



VAD Board Meeting
May 17, 2025
Staunton Public Library
1 Churchville Ave
Staunton, VA 24401-3229

May 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Donna Graff-Viall at 10:03 a.m.
Present: President Donna Graff-Viall, Vice President Jeanne Lavelle, Secretary Cindy Burton, Treasurer Tom Dowling, and NVAD Representative Paul Daniels

Quorum was met.

Attendees: Daffy Cox, non-member Steve Deaver, Race Drake, and Mia Heisley.

The adoption of February 1, 2025, board meeting minutes were approved as read.

Officers' Report:

- The board approved Ben Belisle and Mia Heisley as Members at Large effective immediately on May 17, 2025.

President – Donna Graff-Viall

Mentioned about the incident with Roanoke Police that promoted VAD to write a letter to the Chief of Police pursuing communication to set up some kind of

training. NAD was behind it, too. VDDHH was notified and behind it, too. President Donna is to reach out to Police and News Press.

Vice President – Jeanne Lavelle

Bylaws Committee: Date and venue of the conference to be determined before 60 days can be established to send members Bylaws amendment proposal forms. Members of Bylaws committee are Jeanne Lavelle as the Chair followed by 3 members, Cindy Burton, Joan Corley and Melanie Williams. After the submission of proposals during the first 30 of 60 days, the committee will review and make necessary corrections and send them to members in good standing for their review 30 days prior to the conference date.

Secretary- Cindy Burton

- Goal is to continue with Town Halls for this calendar year in the towns of Roanoke, Richmond/Fredericksburg or Northern Virginia (we haven't had a Town Hall in NVA area)

Treasurer- Tom Dowling (Full financial report upon request)

- Balance of General Fund (checking account) as of April 30, 2025: \$39,283.61
- Balance of Savings Account, Leadership Training Program (LTP) as of April 30, 2025: \$8,898.93
Total banking balance: \$48,182.54
- Balance of investments as of April 30, 2025:
 - Primerica: \$88,432.49
 - JP Morgan Wealth: \$102,884.54Total investments: \$191,317.03
- Deaf Mentoring for VDDHH: \$25,975.69

Due to dwindling membership and lack of leadership, Skyline Chapter voted to fold its organization after more than 60 years of existence and handed over its remaining assets of \$1,116.34 to VAD.

Chapter Reports:

NVAD: Paul Daniels

- Mentioned about NVAD's upcoming Family Fun picnic at Frying Pan Park.

Other Committee Reports:

Awards Committee: Daphne Cox

- Reported some changes in the Awards categories and will do final briefing when members meet at the conference.

Other Reports:

Education Advocate: current VAD EA is Mia Heisley - Searching for addition of 2 EA's- pending with one of VSDAA EA pending.

Special Reports:

~~SRC Vacant (need to find out whether it is still there since Mary Nunnally retired. Contact Tracy Brand (DARS) website. (Secretary Cindy will follow up)~~

~~VRID Vacant Reach out to Carrie Humphries. VAD need to search for a representative.~~

New Business (6 new Motion Slips)

#1 Motion – Jeanne Lavelle (Cindy Burton) moved establish VAD Ally Award for VAD Awards Committee. Carried

#2 Motion – Jeanne Lavelle (Mia Heisley) moved that we establish award called VAD Deaf Own Business Award. Carried.

#3 Motion – Jeanne Lavelle (Paul Daniels) moved that we establish VAD Rookie Member Award. Carried,

#4 Motion – Mia Heisley (Tom Dowling) moved that VAD Conference be hosted in Charlottesville, VA on Friday afternoon Sept 5th and all day on Sept 6, 2025. Carried.

#5 Motion –Cindy Burton (Jeanne Lavelle) moved that we develop 2 proclamation law for Deaf History month (9 April) and Deaf Awareness Month (Sept). Carried.

#6 Motion- Paul Daniels (Paul Daniels) moved to send up to two delegates to attend NLTC in Austin, Texas on Oct 29-Nov 2nd. Carried.

Announcement

NLTC- Austin, Texas (2025 National Leadership Training Conference (NLTC) Austin, Texas from October 29- November 2.)

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Burton,
VAD Secretary