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| 1. Welcome  | Amber      | 7:45 – 7:50 |
| 2. Minutes Approval<br>March 2015 Meeting Minutes | Amber      | 7:50 – 7:55 |
| 3. Treasure/ Investments                          | Brad / Hal | 7:55 – 8:10 |

Mtg w/ Austin Trust yesterday – was \$619000 grew to 631000 now. Doing well.  
ECK ACCT: started 128825 - 131215 now  
Investment statement....

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| 4. TSDF Mission Statement | Ada / Danny | 8:10 – 8:25 |
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AMBER: Two meetings ago, discussion started.  
Goal: to get something for our pamphlets.  
Pressing issuer. Must get done. Something to take have in 1:1 mtgs.. Brought forth by Task Force – all so to grow donor base. So we’re not going back to same donors again & again. I think Brad w/ CSD said their same process took 2 weeks & they never came to consensus.  
Subcommittee: Jack, Hal, Keena, Diana, Ada, Liza.  
Prior work was done w/ Jeanne Marie & Ada, we batted around options/different words.  
Jack brought up it must be ASL friendly, so the subcommittee worked on that – the signing.  
At Exec committee, Danny was there – it was tweaked and the revised MS is:  
(shown on slide)  
Ada refers to handout.....MS should be short, concise to incaptulate our work.

Other contributors: Jeanne Marie, Keena provide community feedback, Diana added feedback. We feel what we have will support the school. It is broader than what we have now in only supporting the school. that it supports more than the programs of the school. We want to help DHH students, thinking anyone who wanted to support us to help us in that work, could contribute to us.

Hal/vision : I see a world without deafness, I see science genome work working for deafness to go away. Another vision: is that all deaf kids in TX will get a solid education. # of kids in our program....we just don’t touch a lot of people. I’m working w/ church w/ Deaf ministry...people are interested to help these kids. Our mission includes reaching out to all of Texas..our mission statement is broad. Then you have your bullet points that touch on different programs/ areas of support.

Emails...need to clarify that money that will be raised is not going to the school. That’s wrong. We’re gonna help the school. We’re going to build this endowment, all of that. We are all dedicated w/ the same goal. We need to bury the hatchet & not let animosity occur over a MS.  
Danny: thanks for many of the people’s work on this...sine last exec committee, I’ve talked to others – inside & out....brad & jack & I discussed this week.....thinking to look back to TSDF’s origin...about 15 years...looking at bylaws/articles of incorp....when you look at mission statement – they don’t align. So maybe that’s why we need a little more time on this....But, I can tell you, that Jack likes the

succinct MS. Maybe a little tweak needed. Brad mentioned also taking more time, looking back at the orgs origins.

JBlazier: We are trying to make broader contacts. I have the opp to get in front of all Catholic Bishops. The startup I brought forward – they want to help DHH children.

When Claire & I started this, we did the best we could at the time with what we had. Now I am going to other donors.

I go to valley. The valley doesn't want to help Austin TX, but if I go say we're going to help ALL children across the state. We need to do this & now that we're going for larger grants.

Diana ; I'm quite emotional about this, so I'm going to use the interpreter...I think is a gross misperception that ERCOD is NOT serving all students across the state. For you to think TSD/ERCOD is NOT focused on that. My career I've spent 30+ years in Deaf Ed...to understand the impact that TSD is nationally all across the nation...from Pennsylvania last week, person said, people all across the nation look to THIS SCHOOL . It stands as what CAN happen to DHH kids...the kinds of deaf staff that work here.....for ex. Our Dir of Academics – he could be earning MUCH more money in other jobs, his passion is what he is here for.

Your MS include Lit & Comm, and as fundamental, and those things are limiting – those are not all.....I can tell you there are people in this world who can read and write, but may not employable, due to health issues, etc.

TSD is the glove on the hand. We are the fruit that doesn't exist w/o the tree.

We want to serve children in areas where they are.....the issue are so complex. I've served on the DHH (missed the name) council for over 15 years, and we have made only a bit of progress. The systems are so complex. It include other agencies: TEA, etc.

Parent asked: does my child have a right to an educational interpreter for after school? Lawyer says: Absolutely YES.

In Lardeo, there are 2 Educational terps in all of the area. The reality of the issues that are there are very complex.

Never been in these processes hurried on.....I feel this is a retreat-type, much larger discussion.

Any change made. It needs to be discussed

What it says right now... this MS does not address what we do here. To change, your charter should prob be addressed - IF the direction of TSDF is changing.

I am thrilled that the TSDF is where it is & the type of leaders on the board...but also opinions of TSD & ERCOD HAVE TO BE AT LEAST CAREFULLY CONSIDERED.

We've been doing this work a long time. I sent the Hispanic survey out to hundreds all across the state – we got 20 responses. These are the challenges we face. It's slow, we have to form partnerships. It takes work.

I think it's just a much deeper, thoughtful conversation.

Danny: Like TSD, TSDF is a model foundation to other school foundations.....we are also respected. So I agree there needs to be a few more months discussion.

JBlazier: I am close to 7 figures. A lot of going on here is about to control. Let's have a meeting, w/ mutual respect & come back together to make it work. What we have now, is not about fully what we support. We need a new MS.

Claire: I just think we need to have some difficult conversations so we can move fwd. I DO understand the diverse donors that we must attract. We are no longer working in the partnership we used to have. We have this incredible Foundation and incredible school. IF I did not fully believe in TSDF, I would not have transferred all of my endowment funds to the TSDF, but it was the right thing to you. Much more important dialogue is needed.

Guest: Not familiar w/ history. – would like to suggest everyone puts down what they believe the MS should be and we all see what think and share those.

Liza: We do need input from everyone...it's a good statement. But as a parent of a DHH child, I really do feel it needs to be a little bit broader, and yes also concise. Jeanne Marie said "Concise" but it does need to envelope other things and I think include the TSD part of it. That is the reason that I am here, I am the parent you are trying to appeal to and I know what brought me here is TSD and ERCOD. There's nothing really divisive. Emails are not always the best way to communicate...with inferred emotions involved. I like Diana's idea for more discussion in an inclusive meeting.

Amber: I'm sorry I sometimes go astray. I think we are all on the same page. I am trying to lead this Foundation. You don't form a subcommittee and then renig their power to bring their work to the board. I work on words for a living. I propose a special session that we work on this & show up. I think it can be more broad. When we say we're going to be in a subcommittee, we give them the power.

There will be a special session – if you do not attend then, allow the group that does attend to make the decisions.

Diana – I was confused with the process of how the MS was brought forth and decided.

Carol – I suggest Amber's idea for a special session May 8, instead of the plans for the next board meeting which should already be on your calendar. Maybe we can choose the date today, since emails don't get me a lot of responses.

Ada – let me share some of the nuances of committee; considered wording Keena suggested by putting "students" first & DHH after Vs. DHH students...was batted around...and for signing...we made a change like that to shorten it. Our support is for DHH, not students.

Ex. The American Heart Assn – uses very short simple statements. It's so short that everyone in this room could commit it to memory.

What we want is something that is so short, simple, concise.

Danny: MOTION: Good conversation to have & I am optimistic this will lead to a great outcomes. I also recommend with formal motion: that we table and meet again.

(Missed SECOND?)

Carol: Can we do it May 8? Let's please choose a date.  
Claire's schedule is good.

Also, would like to include Jeanne Marie to facilitate the meeting/workshop? Board: Sure.

Moody: can we also have this one so we can review.

Hodnett: & also review bylaws

Hal: The US constitution has 28 amendments....as time goes on you have to tweak those things.....so we should go back to see if we need to tweak that fundamental document.

Amber: agree. At the next meeting, we stay focused on a concise MS.

Moody: Bylaws probably so outdated, maybe not be influenced by original bylaws, then go back to bylaws.

Diana? What about Articles of Incorporation? I think it should be in synch...it may mean the A of I should be reviewed – background info is important to decide if we want to move on....are we being reflective of this, or are we going in a different direction.

Liza – let's use basecamp.

Carol – will also send via email.

Carol – May 8 will be special session for MS only & I will check w/ Jeanne Marie to facilitate.

Diana: How long for that meeting. We have 60 days until then. I think we start there, but don't think we walk away w/ the finished version, but perhaps 2-4 possibilities at that meeting for further discussion.

Meeting will be May 8 7:30-9:30 for 2 hours!

## 5. Events Update

Carol

8:25 – 8:30

Carol – event/fundraising update. Refers to slide.  
Thanks those who supported AA and our events.

## 6. Diamond Gala

Carol

8:30 – 8:35

Carol: DCGala - May1 – you should've gotten your invites, we have extras, and they can be emailed.

We need to sell 100 more seats

Will have: Caricaturist, Elvis impersonator, games.

280 seats avail – 180 already taken by sponsors/VIPs

Bring any auction donations to me or ERCOD

MCS: Brandi, weather man

FundANeed: who? (I missed this)

\$36K raised from sponsors, still more to get

Live Auction – refers to slide

## 7. Paddles Up

Diana

8:35 – 8:40

Diana/slides for initiatives...

- 1 iPads for MS
- 2 Robotics – expanding to younger and improve the HS team
  - a. Following this group's journey is like David & Goliath with their accomplishments
- 3 Culinary Arts – now in a Home Ec. Classroom to upgrade to a commercial kitchen
- 4 Family Signs – established for many years – was actually how Liza came to TSD – expansion would give 15 families sign language services.

## 8. Mini-grants

Carol / Ada

8:40 – 8:45

Carol – Minigrants brought up by Funding Init TF – having teachers apply NOW in April-May for funding when school starts next year.

Lisa Dirks working on new application, targeted to go out April 15 – TSD is already aware this is coming. Will have deadline as Aug 1, then announce winners on first day of school.

Claire – the only consideration is the stress on teachers with end of year right now...they are not thinking of next year.

Danny: Are applications written. Feedback is that many would like to submit in ASL.

Carol – and online; Committee is:.....(missed all the names) defer to committee members to comment.

Marilyn: I understand and we don't really want to do it that way. I do understand.

Carol: Last year – those not approved by TSDF, we did allow those teachers to post online for crowdfunding, but honestly none got posted and none have been funded.

Ada: to clarify the date change was feedback from school

Diana: this year, the first year to open early, it has to be April, but goal for next year is to open apps in Jan.

## 9. Task Force Work

Task Forces

8:45 – 9:15

Carol – can Community Awareness TF take on Board Testimonials w/ student as videographers?

Keena: we have only a sub new video teacher...so that could be an issue

Claire: We could contract with TSD's former video teacher to work w/students.

Hal adds: Men's Church group – has presentations at meetings...Very interested in supporting TSD Foundation. Will be giving presentation.

Hal – also on Easter Sunday – Lover's Lane church in Dallas – has Deaf choir – everyone loved it...also in balcony signing w/ choir. People loved it!

Afterwards, I approached someone in the choir...& found out there is a Methodist Deaf Ministry.

40-50K people in DFW –deaf. In Austin, 28K. Largest tools we have is having our deaf people communicating with our Lege – that is a resource we've talked about...developing leadership in Deaf community to get organized to make things happen, make changes. People of TX are not happy w/Education & the 11K districts in TX, think of duplicity in TEA and board of education.. Change happens at grass roots, need leadership and direction.

Marilyn: bringing bus load from Lakeway to ERCOD.

Claire – Legislative update:

Really roughest session in many years, not because of economy, but b/c of our weak relationship w/TFC and how they approached the Lege early in the game. They still do not realize the impact to TSD, by painting a picture of TSD that does not exist. But when people read it, they believe it. There was not rat urine dripping on students. We had a raccoon problem in our HR building.

Auditors here yesterday....they say "how could've TFC characterized TSD like this?"  
I said "good question for TFC."

We brought in people to train them and how to approach them.. You can only approach Lege with flattery –brought alumni, TAD, etc. all together.

I feared retaliation from Senate Finance Committee, but not as much from House.

They did give us our base + \$1M over base.

Waiting to see who is appointee to Conference committee to see how we approach next steps. We have all new players. None of our former leaders remain...so they did not know the history on how TSD had requested and handled maintenance funds. So they believed TFC.

Our Academic Bowl team – came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, with an error on one missed apostrophe, still advancing to Nationals, but missed 1<sup>st</sup> place by ONE point.

Hodnett: how many Academic Bowl students on the team? Claire: 4 like Math team.

10.Adjourn

Amber

9:15

Carol: Thank you for coming. Will follow up w/ minutes from today.

**Upcoming Dates:**

Diamond Gala Friday, May 1

TSDf meeting Friday, May 8 MPR Room TSD campus

**TASK FORCES:**

Please be prepared to give a Task Force Report at the May 8 meeting for your plan for your task force for May – Sept

**Suggestions:**

Community Awareness – Marketing Plan for TSDf to get more donors

Funding Initiatives – Mini-grants Schedule

Strategic Alliances – Brochure content – Give to Carol to create TSDf Strategic Alliances