

Lions International

Multiple District 11

(Lower Michigan)



"We Serve"

**4th Council of Governors Meeting
Causeway Bay Hotel
Lansing Michigan
February 18-19, 2017**

**Fourth Council of Governors Meeting
Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11
Saturday, February 18, 2017
Causeway Bay Hotel, Lansing**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Chair Justin Faber. **District Governors** in attendance were: Martha Brown, A1; Patti Barr, A2; Dave Hill, B1; Jim Farrell, B2; Lloyd Foster, C1; Ken Ridalls, C2; Thomas Hardt, D1; Dave Wineman, D2; Ron Gibson, E1, Carol Athan, E2. **1st Vice District Governors** in attendance were: Terry Treppa, A1; John Bingham, Jr., A2; Luanne Bullington, B1; Barb Stutesman, B2; Julie May, C1; Brent Beracy, C2; Fred Sullivan, D2; Peggy Walls, E1, Bob Gingerich, E2. **2nd Vice District Governors** in attendance were: Shirley Kelly, A1; Roger Spriggs, B1; Fran Grabowski, B2; Joe Bogar, D1; Jack Kriete, D2; Al Roeseler, E1; Gordon Harris, E2. Also in attendance: Council Chair Faber, Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, ID Jenny Ware, PID Esther LaMothe, GLT State Coordinator, PDG Karen Routson, Council Chair-Elect Peggy Allen and Executive Director Wendy Burns.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Chair Justin Faber.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes –

MOTION – Foster, Hill, to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried.

MOTION – Hardt, Barr, to approve the minutes of the December Council Meeting. Motion carried.

MOTION – Foster, Ridalls, to accept Written Reports as written. Motion carried.

SAM'S CLUBS PARTNERSHIP –Dr. Robert Hong, Lions Hearing Center

Dr. Hong provided details unveiling the newly formed Sam's Club partnership with the Lions Hearing Center, Lions of Michigan Foundation and the Lions of Michigan. Sam's Clubs will post signage and two collection boxes in their Optical and Hearing Aid Centers. Each local Lions Club is asked to designate a person to monitor and collect the boxes. After pick-up of a full box, both hearing aids and eyeglasses will be dropped off at the following: Oakland, Macomb, Wayne or Monroe counties: Lions Hearing Center of Michigan. All other clubs will contact the Lions of Michigan or the Lions of Michigan Foundation to arrange drop-off.

With the support of Sam's Clubs, we will be able to promote our eyeglass and hearing aid services and awareness to a higher level in our state.

LCI NEWS –International Director Jenny Ware

ID Ware reported there will be some changes at the International Convention on voting procedures. For the first time, at the 2017 International Convention certification of delegates and voting will occur at the same time in the convention Voting Area. As soon as the delegate is certified, they will receive a ballot and will be able to vote immediately.

VDG Bullington inquired on the status of Lioness members becoming Lion members. ID Ware will ask for specific details at the upcoming board meeting in Greece, but as it stands now, a Lioness can bridge their years into a Lion member.

MICHIGAN EVERSIGHT REPORT –PCC Donald Brown

In Michigan, 2,262 donors gave the gift of life last year. There were 1,258 donor recipients. Of the \$269,338 Eversight received in donations, 51% of this money came from Lions. Upcoming events to put on your calendar include: 3/19/17 Bowling Fundraiser; 4/12/17 Donate Life; 6/17/17 Golf Outing; 9/29/17 Summer BBQ.

MD 11 STATE CONVENTION REPORT –PDG Bob Sturgis

Plans are coming together well for the upcoming convention. PID Judge Haynes Townsend has been confirmed as our speaker, and we will once again kick-off the convention with a picnic on Thursday evening. The deadline for room reservations at Great Wolf Lodge is April 18. All registration information can be found on the state website, and the mailing will go out to the clubs the first week of March.

PDG Sturgis reminded the council that any District can consider holding their convention in conjunction with the MD 11 convention. This would help financially and could create a boost in attendance. The 2018 convention will be held in Grand Blanc at the Holiday Inn Gateway Center, and has a Courtyard by Marriott on the property with meeting space available. Rooms could be booked at the Courtyard for your district's members, if preferred.

The committee will be looking at bids for 2019, and if you have a hotel you would like Wendy to send a proposal to, please send her the information and she will contact them.

GLT REPORT –PDG Karen Routson

Friday was the last day of training for the year for the Vice District Governors. 3rd quarter reports were sent in early January to LCI. District participation in these quarterly reports continues to be under-represented at LCI headquarters, meaning most districts are not taking time to submit reports. Governors were asked to encourage their GLT Coordinator to make a stronger attempt to report so that Michigan gets credit for our leadership development efforts. If your GLT Coordinator has not applied for the \$250.00 operating budget from LCI available to each district, there is still time but it must be done quickly.

PDG Routson reported she has led or co-led Certified Guiding Lion training in 11-C2 and CEP Facilitator training in D2. IPDG/MD 11 GLT Coordinator-Elect Jeff Mayuiers participated in both events, as well as VDG training yesterday.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION –PDG Diane Wehby, State Chair

Over 100 million lives have been impacted worldwide in the four (4) service areas. 25 million lives have been touched in Michigan alone, with a shortfall in the area of vision. PDG Diane explained this was due simply by lack of club reporting of this service. Clubs are strongly encouraged to go online to report activity, so that Michigan can receive credit for service.

The Centennial Celebration continues through June 30, 2018. Adding to our Service Challenge: Pediatric Cancer. With the support of Lions from around the world, great things will come from our service to those suffering from childhood cancers.

LCI Service Goals: 200 million served over the next five (5) years. For clubs who participated in the Back Pack Service Project at the MI Forum on Friday night, please record this service as “food for children.” Only six (6) districts have reported Legacy Projects so far – make sure to help your district with reporting, if needed.

LIONS DAY at CEDAR POINT –Lion Bill Christianson, Ohio Lions

Lions, Lioness, Leos and guests are invited to celebrate our Centennial at Cedar Point on Saturday, May 13, 2017. Iconic speeches by Helen Keller, Melvin Jones and International President Bob Corlew will take place at the Grand Pavilion, Cedar Point.

RIDE for DIABETES/CENTENNIAL SCULPTURE –Lion Bill Bradfield

This past October, Lion Bradfield reported on Phase I of the fundraising ride for diabetes, the Centennial Celebration Motorcycle Ride. The first phase in the Upper Peninsula was rained out, but they managed to raise approximately \$7,000.00. Phase II began with the Centennial Celebration Snowmobile Ride on February 11 from Sarnia, Ontario. The group encountered blizzard conditions, leaving them snowbound in their hotels rooms for two days. A 20-inch snowfall did not stop them, as they proceeded to travel through the states of Main, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York and into Ontario, raising approximately \$8,000.00 for diabetes research.

The Centennial Sculpture created by Lion Bill was submitted to LCI for approval, along with many others from around the world. The sculpture did not make the “short list” and it was proposed by Lion Bill that it be modified and placed in the State Office. There could be a cost involved with finalizing the project, and Lion Bill is hopeful he can raise the funds to eliminate any direct cost to us. He asked for support in proceeding with the sculpture.

MOTION: Ridalls, seconded, to allow Lion Bill Bradfield to build a portable sculpture to place in the state headquarters without any financial obligations. Motion carried.

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning.

**Fourth Council of Governors Meeting
Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11
Sunday, February 19, 2017
Causeway Bay Hotel, Lansing**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Council Chair Justin Faber. **District Governors** in attendance were: Martha Brown, A1; Patti Barr, A2; Dave Hill, B1; Jim Farrell, B2; Lloyd Foster, C1; Ken Ridalls, C2; Thomas Hardt, D1; Dave Wineman, D2; Ron Gibson, E1, Carol Athan, E2. **1st Vice District Governors** in attendance were: Terry Treppa, A1; John Bingham, Jr., A2; Luanne Bullington, B1; Barb Stutesman,

B2; Julie May, C1; Brent Beracy, C2; Jeff Hunt, D1; Fred Sullivan, D2; Peggy Walls, E1, Bob Gingerich, E2. **2nd Vice District Governors** in attendance were: Shirley Kelly, A1; Roger Spriggs, B1; Fran Grabowski, B2; Joe Bogar, D1; Jack Kriete, D2; Al Roeseler, E1; Gordon Harris, E2. Also in attendance: Council Chair Faber, Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, ID Jenny Ware, PID Esther LaMothe, Council Chair-Elect Peggy Allen and Executive Director Wendy Burns.

LCIF REPORT –PDG Connie Shelton, Co-Chair

LCIF changes live around the world through four area of service: Saving sight, disaster relief, support of youth, meeting humanitarian needs. As of February, Michigan has met 55% of their donation goal of \$8,464.00.

GAVI Alliance and LCIF have partnered to provide financial support and to deliver needed vaccinations and advocacy efforts in the fight against measles. We are tasked with raising \$30,000.00 by our centennial, to receive matching funds from GAVI. We are behind on pledges and you are asked to encourage your districts to donate.

You can check your status of installments to see if your district can award a Melvin Jones Fellowship. Money from clubs turning in their charter may be transferred to a district. Check with PDG Connie or PDG Bill Erickson for assistance. If your district has used grant money received from LCIF for a project, send photos to PDGs Bill or Connie for use on a traveling banner.

LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP –PCC Jim Pettinato, State Chair

Even though the calendar may say “February”, camp is open to a few hearty groups throughout the winter! They had a very busy summer camping season and are already preparing for Summer 2017 campers. You can help sponsor a camper for the following camps: Blind and Visually Impaired Youth Session; Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Session; Juvenile Arthritis Youth Session. Prices range from \$275.00 - \$350.00.

Improvements at the lakefront have made camp 100% accessible to all campers. Cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, and any assistance you can give is appreciated.

A “Camp Wish List” was provided, along with a detailed report on club contributions through 2016.

**LCI CONVENTION REPORT –PDG Bill Simpson, State Chair &
PDG Bob Block, LCI-Con**

As reported by ID Ware, changes have been made to voting and certification. Changes have also been made to convention hours, extending by two (2) hours to allow for more time for vendor/exhibits and special programs. The International Show has been

moved to two (2) nights: July 1 will feature the Beach Boys and July 3 will feature the band Chicago. To date, 27,600 have registered. 6,000 are from the US.

Over 260 Michigan Lions and guests are registered for the convention in Chicago. Michigan Night will be held on Sunday, July 2, at Tommy Guns Dinner Theater. The hospitality room is reserved at the hotel, and although the room is complimentary, the water is not! A budget was proposed in the amount of \$15,424.00, which includes beverages over a four-day period to be made available at the hospitality room; a rebate incentive of \$20.00 for up to 100 people attending Michigan Night; registration reimbursement for committee members attending and working at the convention.

MOTION: Gibson, Barr, to approve the budget of \$15,424.00 as presented for expenses at the International Convention in Chicago. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT –PCC Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer

Treasurer Hemeryck reviewed the financials through January 31, 2017. All accounts are operating within budget with the exception of a higher than usual amount in the state office supplies account. This will be reviewed. Investments are showing an increase and the Lion Pride account shows an increase, as well. Second-half dues notifications went out to all of the districts in early January. As membership continues to drop, we will be faced with some tough decisions down the road. We can work to raise membership, cut costs, or raise dues.

A financial report will be presented during the Business Session at the State Convention in May. Treasurer Hemeryck will prepare and print all reports to be provided to the membership.

MOTION: Ridalls, Athans, to file the Treasurers report as presented. Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE –Mr. Matt Sowash, MI Legislative Consultants

Mr. Sowash provided an overview of Governor Rick Snyder's State-of-the-State address, attended by both Council Chair Justin Faber and Executive Director Wendy Burns. They were able to connect with over three-dozen legislators and provide an overview of the issues facing Lions Clubs with roadside fundraising and encouraged support of our legislative effort.

Legislative action to date: Rep. Shane Hernandez introduced HB 4160 on Feb. 2, which attempts to address the issue facing Lions and other charitable organizations. HB 4160 is a good starting point but does not cover all obstacles we face. Mr. Sowash is working diligently with Rep. Pete Lucido (R-Shelby Township) who serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to put together amendments to address the other issues. Senator Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) is a Lion supportive of our legislative efforts and also committed to take up the legislation if referred to his committee.

MLC is working to have resolutions introduced in both the House and Senate recognizing White Cane week, in addition to the Governor's recognition we have received in the past.

Lions of MI Legislative Reception: MLC has proposed we host a Lions Legislative Day at the state Capitol in early May. This is an opportunity to personally engage in seeking support of HB 4160. A reception would be planned inside the state Capitol with food supplied by Lions of Michigan. Rental fees and food would be approximately \$3,300.00-\$3,900.00. Lions State Projects could set up displays during this time.

MOTION: Wineman, Brown, to proceed with plans for a Lions Legislative Day at the State Capitol. Motion carried.

The Lions of Michigan Foundation has made a donation of \$2,900.00 to the Lions of Michigan for our legislative efforts. Leader Dogs for the Blind was approached, but denied the request for donation.

MOTION: Barr, Brown, to move into closed session during GMT interviews. District Governors, all Vice District Governors, Executive Director and Council Chair-Elect to be included in session. Motion carried.

The meeting resumed after the luncheon break with the announcement of Lion Lula Gardfrey as the nominee for GMT State Chair.

LIONS ALL STATE BAND REPORT –PDG David Bennett, LMASB CEO Becky Dahlke

Nearly 80 students have signed up to participate in the band this year. They have been approached to do the flag ceremony at the plenary session and have agreed to this. CEO Dahlke reported they are struggling in their efforts to find VA hospitals or nursing homes to perform for, and this is due to the timing of the July 4th holiday weekend. Plans are already in the works for the 2018 band trip to Las Vegas, and this has been promoted through participation at the annual Band & Orchestra Convention, held in Grand Rapids in January.

The DG Legacy Project was discussed by DG Ron Gibson. The committee recommends funds are matched by the LMASB for the purchase of band equipment. DG Gibson asked for a motion for approval.

MOTION: Hardt, seconded, District Governors Legacy Project: Match up to \$5,000.00 by 6/30/18 for equipment. LMASB to raise funds up to \$5,000.00.

Discussion: Will this be a challenge for the LMASB to come up with matching funds for equipment? CEO Dahlke stated this would pose a challenge. PDG Bennett pointed out clubs making annual donations to the LMASB administrative account could designate funds for the bands' obligation of matching the donation.

MOTION: Hardt, seconded, to amend original motion to a 2 to 1 match up to \$5,000.00. Motion carried.

PDG Bennett reported on the progress of the LMASB effort to become a state project. Five (5) districts have now approved and the remaining districts will vote at their upcoming district conventions. If approved, this will be voted upon at the MD 11 State Convention in 2018.

CAMPUS CLUB DUES STRUCTURE-DG Dave Hill

DG Hill presented an overview of campus clubs, and how we could positively impact membership and service through creation and implementation of a long term plan to encourage and continue membership in Lions long after graduation. MSU Campus Club President Kayley Langland spoke to the council on the issue of student dues, stating many organizations charge little or no fees to attract and keep student members. Currently, Rotary International has reduced fees to \$10/annually. Lions charge the districts \$5.00 annual dues and \$4.50 for the Lion Pride to an annual fee of \$9.50.

MOTION: Hill, Ridalls, to create a policy that states individual district/members will not be charged directly for student dues or the state magazine. Instead, the exact amount will be transferred from the DG Special Project Fund to the Administrative Fund to cover the amount. This policy should be reviewed annually to identify that the necessary funding is present in the DG Special Project Fund. Motion carried 7-2. Athan -absent; Farrell, B2; Wineman, D2, opposed.

EVALUATION OF STATE TREASURER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MOTION: Gibson, Ridalls, to move into executive session for the purpose of the annual evaluations of the State Treasurer and Executive Director, with inclusion of DGs, 1st VDGs and Council Chair-Elect. Motion carried.

Upon the conclusion of the closed session, the Governors notified Executive Director Wendy Burns that as of July 1, 2017, her annual salary will increase to \$50,000.00; hourly pay for Kristie Feldpausch, Administrative Assistant, will increase to \$13.00/hour.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Draft 3/8/17