The meeting was called to order by Mr. Manning. An invocation was led by Ms. Lynn. In attendance were: Jim Manning, Bill Barfield, Rick Magner, Dean Redd, Rufus Britt, III, Nikki Grimball, Grady Evans, Jay Altman, Sherrill Holder, Hester Wannamaker, Selina Hart, Sims Lynn, Terry Schilling, Renee Staggs.

The minutes for the April 27, 2007 Executive Committee meeting were presented for approval. One correction was made to add Mr. Magner to the list of those attending the meeting. Mr. Holder moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Altman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Manning advised the committee that Mr. Tavenner was unable to attend. Mr. Manning presented the treasurer’s report on his behalf. (Copy is available upon request.) Ms. Schilling moved to accept the report. Mr. Britt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Committee reports were provided as follows:

1. Membership – Ms. Schilling reported membership is up to 102. This is well ahead of membership at this time last year. There are still a few past members expected to renew.

2. Web Page / Historian – Ms. Wannamaker reported the new web page is up and looks great. It has been changed to reflect the new name though it can still be accessed under AAMR as well. Ms. Wannamaker will be working with Aaron Craven to make needed changes. Any items to post should go through Mr. Britt or Ms. Wannamaker. They will forward them to Mr. Craven to keep him from being overloaded with multiple contacts. Mr. Craven is still working on changing the domain from AAMR to AAIDD. Ms. Staggs informed the committee that Tri-Development Center, who had been hosting the website for AAMR, will not request reimbursement for the past year’s expenses. Ms. Wannamaker also reported she has put together a list of committees, committee members, and officers since 2000 as an archive file. The digital camera has not been purchased yet.

3. Education / Training – Ms. Ricke-Kiely requested by email the committees input regarding a possible training seminar by Jobie Robinson. The speaker’s fee would be $1250. If the location of the training is more than one hour away hotel accommodations would also be required. Per previous survey the preferred months for training are July, August, October, and November. It was noted that an amount for trainer / speaker fees was not budgeted. Ms. Staggs moved to table this item until an itemized budget can be developed. Mr. Altman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

4. Legislation – Mr. Barfield reported the state budget is now in conference committee. There is a resolution to fund services at last year’s level if the
house and senate do not resolve their differences. The Autism bill pushed by families has passed in both the house and senate. This bill requires insurance companies to include autism behavioral services just like mental health services.

5. Direct Support – Ms. Hart reported a direct support counterpart meeting will be held at the end of June. She requested a list of email addresses for DSN Board Executive Directors in order to send out information on the meeting. Mr. Altman will assist. Ms. Hart also requested clarification as to the money available for DSP events. Ms. Staggs noted that $500/quarter was approved at the January committee meeting. This amount was affirmed as available for DSP activities at her discretion.

6. Newsletter – Mr. Grimball reported a draft newsletter is being composed. He will send the draft out for review by email before the next meeting. It was noted that he needed to work in conjunction with the conference call for papers but be sent separately to increase visibility. The newsletter can be sent by email and US Mail.

7. Nominations / Awards – Mr. Evans will send out a request for nominations and awards. It was noted that only members may make nominations for offices or awards. The ballots will also go only to members. Ms. Schilling will send Mr. Evans the updated membership/address list. Mr. Evans suggested putting a notice of the request for nominations and awards on the website. The request for nominations / awards will also go out as a separate mailing.

8. Conference – Mr. Britt reported no items needing action at this time.

9. Constitution / By-Laws – Mr. Redd reported no action needed at this time.

10. National Happenings – Mr. Britt attended the National conference last week. Copies of some materials on AAIDD’s strategic plan and state of the association report were provided to the committee. Mr. Britt reported AAIDD has hired a marketing firm to help with the re-branding (from AAMR to AAIDD) to help attract more and younger professionals to the organization. Mr. Britt will be working with Dr. Rotholz to develop some approaches for recruitment. Mr. Britt also mentioned that national AAIDD wants all the state chapters to use their logo on websites, materials, etc.

Ms. Wannamaker asked if SE AAIDD was still operating. Mr. Britt stated that they are still in existence but are not holding conferences anymore. SE AAIDD has asked to talk with SC AAIDD. He also informed the committee that AAIDD has appointed Ms. Ronnie Jefferson (Louisiana) to serve as a liaison between state chapters / regions / and national AAIDD. Part of her role will be to ensure that regional representatives meet as scheduled. The SE region representative is Anita Bowles. Chair –elect for SE is Patty Martin.

Following committee reports the committee discussed use of existing funds and the need for a budget. Mr. Holder noted that we need to consider what we are going to do differently to keep from putting more money in the bank. Mr. Barfield noted that we have been increasing expenditures in some areas (DSP activities, scholarships for
conference, etc.) but we need to be looking at a specific, well-thought out budget rather than making commitments “off the hip spending.” Ms. Schilling asked if the committee could spend some time reviewing/amending the budget at the next meeting. Mr. Manning will include time for a discussion of the budget on the agenda for the June meeting.

Ms. Staggs reported encountering some difficulties in registering the organization’s name change with the Secretary of State’s office. The necessary annual registration/exemption had not been filed recently and a record of the organization with that office could not be located. Additional historical information is needed to get this corrected. Mr. Evans stated that in past years the treasurer filed the exemptions and the 990 tax report. He did not know where copies of previous filings might be located. Mr. Manning suggested Mr. Tavenner and Ms. Staggs meet with him later to research the needed information and complete the appropriate paperwork.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by Renee Staggs, Secretary