

Lions International

Multiple District 11

(Lower Michigan)



"We Serve"

**Official Minutes
First Council Meeting
July 31-August 1, 2015
Lansing, MI**

**Lions of Michigan
MD 11 Council of Governors Meeting
Lansing, Michigan
Friday, July 31, 2015**

Those in attendance were: DG Tom Lanaville, SD 10; DG Sharon Jordan-Crowley, A1; DG Jim Leach, Jr., A2; DG Peggy Allen, B1; DG Jeff Mayuiers, B2; DG Russ Amidon, C2; DG Leo Dolehanty, D1; DG Justin Faber, D2; DG Pam Schroeder, E1; DG Bob Gingerich, E2; First Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Patti Barr, A2; VDG Dave Hill, B1; VDG Tom Hardt, D1; VDG Dave Wineman, D2; VDG Ron Gibson, E1; VDG Carol Athan, E2; Second Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Terry Treppa, A1; VDG John Bingham, A2; VDG LuAnne Bullington, B1; VDG Julie May, C1; VDG Jeff Hunt, D1. Also in attendance, Council Chair Linda Tate, State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, Executive Director Wendy Burns, PID Esther LaMothe, PID Bill Hansen.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Chair Linda Tate and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation. Introductions of Governors and guests were made around the room.

Liaison Report –IPID Esther LaMothe, Chairperson

IPID LaMothe reported on five (5) constitutional resolutions passed by the delegates at the recent convention in Honolulu, Hawaii.

- 1.) International Board seats were reallocated. The number of US Directors was reduced by 3, with ISAAME picking up two (2) of those seats and OSEAL picking up one (1). Beginning with the 2016 convention in Japan, six (6) directors will be elected from the US, which is down from the seven (7) we had this year. In 2017, another six (6) will be elected with five (5) being elected in 2018. After this 3-year period, six (6) USA directors will be elected in odd years and five (5) in even years.
- 2.) The position of 3rd VP was reinstated and delegates will elect someone to this position in Japan.
- 3.) The Leadership Committee has been renamed to Leadership Development Committee.
- 4.) Payment of delinquent club dues is required at least 15 days prior to the close of credentials at District Conventions.
- 5.) Redistricting procedures were amended. The changes can be found in Article VIII, Section 3 of the International By-Laws, located on LCI's website.

Seven (7) Directors from the US were elected. SD 10 and MD 11's candidates were asked to step back for a year and to return in Japan. Candidates from MN and TX were also asked to step back for a year. PCC's Paul Hemeryck, MD 11, and Jenny Ware, SD 10, may request reimbursement for their brochures and posters needed in Hawaii.

2016 Convention speakers are nearly all placed. Governors are asked to submit the required speaker request form to LCI, and begin communicating with your guest speaker by sending a letter, an email, and including them on your newsletter mailing list to help the speaker become familiar with your district.

Conventions 2015-2016 as of July 29, 2015

March 18 -20	C2 Grand Rapids	ID Bill Phillipi Kansas
March 19	C1	TBD

April 8 – 10	E1 Traverse City	PID Cindy Gregg (pending) PA
April 8 – 10	D2 Shanty Creek	PID Mike Molenda (pending) Minnesota
April 8 -10	D1 Midland	PID Gary Anderson
April 14-16	A2 Perrysburg, OH	ID Kembra Smith Georgia
April 15 – 16	B1 Hillsdale	ID Mel Bray New Jersey
April 22- 24	B2 Holland	TBD
April 22- 24	E2	ID Lewis Quinn Alaska
	A1 Port Huron	ID Ed Farrington New Hampshire
April 29, 30 and May 1	SD 10 Harris, MI	ID Robert Littlefield North Dakota
May 13-14	MD 11 Sterling Heights	TBD

USA/Canada Forum –PCC John Johnson, Host Chair (via teleconference)

PCC Johnson reported with six weeks left before the USA/Canada Forum in Grand Rapids, we are in dire need of volunteers. There are currently 98 volunteers registered of the estimated 200 necessary to make the Forum run smoothly. Volunteer forms are on the Lions of MI website and are to be sent to PDG Tim Anderson, the new Manpower coordinator. Volunteers must be registered for the Forum. There is no need to register if volunteering Tuesday or Wednesday to help with registration packet delivery, set-up or shuttle service. As an incentive, volunteers may be eligible for a \$50.00 rebate after the USA/Canada Forum ends. This money will come from the LCI planning committee, which will pay and amount up to \$5,000.00.

New on Thursday will be a full day of seminars, unlike past years when the seminars began on Friday. Saturday has a full day dedicated to Leo members, which is also a new addition to the Forum.

A new closing program has recently been added to Saturday evening and will involve 75-100 volunteers just for this one-time event. PCC Johnson asked that everyone please recruit Lions who are attending the Forum to volunteer. This is by far the best educational seminar that exists within LCI, and we are fortunate to have it so close to home this year. Also, the Host Committee Pin has been produced and sales began at the MD 11 State Convention. The pin was designed by PDG Harry Johnson, and can be purchased for \$5.00 to help offset costs of the convention. This is not the pin provided to attendees by the USA/Canada Forum.

The volunteer schedule will be sent as soon as assignments are completed.

Global Leadership Training –PDG Karen Routson, GLT Coordinator

Training was held on July 31 for the Vice District Governors. Training, direction and encouragement are all part of the structured set of programs that will take place throughout the year, and include Goal Setting, Team Building, Rules & Regulations and Working with the Rest of the World.

An application for GLT funding that was turned in but has been turned down to an early application date. Once the programs for 2015-16 are announced, it may be resubmitted. Under this program, GLT is eligible to receive up to \$100.00/year for each 1st VDG plus the instructor. It also covers \$75.00/year for each 2nd VDG and instructor. A similar grant is available to Districts who use the LCI ZC training program. Information available on LCI's website and covers costs up to \$500.00.

A training session for MD 11 Committee Chairpersons will be held on August 22 at the State Office. VDG Lloyd Foster and Lion Wendy Burns will assist in the training. All State Chairs and District Committee Chairs are welcome to attend with the purpose of the session to foster a stronger working relationship between committees, and DG's both within the Districts and at the Multiple District level.

A joint GLT/GMT committee session will be held with PDG Tim Anderson. Date TDB.

Two LCI training events to consider: Faculty Development Institute and Advanced Lions Leadership Institute. Information for both can be found on LCI's website. Ongoing is the Lions University webinar, an online course offered to Lions.

PDG Karen is available to facilitate Guiding Lion and Club Excellence workshops. Contact her to make arrangements for either.

Treasurer's Report –PCC Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer

The financial report included a summary of membership totals by district for years between 1977 and 2015. 1983 was the best year in membership before the decline. Treasurer Hemeryck provided the Council with actual and projected statements of revenue and expenses from 2011-2020 of all accounts administered by the Lions of Michigan. Treasurer Hemeryck pointed out that wise budgeting and investment decisions made by past Councils have helped the Lions of Michigan to survive despite declining membership.

The suggestion to create an Ad-Hoc Financial Advisory Committee had been raised in the past, and Treasurer Hemeryck has addressed this issue. His recommendation is to include the most recent past Council Chair's to this committee to review budgets and make suggestions. A rotation of PCC's would take place every year, for example: PCC's Brown, Shepard and Pettinato would make up the advisory committee this year, and the committee would provide history and knowledge of the budget process to give input into annual budgets, investments, etc.

DG Dolehanty expressed support of the proposed committee.

CC Tate questioned if there would be a conflict with PCC Shepard, as he is the one who handles our current investment accounts. Treasurer Hemeryck felt his knowledge of the LoM investment accounts would add more knowledge to the committee.

VDG Gibson questioned if an assistant State Treasurer might be a better option, similar to what the Lions of MI Foundation have in place.

DG Gingerich recommended further discussion to take place this weekend, with a Council vote to take place in October.

VCC Faber suggested inclusion of the current Council Chair, PDG Tate, be added to the committee to prepare for serving next year.

The Council of Governors will make a motion on the Financial Advisory Committee at the October, 2015 meeting.

Centennial Celebration –IPDG Diane Wehby, MD 11 Committee Chair

Lions have served their communities for nearly 100 years, and your help is needed as we celebrate in the upcoming months leading to the Centennial Service Challenge goal of serving 100 million people by 2018. IPDG Wehby is looking for District-wide support by appointing District Centennial Coordinators to add to the current committee. Participation in the four (4) areas of service to be targeted is the key to success. LCI has identified the following: Engaging our Youth, Sharing the Vision, Relieving Hunger and Protecting our Environment. The Centennial theme is: Where there's a need, there's a Lion.

For assistance with incorporating the Centennial Service Challenge, contact IPDG Wehby. She is available to help with training and emphasized the importance for Club Secretaries to keep information updated and current with LCI. A Centennial Banner Patch from LCI with special gemstone design for each of the 4 projects can be earned by your District, recognizing their Centennial accomplishments.

Tail Twister DG Sharon Jordan-Crowley called for "fines around the room" and asked the Council to consider where/who the money collected throughout the year should be allocated to.

Meeting recessed at 9:00 p.m. until Saturday.

Lions of Michigan MD 11 Council of Governors Meeting Lansing, Michigan Saturday, August 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Linda Tate at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were: DG Tom Lanaville, SD 10; DG Sharon Jordan-Crowley, A1; DG Jim Leach, Jr., A2; DG Peggy Allen, B1; DG Jeff Mayuiers, B2; DG Russ Amidon, C2; DG Leo Dolehanty, D1; DG Justin Faber, D2; DG Pam Schroeder, E1; DG Bob Gingerich, E2; First Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Patti Barr, A2; VDG Dave Hill, B1; VDG Tom Hardt, D1; VDG Dave Wineman, D2; VDG Ron Gibson, E1; VDG Carol Athan, E2; Second Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Terry Treppa, A1; VDG John Bingham, A2; VDG LuAnne Bullington, B1; VDG Julie May, C1; VDG Jeff Hunt, D1. Also in attendance: Council Chair Linda Tate, State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, IPID Esther LaMothe, PID Bill Hansen and Executive Director Wendy Burns.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

MOTION: Amidon, Mayuiers, to approve the proposed agenda, written reports, and minutes of the May 15, 2015 meeting. Motion carried.

Leadership Institute –PID Bill Hansen, PCC Paul Hemeryck, Co-Chairs

The Leadership Institute is scheduled on November 13-15, 2015. The deadline for applications is September 30th. Space is limited to approximately 100 participants. A \$7,500 grant from LCI has been approved. This is the 17th consecutive year that LCI has supported Michigan's Institute. In order to demonstrate to LCI that the Leadership Institute is receiving local support, each district is asked to contribute \$300. First Vice District Governors are allowed to attend the Leadership Institute at no charge if their district donates \$300. Registration fee includes training, housing and all meals.

There will be three (3) offerings again this year: Leadership, Graduate and Masters. The Masters course is by invitation, and focuses on those desiring to become a DG or ID. The class is limited to 10 participants.

Financial Report –PCC Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer

The financial report included a summary of membership totals by district for years between 1977 and 2015. 1983 was the best year in membership before the decline. Treasurer Hemeryck provided the Council with actual and projected statements of revenue and expenses from 2011-2020 of all accounts administered by the Lions of Michigan. Treasurer Hemeryck pointed out that wise budgeting and investment decisions made by past Councils have helped the Lions of Michigan to survive despite declining membership.

Treasurer Hemeryck explained what the money is used for in the Grace Lange Fund and the Office Fund. He also explained the difference between an operating fund, a designated fund and a restricted fund. The DG's have the power to transfer funds from obsolete accounts and move them to active accounts. For example, the Core 4 Grant is no longer used, and the funds could be moved to create a Centennial account. The Pin account remains high, with money being wrapped up in inventory. Money from this account can be transferred, as it is not a restricted account.

Dues statements went out to the Districts on July 9, 2015 and included the member and publication fees for the first half of the year. All accounts are normal for the time period. The balance sheet gave a detailed breakdown of what funds are in each account. A detailed explanation of every report was provided, with the understanding that it does take time to absorb the information and Treasurer Hemeryck is more than willing and available to discuss at any time now, or at a later date.

DG Wood questioned ways in which we could increase advertising revenue with Lion Pride. There is an additional fee charged by the post office for advertising, creating an additional expense to the mailing costs. Lion Wendy suggested contact information for prospective advertisers be sent to the State Office so that information on pricing can be sent out. Advertisers also have the option of targeting a District separately to send a flyer to, narrowing the target market and thereby making it more appealing to them.

An Investment Policy Statement for the Lions of Michigan MD 11, Inc. was proved to all and prepared by Brian Shepard, Financial Advisor, Financial Technology, Inc.

MOTION: Faber, Dolehanty, to receive the Financial Report as provided, with the option to make changes at the October 2015 Council of Governors meeting. Motion carried.

MD 11 Convention Report –PDG Bob Sturgis, Committee Chair

PDG Sturgis thanked the Council for the great committee members they have provided over the years to assist in the planning of the MD 11 State Convention. He gave praise to the Holland venue and the Holland Lions Club for their picnic held on Thursday evening, prior to the opening of the convention. Having PID Sheehan arrive in time to participate on Thursday greatly adds to the excitement of the convention. The Friday evening Welcome Reception and Speakeasy will be hard to top in 2016. It was a wonderful success.

The Best Western Plus Sterling Heights now has a new name: The Wyndom Gardens. This is not unusual and no noticeable changes will be made to our event. Rising food costs are becoming a critical issue and the committee will be taking a hard look at raising the price in 2016. Building attendance is crucial, as we are always in competition with District Conventions, LCI Convention, and the USA/Canada Forum.

DG Jordan-Crowley suggested a fundraiser such as a casino trip to help raise extra convention funds, or to seek out corporate sponsors.

Lion Ed Weessies suggested assistance from the local CVB to assist. We are bringing business to their community, and in return they may be willing to assist with a mailing and absorb costs, as an example.

VDG John Bingham stated the Warren Mayor could be invited to attend, and corporate sponsorships to target might be GM Tech or Ford. He also suggested a silent auction or raffle during the convention.

PDG Sturgis discussed the hotel price of \$79.00/night. A water park is located onsite. It was announced in May the site of the 2017 MD 11 State Convention will be Great Wolf Lodge, and the \$89.00/night fee includes a pass to the water park, normally a \$35.00 fee on its' own.

International Convention Report –PDG Dennis Lautzenheiser, Committee Chair

85 Lions and guests participated in the convention this year. Michigan Night at Germaine's Luau was well attended and enjoyed by 72 Lions and guests. The Caucus was also well attended. The parade went well with the new Michigan pole banners to create greater visibility. Lighter weight parade shirts for the future were put on hold until the inventory runs out. If the official parade shirt is changed, this would create a need for all participants to invest in the newer shirt.

The 2016 convention in Japan may have a lighter registration than what we saw in Hawaii. Airfare alone is approximately \$2200.00 right now. The hotel assigned to Michigan is the Nishitetsu, Fookoka, and the cost will be \$120.00/night.

GMT Report –PDG Tim Anderson, Committee Chair

PDG Tim reported that three (3) Districts ended with positive numbers for 2014-15. They are A2, D1 and D2. A1 broke even for the year. Overall MD 11 did exceptional with a 13% decrease over 2013-14. Priority Districts are the focus by LCI this year. New Club Development kits are available through LCI, with new Club Development team members on board to oversee the process. The names have not yet been shared by LCI, but watch for this announcement soon.

Growth & Retention goals for the Districts should be communicated soon to PDG Anderson so that the team can work in assisting with your goals. An example may be to increase overall membership in the district by 1% or 3%.

A joint training for GMT/GLT will be held, but the committee is still waiting on the addition of committee members. Each District should have a Club Growth Coordinator, Club Success Coordinator and Family & Women Coordinator. All are part of GMT. The Centennial Committee also works with GLT/GMT.

A new Centennial pin will be awarded to new member sponsors. This will replace the Safari pin that has been given the past two years. Membership Ribbons were again approved for use and an order for additional ribbons will be placed July 1 and given to the Governors for distribution within their Districts.

Constitution & By-Laws –Lion Ed Weessies, Committee Chair

Lion Weessies has reviewed the LCI updates to the Constitution and By Laws and has met with the committee for work on a document to send to all of the clubs. All clubs must adopt these changes which take effect in 2016 in order to be in compliance with LCI. A detailed outline of the updates was provided in IPID LaMothe's report.

MD 11 Policy Manual Updates –Council of Governors

The following updates, changes and corrections to the MD 11 Constitution and By Laws were proposed:

Page 3) Item 8: change "The candidate(s) receiving on or fewer votes" to "plus one"

Page 5) International General Reimbursement Policy: change mileage amount to .50; remove item in parenthesis

Page 6) Update the written reports schedule to the following:

Period to be Covered:

July through September
October through November
December through January
February through April

In mail to State Office by:

2 weeks prior to October Council Meeting
2 weeks prior to December Council Meeting
2 weeks prior to February Council Meeting
2 weeks prior to MD 11 Convention in May

Add new committees to the State Committee list: Centennial Committee, Family & Women Committee, Reading Action Program Committee.

Change hotel name under Council of Governors Meeting Dates for the May 13 meeting upon confirmation from hotel.

Page 8) Committee Directives:

Include Centennial Committee

Include Family & Women Committee

Include Reading Action Program Committee

Change District Editors to read: With direction from Magazine Editor, District Editors encourage the flow of information from the club level to the magazine.

Page 11) Parade Uniform: include Parade shirt, navy trousers, black shoes, optional white hat.

Page 16) Committee Terms – include RAP; Family & Women

Page 17) Under 3-year terms include Centennial Coordinator

Page 26) change handicappers to physically disabled

Lion Wendy will make recommended updates to the MD 11 Policy Manual and a motion to approve all updates will be proposed at the October Council of Governors meeting.

District Editor Report –IPDG Pete Conarty, Chair

The committee held their first meeting of the year earlier in the day at the State Office. The biggest challenge facing the DE Committee is getting information from clubs and district newsletters in a timely manner to the State Office for inclusion in the Lion Pride publication. DE's are the clearing house to funnel information to the editor. The committee discussed changes to the criteria for the Roger LaMothe Award, which currently states a record of every article published in the Lion Pride is recorded. This is a time consuming task and has not been followed for this reason. The committee heard suggestions from Sue Miller, Executive Assistant, on how to better streamline the flow of information, and they will be working on a plan for better communication between those who publish club and district newsletters.

Lions All State Band – CEO Becky Dahlke

Becky Dahlke was recently appointed by the LMASB as CEO, replacing Caro Uhleman-Short upon her recent retirement. Becky's experience with the Lions ASB covers many years, going back to 2001 when she traveled with the band as part of the medical staff along with her husband, Karl. Both Becky and Karl are deeply involved and committed to the Lions ASB, and in 2016 their two sons will be participating band members on the trip to Japan. Jason Russell has been named band director, replacing Roger Weyersberg who has retired.

On their recent trip to Hawaii, Becky oversaw all aspects of this incredible tour, witnessing the excitement of all 57 student band members as they experienced every moment of the trip. From their visit to Pearl Harbor where a wreath was laid in honor of those lost, to marching not once, but twice in the International Parade, leading the way for Arizona and then returning to the lineup to march with Michigan; performances at the Shriners Children's Hospital allowed the band members the opportunity to interact with the patients; to the Hawaiian tradition of an authentic Luau at Germaine's. This trip was full of moments of pride, joy and triumph.

Promotion of the 2016 trip to Japan has begun, and Becky has offered to visit the Districts and provide information on the trip. The 2016 trip cost has been set at \$4,595.00. Returning students do not need to try out. Tryouts are scheduled October 25 at Ovid Elsie High School for band student's grades 8th -12th.

DG Jordan-Crowley inquired as to the cost for chaperones, and who pays their fee. It was explained by Becky that club money only goes to the designated student, not chaperones. They pay their own way.

Old Business:

At the May DGE planning meeting, the All State Band and Youth Exchange committees were lacking nominations for State Chair's. At this time, nominations were made for both.

MOTION: Amidon, Jordan-Crowley, to nominate PDG Dave Bennet to the position of All State Band Committee Chair. Motion carried.

MOTION: Amidon, Dolehanty, to nominate Lion Eileen Delaney to the position of Youth Exchange Committee Chair. Motion carried.

The Reading Action Program is a two-year position. DG Peggy Allen volunteered as State Chair.

MOTION: Dolehanty, Jordan-Crowley, to nominate DG Peggy Allen to the position of RAP State Chair. Motion carried.

New Business:

PCC Paul Hemeryck and PID Bill Hansen, Canine Development Center Co-Chairs for Leader Dogs for the Blind, provided hand-out with updated pledge totals for every District in MD 11 and SD 10. Every club in the state is encouraged to donate \$100.00 to the fund. All donations need to be designated for the Kennel Fund.

Lions Week in Michigan will be October 4-10, 2015. Public Relations Chair, Lion Laura Hunt, obtained a Resolution from Senators Green, Bieda, Booher, Hansen Hopgood, Kowall, MacGregor, Marleau, Proos, Shuitmaker and Zorn. Senate Resolution No. 68 proclaims "October 4-10, 2015, Lions Week in Michigan." The proclamation is included in council packets and can be printed from the website. It is strongly suggested the proclamation be presented to local government for posting and publicity. All Clubs are encouraged to hold membership events during the month of October, particularly during the first week.

DG Rock Wood, in an email sent to the Governors upon return from Hawaii, suggested ways in which this Council can set us apart from past Councils. DG Wood suggests making a real difference in the lives of those in need by undertaking a project that will include our President's challenge of Dignity.Harmony.Humanity. As outlined in the DG training, LCIF offers a matching grant up to \$30,000.00 known as the International Assistance Grant program. A Lions Club or a District can apply for the IAG following this criteria:

- Address an important humanitarian need;
- Involve at least two Clubs or Districts from different countries;
- Provide long term benefit;
- Serves a large or particularly needy population;
- Project is identified as a Lions Project'

The grand application raises at least 50% of the funding through Lions or other sources.

DG Wood suggests involving Georgia in the challenge, and DG Mayuiers offered to assist with a letter writing campaign. DG Wood also suggests a humanitarian service to positively impact children. VDG Terry Treppa suggested defining the area of need before sending a letter to Georgia. IPID Esther suggested contacting LCIF for a list of service needs.

MOTION: Dolehanty, Mayuiers, to support the proposal to apply for the International Assistance Grant program through LCIF, raising up to \$30,000.00 in donations to apply toward a humanitarian service project. By a show of hands, there was 100% support from MD 11 District Governors and the motion carried. SD 10 District Governor was absent from this portion of the meeting.

The Tail Twister collected on fines, and paid her own fine imposed while stepping out of the room for a discussion with PID Hansen earlier in the day. Tail Twister money collected from the weekend totaled \$228.00.

MOTION: Amidon, Dolehanty, to adjourn the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Wendy Burns, Executive Director

Updated 8/21/15