

LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, November 17, 2008 by teleconference

Present (in person or by phone): Howard, Bogie, Cobey, DiPasquale, Greco, Handley-Derry, Hasold-Schilter, Pawlett
Regrets: Kennedy, Michaelidis, Todd, Waxman, Zinszer

Staff: Wygant, Quinn, Wagner

Agenda Item	Heading	Discussion	Action Item/ Task	Key Contact/ Lead	Completion target date
1	Call to Order	Meeting called to Order at 5:40 PM. Pam Howard in the Chair. At this time, quorum was not reached therefore the meeting proceeded on agenda items that did not require a vote. Quorum was reached at 5:55 PM and these minutes will be laid out in the original Agenda order circulated prior to the Board meeting.			
2	Approval of Consent Agenda	Ms. Howard called for the motion			
	2.1 Agenda (and/or additions)	Ms. Howard called for the motion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request from Finance Committee to add a member from the Fund Development Committee to their group 	MMS: Lyons/Handley-Derry Approved as amended		
	2.2 Board Minutes	Minutes of the Board Meeting June 23, 2008	MMS: Lyons/Handley-Derry Approved		
	2.3 Board Minutes	Minutes of the Board Meeting October 17, 2008 at 5:45 PM	MMS: Lyons/Handley-Derry Approved		

	2.4 Board Minutes	Minutes of the Board Meeting October 17, 2008 at 7:30 PM	MMS: Lyons/Handley-Derry Approved.		
	2.5 Committee Minutes	Minutes of the Adult Advocacy Committee, September 13, 2008	MMS: Lyons/Handley-Derry Approved.		
	2.6 Committee Minutes	Minutes of the Chapter Support and Development Committee Meeting June 23, 2008	MMS: Lyons/Handley-Derry Approved.		
	2.7 Committee Minutes	Minutes of Legislation and Public Policy Committee Meeting June 23, 2008 and Notes from the Meeting on September 24, 2008	MMS: Lyons/Handley-Derry		
	2.8 Committee Minutes	Minutes of the Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting September 18, 2008	MMS: Lyons/Handley-Derry		
3	Financial Update a) Financial Statement to September 30, 2008	Ms. Cobey, the new LDAO Treasurer, presented the financial statement. At six months into our current fiscal year LDAO is significantly under budget in our fund development activities. Traditionally, most of our fund development revenues are raised in the second half of the year so it is expected we will reach our target. At present, we are drawing down our reserves so it is very important that our fundraising be kicked up a notch. There were no questions from the floor and Ms. Cobey was thanked for presenting her first statement.			

	b) Signing Authorities Approval for all LDAO Bank Accounts	<p>With the retirement of Peter Chaban and Steve Lee from the Board, LDAO needs to add new signing authorities to the LDAO Bank Accounts.</p> <p>Karen Quinn is to prepare a letter to the Bank, with this LDAO Board motion. The letter is to request that Peter Chaban and Steve Lee be removed from the bank records as they are no longer LDAO Board members. Ms. Quinn will arrange for all signing documents to be executed in a prompt manner</p>	<p>MMS: Bogie/Pawlett That Cathy Cobey is added as a signatory on all LDAO Banking Documents. Maggie Wygant, Karen Quinn and Kate Lloyd will continue as signatory and any two of these individuals may sign cheques together. Carried.</p>	Karen Quinn	Immediately
4	<p>Committee Reports/ Updates/ Discussion</p> <p>a) Adult Advocacy Committee</p>	<p>In the absence of the Chair, Mr. Todd, Ms Wygant noted the report from the last meeting was circulated prior to the meeting. The Committee meeting scheduled for Nov 8/08 had to be cancelled due to scheduling conflicts for 3 committee members</p>			
	b) Chapter Support and Development Committee	<p>Minutes from the previous meeting were circulated prior to the meeting. There being no questions, Ms Howard provided an overview of the discussions of this Committee at its teleconference meeting held earlier in the day. A summary follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback fro the evaluation forms re the AGM were compiled and submitted to the Committee. • A summary of the discussions from the Round Table session at the AGM was also presented to the Committee 	<p>There will be a teleconference call on December 10/08 for all chapters at which time both these feedback forms will be shared with the chapters and we will try to move forward on common ground about sustainability issues.</p>	Quinn/Wygant/ The Committee members and all chapters	December 10/08

		From the feedback, it is clear that the sustainability of both LDAO and the chapters are the single largest concern for chapters.			
c) Legislation and Public Policy Committee	<p>Mr. Greco, the Committee Chair, provided a brief overview of the teleconference meeting held earlier in the day. There were two policies received by the Committee for discussion and as a result, they have recommended that both policies be referred to the LDAO Board for ratification as they request. Because they were received on this day, Diane Wagner emailed all Board members copies so they would have a hard copy to look at with respect to the recommendations to be made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDAC Policy Statement on Educational Inclusion for Students with Learning Disabilities - The Committee is recommending that LDAO adopt this policy as it follows ours very closely. LDAO staff will reference the policy to chapters, noting that the three policies in our Public Policy Manual should still be used as support documents. • LDAC ADHD Resolution – The staff and Committee have some issues with this Resolution therefore the Committee is recommending that the Board accept the statement as LDAC’s position. LDAO staff will prepare a preamble to the statement which reflects on our definition. <p>Mr. Greco also addressed an additional issue that arose at the meeting as a result of the Round Table discussion</p>	<p>MMS: Greco/DiPasquale That the LDAO Board ADOPT LDAC Policy Statement on Educational Inclusion for Students with Learning Disabilities. LDAO will ACCEPT the Resolution re ADHD as the LDAC position on this issue. Carried</p> <p>Both LDAC policy positions are to be uploaded to the LDAO website</p>	Diane/Kate	As soon as possible	Ongoing
			Chapters would like LDAO to address some of these concerns with the relevant	Wagner/Wygant and Committee	

		<p>summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters are concerned that there has not been a great deal of legislative change in Ontario over the past 20 years as it relates to benefits for LD individuals. It is perceived that there is no coordination of services between Ontario Ministries that have dealings with LD individuals. 	Ontario Ministries. This also ties into potential sustainability	members	
	d) Fund Development Committee	<p>The report of activities to September 30/08 was circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Greco reminded Board members that the LDAO Corporate Breakfast will be held at the Royal York Hotel on February 25/09. There will be a “by invitation only” cocktail on the evening preceding the event. It is important that all Board members support this fundraising activity as it is a significant part of the budget revenue for this fiscal. LDAO has received the resignation of Jay Mandarino from the Board but he will continue as the Co-Chair of this event.</p> <p>There was a question from the floor for an update on the Skateboard proposal forwarded by Mr. Mandarino. The LDAO Board concerns were relayed to Mr. Mandarino and LDAO staff suggested that this project would be a better fit for an organization that offers direct services. We put him in touch with Integra. The connection was made but at this time Integra was declined as it does not fit with their current strategic goals.</p>			

	e) Nominating Committee	The Committee continues to look for potential board members to fill current vacancies and to replace those directors whose terms of office will expire at the end of October 2009. As an outcome of the discussion above during the Legislation and Public Policy report, the Board engaged in an active discussion about evidence- based strategies for learning and intervention programs. There is no real consensus within the various professional bodies as to what constitutes “evidence-based strategies” or “what works” as what works for some won’t necessarily work for others. The Committee will consider whether or not this issue needs to be dealt with in more detail in this fiscal year.			
5	Business Arising	There was no Business Arising from Previous Board meetings			
6	New Business Item/Additions to the Agenda a) Membership on the Finance Committee	Mr. Pawlett asked that there be an individual from the Fund Development Committee sit on the Finance Committee in order to coordinate some activities.	Maggie Wygant and Denise Harding will be the two Office liaison people on this Committee. Also, the Financial Consultant is a part of the Finance Committee.		
	b) Personnel Matters	Ms Howard advised the Board that they need to look at the Executive Director's position for the future needs of LDAO. She asked for volunteers to sit on an ad hoc committee that will look at this matter.	Hellen Bogie and Carol Lyons expressed an interest.		

	c) Teachers' Package	There was an inquiry from the floor regarding the Teachers' Package that was mentioned in the Chapter Support and Development Committee report. Ms. Wygant clarified that this project was not part of the WBTT project and gave a brief overview of the pilot project with Chapters in the GTA and how well it had been received by teachers in the classroom. We are currently looking for more money to roll the project out right across the province.			
	d) WBTT project	There was an inquiry from the floor to clarify if LDAO was able to sell the WBTT product to private schools in Ontario. People offered several umbrella organizations that could be approached if we did have approval to sell the product. We currently do not have permission and in looking at the idea closer, staff members have concerns that it would not be cost effective unless all private schools participated as the product is designed more for mass usage.	Maggie Wygant, Kate Lloyd and Carol Lyons continue to explore legal options for negotiating the ability to sell the WBTT product.		
7	Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM	MMS: Greco/Handley-Derry Carried		