

LOUISIANA BOARD FOR HEARING AID DEALERS

Minutes of Meeting

January 21, 2010 Baton Rouge Louisiana

The 69th official meeting of the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers was called to order on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at the Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge Louisiana by Gerald Cockerham, Chairman. Newly appointed board members, Dina Zeevi and John Casanova were welcomed.

The roll was called. Those present were: Gerald Cockerham, Jane O'Donnell, Louis Leger, Jr., Dianne Sasser, Scott Sayer, John Casanova, Dina Zeevi, Lorraine Farr, representative for the state health officer, Valery Garon, elderly consumer and Eugene Radcliff, Board attorney. Resa Brady, the Board's administrative secretary was present to take the minutes of the meeting.

At this time, Jane O'Donnell made a motion to amend the agenda to add items under New Business: Responsibility of the Temporary License Holder and Changes to Troubleshooting Exam. All in favor to adopt amended agenda.

MINUTES

Minutes of the January 22, 2009 regular meeting were presented to the Board in form of an advanced mailing. Mr. Cockerham called for additions or corrections. There being none, a motion was made by Jane O'Donnell to accept the minutes, seconded by Scott Sayer. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Copies of correspondence report were distributed for review. Board members were asked to review the correspondence report and address any questions they have. There were no questions.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Resa Brady

A. Copies of the Treasurer's Report dated year end, June 30, 2009 and December 31, 2009 were distributed for review. Summary of the report as follows: Beginning checkbook balance as of July 1, 2009 was \$33,508.10; deposits were \$ 18,096.22, expenses were \$ 10,283.94, with the ending checkbook balance of \$ 41,120.38 as of December 31, 2009.

B. Budget Review – 2009-2010 - Proposed Budget 2010-2011 - was presented. No amendments were made to the 2009-2010 budget. Jane O'Donnell made a motion to amend the 2010-2011 proposed budget to include \$100.00 for Operating Supplies/Certificates, seconded by Scott Sayer. All in favor. Motion carried.

Scott Sayer proposed a raise in Mrs. Brady's salary; however, Jane O'Donnell noted no provision

made in the amended budget that had already been accepted. She state if put in the budget for next year, it could be considered.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Dianne Sasser

Mrs. Sasser reported licensed Hearing Aid Dealers as of June 30, 2009 totaled (117), license not renewed as of December 31, 2009 (14), license renewed as of December 31, 2009 (103). There were nine (9) Temporary Permit Holders, five (5) Temporary applicants that will sit for the examination January 22, 2010, one (1) Temporary applicant retaking exam for a total of six (6) taking the examination.

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT - Resa Brady

Due to an application received from Mr. Larry Collum requested to use work experience in lieu of education requirements, Mrs. Brady requested 1) clarification for the number of hours that will be accepted as the two year higher education requirement, 2) allowing continuing education hours to earn during grace period and 3) renewal of the State Register for \$ 90.00 per year.

After in depth discussion, in regards to (1), Johnny Casanova made a motion to set sixty (60) minimum earned credit hours or Associates Degree for education requirements. Jane O'Donnell seconded motion – all in favor – motion carried.

(2) Scott Sayer made motion to allow CEU hours to be earned during the January 1 – 31 grace period but not to be done consecutively – can do every other year. Dianne Sasser seconded motion – all in favor – motion carried.

(3) Scott Sayer made motion not to renew annual subscription to the State Register, Louis Leger seconded – all in favor – motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audiometer Calibration - Resa Brady

Routine reminders and calibration correspondence processed.

Ethics Committee – Scott Sayer - Chairman

Complaint filed by Mr. Nick Mayeux against Mr. Larry Ash, of Sound Solutions in Alexandria Louisiana. Mr. Sayer reported that “Due to the signed agreement between Mr. Mayeux and Sound Solutions, we see no violation and cannot ask for a refund of his money. Mr. Mayeux signed the agreement and the wording of his limited return policy”.

Mr. Sayer did have concerns regarding the issue of the Temporary Training Permit Holder, Carolyn Linzay. It had appeared she was assisting customers without her supervisor, Larry Ash being present in the office. Mr. Sayer reported “During the last 3 to 4 months Mr. Mayeux has not seen Mr. Ash when he would go to the office, only seeing Ms. Lindsey. (Approximately 4

visits). A total of 20-25 visits to Sound Solutions office since he purchased the hearing instruments from Mr. Ash”.

Attorney Radcliff stated the Board needed to review the dates Ms. Linzay completed her direct supervision hours to determine if she was operating outside the Licensing Act.

In regards to Mrs. O’Donnell’s question of the responsibility of the Temporary Permit Holder, the attorney stated the way the law was written leaves this open to interpretation.

There was discussion regarding the collecting of the supervised hour documents. It was decided to have the permit holder to submit the hours completed monthly along with a statement of completion signed by permit holder and sponsor. At the end of the period, when all hours have been completed, the permit holder would submit a notarized statement with day of completion documented.

Examination Committee – Jane O’Donnell

Mrs. O’Donnell reported six (6) applicants will sit for the examination on January 22, 2010. She brought to the Board’s attention that the troubleshooting practical exam has proven unreliable in exhibiting the desired fault. Also, most of the models are obsolete and no longer used in hearing aid dispensing. Mrs. O’Donnell and Kim Roshto, former Board member from District I, collaborated on a revision to be submitted to the Board for approval. After explanation and review of the changes, Scott Sayer made a motion to accept Jane O’Donnell’s and Kim Roshto’s practicum for troubleshooting. Dianne Sasser seconded – all in favor – motion carried.

Dianne Sasser asked if a time limit could be put on the Earmold examination. Mrs. O’Donnell stated the purpose of a progressive exam is to stop the candidate when they can no longer successfully complete a section. It was noted this process was not being followed as originally intended.

Mrs. O’Donnell introduced the idea of making ear molds on people instead of plastic ears. There was brief discussion; however, it was tabled for the Board members to think about.

Legislative Committee - Scott Sayer, Chairman

Nothing to report.

Office Inspection Committee - Louis Leger - Chairman

None reported.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Renewal of Administrative Secretary contract – expires June 30, 2010. Vote to renew at present salary of \$ 900.00 per month was unanimous.

- License Renewal – Bernice Bourg. Mrs. Bourg submitted a request to be allowed to use the fifteen (15) online hours she earned to renew her license. She state she had the flu and could not attend the January 2009 meeting. She also said she was not aware you could only earn three (3) online hours.

Discuss was held, resulting in a motion by Scott Sayer to allow Mrs. Bourg to earn the twelve (12) hours needed to renew her license for 2010 by January 31, 2010; she could use three (3) of the Internet hours she earned. Motion was seconded by Louis Leger – all in favor – motion carried. Dina Zeevi was to contact Mrs. Bourg immediately to allow her to attend the Louisiana Society of Hearing Aid Specialists seminar January 22, 23 & 24, 2010.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Jane O'Donnell was nominated for Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer, Dianne Sasser. Nominations accepted by acclamation.

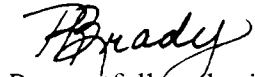
The meeting was turned over to the new Chairman. Mrs. O'Donnell thanked Mr. Gerald Cockerham for his years of service as Chairman of the Board.

At this time, Mrs. O'Donnell appointed Johnny Casanova as Legislative Committee Chairman and Dina Zeevi as Office Inspection Chairman.

DATE AND LOCATION OF JULY, 2010 MEETING

No meeting scheduled.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,

Resa Brady
Administrative Secretary