

LOUISIANA CAREER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
3:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 21, 2010

LCDA met Tuesday, September 21st, 2010 at the Intercontinental Hotel as part of the LCA Conference. Joan called the meeting to order at 3:11pm. Ashley took the minutes and will send the minutes to the chapter via email.

There were 13 members and 1 non-member present at the meeting.

The items discussed were:

- 1. Welcome.**
Joan welcomed all the members present at the meeting.
- 2. Reading of the Minutes.**
There was a motion to forego the reading of the minutes by Hidalgo, seconded by Ellen Miller. There was a unanimous acceptance of the minutes.
- 3. Treasurer's report.**
Michelle Waguespack handed out the treasurer's report and it was reviewed by members. Current balance is \$3779.66 (see handout). She stated that the previous spring conference went extremely well. Gloria made a motion to accept the budget; it was 2nd by Angela Murray. Budget was accepted unanimously.
- 4. More Website Updates Soon.** Joan discussed that more updates to the website will be made soon. She announced that the blog is connected to LCDA's main website and will be up and running soon. Any articles, info from conferences, or general updates should be made to the blog instead of website.

Old Business

- 1. Two newsletters** have been made and they were printed in a new format! The format of two newsletters/year will continue for 10-11. A second newsletter will be printed closer to spring conference, approximately around the first of March. Submissions will be due in February, Joan will email members to call for submissions. "Tools of the Trade" is the section where members can share tools or assessments with members.
- 2. NCDA:** several members participated in the event which was held in San Francisco this year. Members shared what they learned and experienced through the conference. Next year's conference will be held in San Antonio, Tx. Carpooling may be considered in order to cut down on costs for next year.

New Business

- 1. Initiation of blog** by Ashley Allen. We are working to obtain publisher's privileges in order to add updates easier to the website. Send information you would like published to Ashley @ aallen@latech.edu
- 2. Initiation of stock "Welcome Email"** by Joan and Ashley Allen. Standard protocol will begin being implemented when LCDA learns of new members. It is an easy way to facilitate beginnings for new members. It was suggested that we attach the latest newsletter to the email, website address and blog address with contact information.
- 3. LCA job board:** Joan discussed at the executive board meeting that the current job board offers few job opportunities, it is outdated, and looked unprofessional and worried how it represented our organization. It was reported that there is very little action with the job board, Michelle

followed up on the 5 postings listed and realized that companies were upset that the postings were still up when they were no longer hiring. Exec is currently exploring having LCDA re-purpose the website into a resource page that will offer links to other helpful career sites. Ex: resume building, interview skills, exploring the psychological side of the job search etc ... This will require help from members to create the resources; it will replace the job bank on the LCA homepage. Members should send information to add to the website to Joan. It was requested that on the website we add "Courtesy of LCDA" so that members understand who is supporting the site.

4. **Building Membership:** We generally have 75 members (more or less), but overall the membership is pretty low compared to other LCA divisions. Strategies have been made to expand the membership including ...
- Ron Cathey suggested we open membership to non-counselors. NCDCA did this ~8 years ago and now a majority of their members are non-counselors who do career work. The board is entertaining the idea and is researching the pros and cons related to this switch. Career Development Facilitator is an area to consider. Ron will research to see what other states do with this sort of membership.
 - A CDF doesn't necessarily have counseling degrees or master's degrees; they are filling a gap in schools and other work force areas; numerous people hold this title and could be an area to consider for recruiting. It takes 120 hours of training to obtain a certificate in training (they are not counselors though).
- Questions asked during discussion:
- Can people join LCDA without joining LCA? Affiliate members can join the CDA division without joining parent organization in other states. Ron will research how other states handle this.
 - Will allowing other non-counselors into LCDA water down our professional image even more?
 - Could we join with LASCA since they have a mandate to create a 5 year plan starting in 8th grade? The new focus is on career development from k-12th to emphasize career development in the classroom sooner. We have more of a reason for school counselor's to join LCDA b/c of the demand on them to include career development.

All of these ideas need to be reviewed and discussed. As Southern Trustee of NCDCA, Ron will be researching how others handle these very issues.

- This discussion resulted in the "**Increasing Membership Task Force Committee**". They will keep the discussion going throughout the year. Dialogue, research, explore information and then update members next year.

Members of Committee Include: Ron Cathey, Lorette, Ellen, Crystal, Joan, Angela Murry, Michelle Waguespack, Latisha

5. **November = Career Month.** We cancelled the poster writing contest due to lack of interest. (This would be an additional reason to continue a connection with LASCA). We will still promote the month without having a contest. This year, the poetry/poster contest will subside and we will focus on highlighting events that we do already to keep the awareness on career development month. More info will go on blog for people to share ideas of what they've done. We will build on this next year.

6. **LCDA Spring Conference.** Flyer was handed out; Angela will be getting location and date. They would like to stick with the date of April 1st. Attempting to work around school counselor's schedule so they can attend, hopefully.
7. **Conference Service Project.** Dress for Success will speak at spring conference; they will educate on us helping women have professional dress for interviews (suits or business attire to wear to work). All members will be asked to bring a nice suit in tip-top condition that you want to donate to this organization. Bring it dry cleaned on a hanger to put on a rack. OR bring professional clothes to donate (accessories). Everything must be in good condition! Ask friends to donate and bring these items with you to the spring conference.
8. **Elections.** Offices to be filled during 2011-12:
Member @ Large
President Elect
-Email Sharon Walker with suggestions. An email will be sent in October with the ballot for everyone to vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08pm by Joan Gallagher.