

## Eastern Athletic Association of the Deaf, INC

### Delegates' Meeting

Hampton Inn  
2024 Route 541  
Westampton, NJ 08060

**Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Meeting started at 7:35pm

#### *Roll Call:*

President Danny Gabel  
Secretary/Treasurer Alexandria Pucciarelli  
Tournament Director Yarleney Torres  
Hall of Fame/Public Relations Saul Gevarter  
Vice President John Perry  
Sergeant of Arms- Robert Jones  
Rochester City Blazers- Sheldon Clarke  
New Jersey Thunders- Ishamel Dow  
New Jersey Thunders- Andre McLean  
Lexington Alumni Association-Nicholas Pucciarelli  
D.C. Elite Hoyas-Arthur Everette II  
Fanwood Alumni Association- Paul Mitchell  
Frederick-Shawn Harrington  
Maryland Blue Crabs-Jan Struhar  
Maryland Blue Crabs- Todd Reynolds  
New Jersey Warriors- Carl Colon  
Crooklyn Code- James Johnson  
Capital City Cardinals- Mon Ching Ng

#### *Moment of Silence:*

Carl Lorello- Highest score at Fanwood School for the Deaf and AAAD Hall of Fame.  
Umar King- Used to play for New Jersey Magic and New Jersey Warriors

Approval of the previous minutes of the meeting (March 2017):

Corrections were:

1. Arthur Everette III should be II (second not third)
2. ESAD- need to spell it out
3. "an tournament" instead of plural "tournaments"
4. Carl Colon name- remove Junior (JR)

President Gabel proposed that we approve the changes to the minutes. Carl Colon seconded.  
**PASSED**

*Treasurer's report:* Alexandria Pucciarelli stated that the balance dated of March 9, 2018 was \$10,427.93.

*President's Report-*

-Everything is set to go for the upcoming regional tournament, I have been working hard on the new website, and I can see that NJ is working hard to make sure the tournament is successful. I am more concerned about the gym sizes, but I hope it turns out well.

-I am glad to hear that we have a WIFI-hot spot which is good for our website where we can upload the information for the public.

-I have been on the board for the last five years and working on a lot of paperwork for the EAAD.

-The old and new board members took a while to find our chemistry to work together, but it is smooth like a family.

-We want to thank Sorenson because of the invention of the videophone, it helps us to work together by having a meeting on VP, and to work on guidelines/by-laws with the Vice President John Perry.

-Our new logo is more modern, it was referred to law committee to make a final decision, and I will present it under unfinished business later.

-Website We FINALLY have a website for the EAAD, I have to thank my beautiful girlfriend, Chelsea Morris for working hard on the website with me by the last two weeks, and it took us nearly three years to finish this. Our previous webmaster, Daniela Farkas, felt hurt that we did not want to sign her back, but we will recognize her work on the new website by thanking her for her contribution to the EAAD.

-Logo- Eric Hamlow worked on the logo, please feel free to send me your team logo to [eaadbball@gmail.com](mailto:eaadbball@gmail.com) so we can add them to the website, and he is also a logo designer. Usually it is \$100.00 to make a logo for your team, we also worked to bring in statistics from the game on the website, and it will be fed LIVE.

-If you see any mistakes on the websites, please give us feedback, and we want it perfect for you.

-in 2020, EAAD will celebrate our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and we will start planning now for the upcoming 75<sup>th</sup>!

-Thank you for setting up EAAD facebook group messenger, this is a great opportunity for us to get together and share information.

-This is also another way for the team to get players from other teams that has not been signed or let go, share pictures, and we can use those pictures via our social media.

-My goal is to make EAAD more involved with media, more team pictures throughout the year, and post on social media especially at the invitational tournaments. People want to know who plays at the tournament and see the pictures.

-NEAAD- they do not have a great support, its very weak unlike EAAD, and we have tried to support the women team to come down or invite their teams to participate into our tournament. Nothing so far.

Youth- I still want to arrange a youth all-star basketball tournament by EAAD, I will need a committee, and maybe this is something we can do at the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

-We hope to host a 3 on 3 tournament to fundraise for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the summertime in DC or NYC area.

-Invitational guidelines-We need to set up a committee to make sure that the host follows the guidelines for the invitational tournament.

-Facebook Live Drawing- I am in favor of this, this is a great for everyone to see, and the officers will always be on to watch the drawing. This helps us to prevent cheating from the host. Maybe we should create a guideline for the drawing so every host can follow this.

-Traveling Trophy- we agreed that this was not ideal for the EAAD especially when it is so expensive.

#### *Vice President's Report-*

I actually have no report since I decided to withdraw the invitational guideline. We need to be flexible with the hosts and recognize what they want (their preferences) to run the tournament. For example, there was a tournament format of robin round and the teams really liked it. Fanwood Alumni Association held an invitational tournament back in January, they changed the zebra rules (rules that were set before coming into the tournament), and Rochester City Blazers were not happy so they have reported the issue to me. What had happened was that there was a rule that ban the players to join other teams on the same day at the tournament, FAA allowed this to happen at the last minute due to insufficient number of the players. My suggestion is to give them a warning and we should be more cautious with the invitational tournaments by monitoring them. At least an officer should be presented to make sure that the tournament does not violate the EAAD bylaws/guidelines. Lastly, we need a new hall of fame guideline, and this should be done before the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

#### *Secretary's Report-*

Every year, I always face a same issue with the teams with their payment plans, and everyone has paid in for the players' fees in February, but 5 teams have not paid the team entry fee yet. However, the deadline is coming up, and I wanted to make sure that we have every team paid before we set the bracket. I will plan to do audit for the treasurers' log books with audit team in 2019 for 2016, 2017, and 2018. I went to Staples to gather more binders for upcoming tournaments, especially to print out the badges, and I look forward for the regional tournament. Lastly, I had to chase down some teams to complete forms and they do not understand the importance of completing the forms for their own protection. I will need to figure out a better system for next year

#### *Tournament Director's Report-*

-I've completed EAAD standing for the year that includes all of the invitational tournaments.

-We have three new teams, Capital City Cardinals, Frederick, and DC Blue Jackets.

-I will work with Danny to set up 2018 EAAD bracket and volunteer schedule. Working closely with the New Jersey Deaf Sports for the upcoming regional tournament has hit me harder than

I'd thought, there was no transition from the previous tournament director, and I had learn a lot of things on my own throughout with EAAD's help. I will make sure to set up a list of checklist for next year so I can work closely with the next host to organize the regional tournament.

-John Wadja is a hearing referee who is head referee for the tournament and we had worked a lot together in regards of the bracket/schedule.

-Please don't forget to sign up the volunteer sheet.

#### *Public Relations/Hall of Fame's Report-*

-I wanted to thank you all for the vote of confidence in me. It has been a great pleasure working as a board member, The past year, I have worked on the following; Hall of Fame guideline, reviewed, edited, and revised the Basketball/Softball categories and updating the guidelines.

-Stewart Gerlis and I met twice in the past to discuss about the nominations. We have two nominated candidates, we will announce the names when our logo is updated and plaques ordered. Stewart Gerlis and I will continue to work closely on the HOF progress. I am proud to say that our new website is now ready and I look forward to the upcoming 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary Hall of Fame banquet. It is going to be phenomenal. See you all there!

-Paul Mitchell did an excellent job by serving his time for the EAAD.

-There is a lot of misinformation on the program books for the last few years and I would like to correct them especially the information from Softball era as well.

-Hall of Fame, we have a committee to determine the names of the nominations to be inducted into the Hall of Fame, and we decided to put this on hold until the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary to have everything in set.

-Good luck with the tournament!

#### *Chairperson's Report-*

-The locker room is damaged so please use the bathroom or the hallway to change into your uniforms.

-There are two courts, there will be chairs for each team, and scoreboard in the middle.

-The fans will have to sit behind the courts and please encourage your family/friends to stay back.

-The front of the building has a handicap access and there are NO parking on the front of the building otherwise your car will be towed.

-Please come a little earlier to sign up the waiver form from this facility.

-Do not do drugs or get into a fight, this place has a connection with the local state trooper so they will kick you out.

-No food from outside are permitted to be brought in, I will be selling food, and drinks.

-Please show up on time so we can start the game no later than 8:15 am.

#### *Law Committee's Report*

1. Motion Number 10: Danny Gabel moves to ~~remove~~ **keep** the entire Section 2 and 3 from the Basketball Guidelines in order to have the EAAD to host the regional tournament ~~infinite~~. on calendar year of even. **PASSED**
2. Motion Number 13: James Ginis moves to have a head referee presented at the meeting. **FAILED**
3. Motion Number 21: Lady Liberty moves to remove Article 5 Section 7 "shall not be permitted to be active in any events during basketball championship tournament"  
**PASSED**
4. Motion Number 23: Empire City moves that we affiliate with the National Deaf Basketball Organization. **PASSED (NO CODA AT EAAD ANYWAY)**
5. Motion Number 25: Empire City moves that the \$20.00 player's fee deadline to be taken at the regional tournament. **FAILED**
6. Motion 26: Lady Liberty moves to have EAAD to host ~~at least two~~ **an** invitational tournaments per basketball season. **PASSED**
7. Motion 28: Alexandria Pucciarelli moves to put the players on the suspension list after signing the form and not paying for the \$20.00 registration fee. **FAILED**

### *Unfinished Business*

1. ESAD- *From 2017-They want to merge with the EAAD, but they demands that we pay them back with the amount that they had left with the EAAD. James Ginis, Tournament Director was at their delegates meeting in July and explained that this was not possible because we had to fund our money from the scratch.* President explained that they have changed the region format from 8 regions to 4 (quadrant) and this will impact our bylaws/guidelines so we should not continue discussing with the softball organization. **CLOSED**

2. LOGO- Delegates approved the logo. **PASSED**
3. WEBSITE- Delegates approved the new EAAD website. **PASSED**

*New Business*

1. EAAD moves to set a deadline for the team entry fees on Feb 5<sup>th</sup> and players fee on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Robert Jones Jr seconded. **PASSED**
2. EAAD moves that Fanwood Alumni Association cannot host invitational tournament for the upcoming basketball season of 2018-2019. John Perry seconded. *Discussion:* Delegates amended to change the consequence, let the delegates decide i.e. fine or etc **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE**
3. EAAD moves to appoint Saul Gevarter as a chairperson for the EAAD's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020. Shawn Harrington seconded. **PASSED**
4. D.C. Elite Hoyas moves a new seeding proposal Andre McLean seconded. Shawn Harrington referred to the law committee, Jan Struhar seconded **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE**
5. Fanwood Alumni Association moves that John Thomas are not allowed to officiate any games involving teams either from the following organizations: Fanwood Alumni Association and Lexington Alumni Association due to conflict of interests. Todd Reynolds seconded. **PASSED**
6. D.C. Elite Hoyas move to change the regional tournament days. Todd Reynolds seconded. **FAILED**
7. Capital City Cardinals moves to limit the number of former Gallaudet players on the team. **WITHDRAW**
8. Fanwood Alumni Association moves to prohibit any EAAD members from running for an officer position without being a member of the organization for more than two years. Shawn Harrington seconded. **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE**
9. Capital City Cardinals moves to limit up to 3 Deaflympics members on the men's team. **WITHDRAW**
10. Capital City Cardinals moves to allow one coda to participate in order to expand more teams. **OUT OF ORDER** (conflicts the EAAD bylaws)

RECESS WAS CALLED FOR FIVE MINUTES

11. Capital City Cardinals moves to bring back the points based from the invitational tournaments to determine the seeding for the regional tournament. **WITHDRAW**
12. Capital City Cardinals moves that the seeding standing should be posted on the EAAD Facebook page and EAAD website after the results of the invitational tournament has been submitted. Todd Reynolds seconded. **PASSED**
13. Capital City Cardinals move to allow a team to host more than two invitational tournaments to ensure that there is a tournament each month. Arthur Everette II seconded. **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE**
14. Fanwood Alumni Association moves to add a new a trophy "Defense Player of the Tournament" Sheldon Clarke seconded. **PASSED**

15. EAAD moves to bring back "Article 5 Section 7 "shall not be permitted to be active in any events during basketball championship tournament" for further discussion Arthur Everette II seconded. **PASSED**
16. Maryland Blue Crabs moves That EAAD ensures that the referees are certified for the regional basketball tournament. **WITHDRAW**
17. Fanwood Alumni Association moves to increase the registration fee from \$20.00 to \$30.00 Saul Gevarter seconded. **FAILED**
18. Capital City Cardinal moves to suspend Dee Brown, a player from the Capital City Cardinals until he returns the uniform to the team or pays for the value of the uniform. John Perry seconded. **REFERRED TO LAW COMMITTEE**

*Bidding for the 2019 EAAD Regional Tournament Site-*

Rochester City Blazers won the bid! Congratulations and see you at Rochester next year!

*Elections-*

-Vote for Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer.

New-Elected Officers 2019-2021:

Vice President- Saul Gevarter

Secretary/Treasurer- Alexandria Pucciarelli

Public Relations/Hall of Fame- Appointed by the President with the delegates approval- Peter Badavas due to his expertise in this area.

*Announcements-*

-Please do not forget to sign up the volunteer sheet.

-Please bring your uniform for the group picture and the pictures will be posted on the EAAD website.

-Please show up to the gym on time.

President Gabel adjourned at 11:01 pm and Rochester City Blazers seconded.

*Respectfully Submitted by:*

Alexandria Pucciarelli, Recording Secretary