



APPROVED MINUTES

Monday, January 14, 2013
1:02 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Guide Dogs of the Desert
60740 Dillon Road
Whitewater, CA 92282
(760) 329-6257

Board Members Present

Eric Holm, President
Tom Scott, Vice-President
Joe Xavier, Secretary
Belinda Barragan
Larry Grable
Jeff Neidich

Guests

*Terry Barrett, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc.
(GDB)*
Mary Dean, Guide Dogs of the Desert (GDD)
Molly Gardner, (GDD)
Chuck Jordan, Guide Dogs of America (GDA)
Sherill Neidich
Debbie Sands
Linda Sumalski, (GDD)
Bob Wendler, (GDD)

Executive Officer

Antonette Sorrick

Board Staff

Rosemary Robinson

Legal Counsel

Michael Santiago
Rebecca Bon

AGENDA

Open Session:

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call (E. Holm/J. Xavier)
Board President Eric Holm called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.
Board Secretary Xavier took roll. Six Board Members were recorded as present and a quorum was established.
2. President's Welcome (E. Holm)
Board President Eric welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes September 17, 2012 (E. Holm)
Board President Eric asked for a motion to approve the September 17, 2012 meeting minutes unless amendments were needed.

Board Vice President T. Scott motioned to accept the meeting minutes of September 17, 2012 as written. Board Member Grable seconded the motion.

Board Vote: Motion Passed

4. Guide Dogs for the Blind presentation – Oregon Pilot Project – Two Week In-Residence Training Update (T. Barrett)
Terry Barrett, Director of Training Operations (GDB) reported on the Oregon Pilot Project, a two week training program for first-time guide dog users. Barrett reported Campus instructors are at student ratios of 2-1, compared to previous ratio of 4-1. 95% graduate rate and 92% success rate after 12 months.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Legislative Committee Update (Tom Scott)

Legislative Chair T. Scott reported on a Bill proposal that would amend 7206 and 7210 of the Business and Professions Code. Executive Officer (Sorrick) asked the Board to authorize the Legislative Committee to take action on the bill if necessary, between board meetings.

Board President Holm moved to authorize the Legislative Committee to take action on behalf of the Board. Member Neidich seconded the motion.

Board Vote: Motion Passed

- b. Outreach and Education Committee Update (Joe Xavier)

- Social Media Update

Outreach and Education Committee Chair J. Xavier opened the update with reference to the social media update which included stats on web hits, Twitter followers and Facebook likes.

- Stakeholder Meetings

Executive Officer Sorrick reported that the Board made contact with stakeholders regarding the Board's Sunset process. The Board contacted California Council of the Blind, National Federation of the Blind, California Association of Guide Dog Users, Guide Dogs of

California, Guide Dogs of the Desert, and Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. None of the organizations or schools expressed concerns or questions regarding the sunset review process.

2012 Outreach Campaign

Executive Officer Sorrick reported the next step in the Etiquette campaign with the California Restaurant Association (CRA) would be to provide ambassador speakers for the CRA's local chapter meetings.

- c. Practice Task Force Update (Executive Officer Sorrick provided the Practice Task Force Update on behalf of Practice Task Force Chair K. Kelly)

- Consumer Survey – Update

- 2276 (Instruction Period)

- 2282 (Preliminary Training of Dogs)

- 2282.1 (Required Training)

The Board discussed if there was a necessity to conduct a consumer survey and what components would be essential for the content. National Federation of the Blind, California and Guide Dog users of California submitted written comments on the issue. B. Wendler (GDD) pointed out that all schools had different standards and conditions; it would need to be an all-encompassing survey. GDD, GDA, and GDD have agreed to provide the Board with their current consumer survey results. Board Member Neidich moved to request the guide dog schools submit their consumer surveys to the Board for review. Once compiled, the Board would determine the necessity for conducting a separate survey. Member Barragan seconded the motion.

Board Vote: Motion passed

Military Experience Equivalency

Brian Clifford, from the Department of Consumer Affairs' Division of Legislative and Policy Review, presented background on the military experience issue. In 2011, Governor Jerry Brown signed an Executive Order which addressed the employment of military personnel upon return home from active duty. This Order called upon the state legislature to pass a number of bills which addressed easing employment hurdles for former military personnel. The Task Force discussed whether experience in the military with service dogs would be able to translate into the three year experience requirement for licensure as a guide dog instructor. All Task Force Members stated their support for service men and women, but

at the end of the discussion had concluded that the type of aggressive training taught in the military did not translate to instructing guide dogs or persons who are blind in the use of guide dogs. Wendler stated that at Guide Dogs of the Desert, military experience is looked upon favorably for employment purposes. An informal discussion concluded in the three schools committing to the spirit of employing military personnel.

6. Executive Officer's Report (A. Sorrick)

Budget Report

Sorrick provided the Board with a report on the current fund condition of the Board. The current fund condition had a projected 6.7 months in reserve.

Examination Update

Sorrick reported the Board's upcoming exam was scheduled for June 10-11, 2013. Sorrick also announced newly licensed guide dog instructor Michal Anna Padilla from Guide Dogs of the Desert.

Strategic Plan Update

Sorrick referenced the strategic update document provided in the meeting materials and asked if there were any questions or concerns. No comments were given.

Sunset Review Update

Sorrick reported the Board submitted its Sunset Review Report and would testify before the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee on either March 11 or March 18, 2013.

7. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Proposed Language for Amending the Following Sections of Article 2, Division 22, Title 16 CCR:
(R. Bon)

Section 2268.2 (Donations; Records)

Section 2271 (Living Quarters; Attendants)

Sorrick asked for a motion to adopt the proposed language as written. Board Member Grable motioned to approve proposed Language. Board Vice President Scott seconded the motion.

Board Vote: Motion passed.

8. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Sunset Review

Consumer Survey

9. Meeting Calendar and Location

Executive Officer Sorrick reported the following upcoming meetings:

Board Meeting

June, 2013

Guide Dogs for the Blind

350 Los Ranchitos Road

San Rafael, CA 94903

Board Meeting

September, 2013

Guide Dogs of America

13445 Glenoaks Boulevard

Sylmar, CA 91342

10. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

There were no public comments

11. Adjournment

Board Secretary Joe Xavier moved to adjourn at 2:15 p.m. Board Neidich seconded the motion.