD raise funds so we can provide you with better prizes, less dues, etc.

Vice President Report: (Christina Costello)

1. I want to thank Chuck Wallace for all his help with last minute copying, etc.
2. I am not happy with all the rumors that are going around. Thanks to those that contacted the region officers for clarifications. Please do not let any misinformation or rumors influence you. My role as Vice President is to follow the bylaws and constitution. As much as I want to bend some rules for you, I don't want to be bitten. I am saddened that people can be negative about EAAD while we are working hard to try to rebuild EAAD since our funds were embezzled several years ago. Please bring your concerns, suggestions, ideas, etc. to the meetings.
3. I am also very disappointed that we had to cancel the invitational tournament. We would have given you more financial help if we had the funds. Please send in your registrations early. Help support us so we can help support you.
4. In October I attended the USADB roundtable retreat, representing EAAD in CSD-Fremont. I have the minutes if you are interested in looking at them.
 - a. At the retreat we spent eight hours out of three days debating about the \$20 player fee and we finally agreed to try the \$100 flat team fee on a trial basis. The softball team did that and it worked for them. We believe it saves the teams more money this way. If it is not successful for us then we will do something different.
 - b. For the first time, USADB had to cancel the East/West High School All Star game due to insufficient funds. As an adult organization, we need to take care of our youths of the future. Sponsorships were not that great this year. We used to be able to count on them for funding, not anymore.
 - c. Restructure – there were 20 motions from regions to improve USADB. Please look them over and let me know if you want to add anything.
5. It does not matter which organization you choose, just follow and respect their guidelines. You can leave EAAD and join other organization however, please keep in mind that you cannot take your history, stats, etc. with you. USADB have been very supportive of regions but NDBO is not consistent with keeping in touch and answering our questions and they have known to violate their bylaws and constitution.
6. Thank you for your patience and effort in communicating with me while I have been really busy with my internship in California. I will graduate with a Masters in May and hopefully get a job in the east coast.

7. Please feel free to see me or contact me if you need anything. Thanks to Chad Duhon for bringing the checkbook. The winning teams will get their prizes immediately after the games tomorrow evening.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: (Michael Shiffer)

Not present; no report

Law Committee Report: (Christina Costello)

By-laws motions:

#1 – EAAD Board moves to add under **Article VII – Finances: Section 9:** EAAD will host first and last invitational tournament each year for the purpose of fundraising for EAAD. Chuck Wallace seconded. PASSED

(THE CHECK WILL BE MOVED TO SECTION 10)

#2 – John Perry (NOVA) moves that we change in **Article 2 – Delegates, under 2D**, instead of reading: Tardy delegates who arrive at session more than thirty (30) minutes shall not be privileged to take the floor for discussion of matters during the business session and shall be permitted to vote... change to read: Tardy delegates who arrive at session more than thirty (30) minutes shall be fined five dollars (\$5) and more than one hour shall be fined ten dollars (\$10) They will be allowed to replace the alternate delegate to take the floor for discussion of matters during the business session and shall be permitted to vote. Robert Jones seconded. PASSED

#3 – John Thomas moves to add December 1st as the due date for membership instead of before the deadline of the team registration under **Part II of the Article 1 – Membership, Section 2A**. Wendell Forbes, Jr. seconded. PASSED

#4 – John Thomas moves to change the date of the renewal membership due dates from after February 1st to after December 1st of the preceding year under the **Section 4 of the Franchise Rejoins the Association**. John Perry seconded. PASSED

Tournament Director: (Paul Mitchell)

1. I am excited to serve as the Tournament Director. I look forward to improving EAAD. I am disappointed that we have only five teams. EAAD need your help to get more teams and there will be more competition.
2. Bracket for this tournament were done with the five coaches and myself. We all agreed on the seeding and we all signed the bracket. Later someone objected to the seeding but luckily we had our signatures on the seeding poster and it cannot be changed.
3. I regret that we were unable to allow the two teams that wanted to play in this tournament but because they did not send in their registration in a timely manner, we need to follow the guidelines. Please do not wait until the last minute to register. We would love to have more teams.

4. If you have any questions about EAAD, please communicate with your region officers.
5. I hope we will have better tournaments in the future!

Unfinished Business: (Christina Costello)

1. Financial Committee: Flat fee for EAAD is fine but we need a group of people to discuss ways and make suggestions. Anyone interested in serving on the financial committee, let me know or the officers will choose individuals to serve. Not until the summer.
2. John Thomas' motion to unaffiliate from NDBO will be discussed in new business.
3. Buffalo 2007 EDY team did not show up for New England Tournament and EAAD paid Bridgeport, CT \$150 to cover for EDY. Thipgen of EDY paid EAAD \$75.00 and he cannot partake in EAAD tournaments until he pays EAAD the remaining \$75.00.

New Business Report: (Christina Costello)

1 – John Perry moves that EAAD removes the current point system and change to using previous year EAAD tournament results and new teams will be drawn out to fill the remaining spots. John Thomas seconded. PASSED

2 - John Perry moves to change the tournament prize to: If more than 10 teams, the first 4 teams will get prizes, if there are 7-9 teams, the first 3 teams will get prizes, if there are 5 – 6 teams, the prizes will go to the first 2 teams. If there are 4 and less teams, the winner takes all. 1-4 – 1st 50%, 2nd 30%, 3rd 15%, 4th 5%; 1-3 - 1st 50%, 2nd 30%, 3rd 20%; 1-2 - 1st 65%, 2nd 35%. Heidi Schumacher seconded. PASSED

3 - John Perry moves that the fees for tournament bid under **Article 1-EAAD Basketball Tournament: 2E** be changed from \$200 holding fee to \$100 holding fee. Chuck Wallace seconded. PASSED

4 - John Perry moves that the fees for tournament bid under **Article 1- EAAD Basketball Tournament: 2E** be changed from \$100 performance bond to \$200 performance bond. Heidi Schumacher seconded. PASSED

5 - John Perry moves that the fees for liability insurance coverage for tournament bid under **Article 1 – EAAD Basketball Tournament: 2E** be waived since we are affiliated with USADB and we are covered under them. Seconded by Carl Colon. Chuck Wallace amended: effective immediately. Seconded by Paul Mitchell. PASSED

6 - John Perry moves that the fees for tournament bid under **Article 1 – EAAD Basketball Tournament: 2E**, the \$100 holding fee deposit is nonrefundable if the host is rejected or not acted upon. Heidi Schumacher seconded. PASSED

7 - Carl Colon moves that EAAD shall pay for referees, transportations, hotels and trophies. John Thomas seconded. FAILED

8 - Carl Colon makes motion for EAAD to bring to USADB about changing the team affiliations fee from \$100 to \$50. Seconded by John Perry. John Perry amended that the fee be \$0. Seconded by Robert Jones. Both motions were PASSED

9 - NOVA moves to remove the wording "Softball" from EAAD's bylaws. Seconded by Carl Colon. FAILED

10 - EAAD Board makes a motion to bring up to NDBO to remove "No person shall be a member of the Board of Directors who is not an officer of any Regions." Request change to "Regional officers shall allow delegate to vote a neutral person to the NDBO Board of Directors". Seconded by Robert Jones. PASSED

11 - Paul Mitchell moves that EAAD invite ESDAA boys and girls high school all star players to play an exhibition game during EAAD regional championship tournament. Seconded by Robert Jones. Stewart moves to refer this to the Law Committee. PASSED

12 - Chuck Wallace moves that teams who submit registration forms after Feb 1st shall be fined \$50.00 and allowed to register for EAAD tournament. Registrations will not be accepted after Feb 15th. Seconded by Tom Sparks. PASSED

13 - Carl Colon moves that EAAD honor basketball players on their EAAD 1,000 points career. Seconded by Paul Mitchell. PASSED

14 - Wendell Forbes, Jr. moves that invitational tournaments have NO REFUND policy on the flyer and that teams MUST pay in advance (at doors are not accepted) Seconded by John Thomas. PASSED

15 -Robert Jones moves that EAAD establish an Eastern Basketball Agency Development Counsel. Seconded by John Perry. PASSED

16 - Carl Colon moves that EAAD refund money to the host team for failing to post host's flyers on website in a timely manner. Seconded by Tom Sparks. PASSED

Bidding Tournament: (Stewart Gerlis)

2013 - Greater Philadelphia - Paid

2014 - Joshua Strack of Rochester OR Fanwood Alumni Association
Whoever pays \$300 first will get the bid

Election Ballot: (Stewart Gerlis)

Vote for Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and Public Relations

New Election:

Vice President – Christina Costello – Acclamation

Secretary/Treasurer – Michael Shiffer - Acclamation

Public Relations – The president will appoint a PR person

Announcement: (Stewart Gerlis)

Two players sued Buffalo club for monies they helped raise and won. The Buffalo club is asking EAAD to suspend the two players but according to court documents, we are not allowed to do that.

Robert Jones moved to close the meeting. Wendell Forbes, Jr. seconded. Meeting concluded at 10:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by

Kim Arrigo

EAAD Temp Secretary

3-9-12