

Lions International

Multiple District 11

(Lower Michigan)



"We Serve"

**Official Minutes
Third Council Meeting
February 28-March 1, 2015
Lansing, MI
(Updated 3.25.15)**

**COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING
SATURDAY-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 1, 2015
LANSING, MICHIGAN**

CALL TO ORDER –The third meeting of the 2014-15 Council of Governors was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Council Chair Jim Pettinato. Governors present were: DG Martin Malone, A1; DG Tom Hill, A2; DG Vicki Lautzenheiser, B1; DG Marsha Brown, B2; DG Diane Wehby, C1; DG Billy White, C2; DG Dennis Poirier, D1; DG Whitey Simon, D2; DG Peter Conarty, E1; DG Barb Durlinger, E2. 1st VDG's present were: VDG Sharon Jordan-Crowley, A1; VDG James Leach, Jr., A2; VDG Peggy Allen, B1; VDG Jeff Mayiuers, B2; VDG Rock Wood, C1; VDG Russ Amidon, C2; VDG Leo Dolehanty, D1; VDG Justin Faber, D2; VDG Pam Schroeder, E1; VDG Bob Gingerich, E2. 2nd VDG's in attendance were: VDG Lloyd Foster, C1; VDG Ken Ridalls, C2. VDG Ron Gibson, 11 E1; Also present were Council Chair Jim Pettinato, Council Chair-Elect Linda Tate, State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director. Special guests included PID Gary Anderson, IPDG Tim Anderson, GMT Chair, PDG Karen Routson, GLT Chair, PDG David Eberlein, Strategic Planning Chair, Lion Dennis Tomkins, Director, and Lions Bear Lake Camp.

The meeting opened with the invocation and pledge of allegiance. A welcome and introductions were made around the room.

Convention Protocol –PID Gary Anderson

PID Anderson provided Protocol overview and suggestions for hosting International guests at District and State conventions.

Complete the LCI International Officer Event Confirmation form. This will confirm arrival/departure date, speaking times; convention dress, etc. Arrange for visits to local Lions projects or meeting with the full Cabinet or Council. Secure transportation to and from the airport, and designate a Lion to be in charge of transportation.

Contact your speaker by phone to welcome them and answer any questions. Provide the convention agenda in advance in an effort to prepare your guest for themed nights, speaking sessions, etc. Pay for all expenses: Your guests may not have eaten by the time you pick them up at the airport. Stop for a meal, if needed. Refer to the preference sheet supplied by LCI and create a welcoming atmosphere in their hotel room. The preference sheet states what beverages are preferred, snacks, fruit, etc. It will also provide information on a gift preference, such as a donation to LCIF, for example. It is also important to include a speaking opportunity for the spouse of the International Guest, as this is required by LCI to reimburse for travel expenses.

1st VDG's were encouraged to attend the Caucus at the LCI Convention in Hawaii. This offers a first-hand opportunity to hear prospective speakers. Typically, seated Directors are the first to be assigned to conventions. You can personally contact an ID, or go through ID Esther LaMothe to make the selection of the ID of your choice.

Lions Bear Lake Camp – Lion Dennis Tomkins, Director

The third in a series of four (4) presentations scheduled during the evening session of the Council of Governors meeting began with a report from Lion Dennis Tomkins, Director of Lions Bear Lake Camp. In 2000 the 'new' Bear Lake Camp moved from Lake Orion to newly purchased property in Lapeer, and opened their doors year round with the mission to provide a premiere outdoor recreational/educational facility providing opportunities for people of special needs to enhance

self-worth, attain independence, acquire social skills and realize their full potential as human beings.

The PDS program, "A Wider World" featured the camp two years ago and Lion Dennis provided the segment for all to see. It beautifully portrayed the essence of camp and the benefits to those served. In addition to the visually impaired camp, a one-of-a-kind deaf & hard of hearing camp is held. A "language camp" is held and culminates with a theater performance at the close of camp. A stage was built to hold up to 200 performers. Many types of campers now attend year round at BLC.

A challenge course, zip line and climbing wall are the newest additions to the camp, offering team building and helps create the unique experience that is Lions Bear Lake Camp. The camp is financially supported by Lions, Lioness and Leos throughout Michigan. All were encouraged to attend the May 9 work day, as well as the June 28 open house.

GLT Report –PDG Karen Routson, GLT State Chair

The 1st Vice District Governors had their last day of training for the year. Topics covered in training included preparing to become a DG; DG role with State Projects; Finances-State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck; role of the State Office-Wendy Burns, Executive Director; LCIF and what to expect at the International Convention.

1st VDG's who were able to attend participated in the Area GLT training in IL. The LCI Faculty Development Institute is being offered for the first time in three years. This is a high-intensity learning experience for persons interested in gaining high level skills in developing and conducting learning sessions. Register by March 17 and send completed application to PDG Routson.

District Officer/Club Officer Training: Coordinate with your District GLT coordinator to be sure all the points made in the LCI training materials for each position are included in your district's training. PDG Routson offered to lead a session for any district interested. Training is scheduled at the C1/E1 convention in Traverse City.

Family & Women Symposium Committee held the first meeting in January. Topics included the scope of the project (a single district vs state-wide event), objective of the event (inspiration for leadership especially by women? Service project in a Lions-related cause?), and membership considerations. Next meeting to be held February 2016.

GMT Report –IPDG Tim Anderson

Recognition was given to 11-D2 for their positive membership report. 11-A2 was acknowledged for doing well also. IPDG Anderson explained how this has been a transitional year with new GMT leadership. LCI has made some changes to the program as well and the changes are slowly being incorporated among the Districts. IPDG Anderson represents LCI and works with the clubs in our state, and Council Chair Pettinato represents the state through his leadership role with the Council of Governors. Redistricting was tabled in 2013 to give GMT time to work on membership in the state. LCI has taken "retention" and "extension" out of their program titles and change to Club Success and Club Growth. The reason behind this is that many were growing weary of hearing about membership. The focus will now be upon success and growth.

Teams of two Lions within each district are to work on Club Success and Club Growth. To date, on two (2) of the districts have teams in place. These teams will build membership with the updated GMT program for the next two years. CC Pettinato handed out a report containing membership totals for every district. He will continue to update the report monthly.

SAFARI PIN

The Safari pin first given in the 1970's to a member who brought in a new member. IPDG Anderson recommended to last year's Governor's that this incentive be brought back, and with their approval a pin was designed. The 1st Vice District Governors were asked to make a decision on whether or not to continue recognition with a safari pin, and if so, a vote is required.

MOTION: Amidon, Allen to approve the Safari pin in recognition of Lions sponsorship of new members. Motion carried.

Lions Week in Michigan is a membership drive held in October during membership month. The past two years this event has taken place, beginning with "Membership Day" in October 2013 and expanding to "Membership Week" in 2014. State PR Chair, Lion Laura Hunt, has worked to obtain a state proclamation in the past, and will do so this year, with approval. Do the Vice District Governors wish to continue with Membership Week in October?

MOTION: Dolehanty, Schroeder, to conduct "Lions Membership Week in Michigan" during the first full week of October. Motion carried.

Last year IPDG Anderson introduced a new membership recognition ribbon. A purple and gold awareness ribbon would be used to promote membership. Every Lion in the state would receive a purple ribbon, and will be asked to wear it with their Lions membership pin holding the ribbon in place. When a new member is brought in, the purple ribbon will be passed to the newer Lion, and the sponsoring member is given the gold ribbon. The Michigan Safari pin will be used to hold the gold ribbon in place.

MOTION: Leach, Allen, to approve continuance of the membership recognition ribbons. Motion carried.

Strategic Planning Committee – PDG David Eberlein, Chair

The rough draft of the Multiple District 11 Action Plan has been approved by the committee and will be sent on for publication and assembly to be given to you at the Council of Governors meeting in May. Unfortunately there were only 9 out of 25 committees that responded this year. Next year we should pick up more, if not all the committees along with the goals for the State Office Personnel. Updating for the 2016-17 Lions year will begin about December of 2015.

The Multiple District Membership Survey has been coming in slowly. Returns are coming in at a weak pace – less than 25 to date. The remainder of the surveys will be picked up at the Michigan Forum. At our next meeting, survey comments and suggestions will be reviewed and decisions made as to what action should be taken. The committee's goal is to have a completed report on survey results for the first Council of Governors meeting in August. For the Governors who are currently serving, we will also include the reporting documents as part of your "retirement" package.

At our last meeting we did determine that there were at least 3 suggestions the committee felt needed action. State GLT Coordinator PDG Karen Routson is part of the SP Committee, and the suggestion to provide financial training for the 1st VDG's as a means to better understand financial reports prior to their first Council of Governors meeting. State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck was already on the agenda to address the group at their recent meeting. PDG Karen will include

financial report training in future sessions. It was determined that several comments were merely that-comments-and others were put completely aside as not relevant. Some suggestions were tabled until more surveys are returned for comparisons.

VDG Sharon Jordan-Crowley questioned providing a full report with a “weak” number of returned surveys. PDG Eberlein stated the report would be based on total number of surveys received.

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

CALL TO ORDER –The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Council Chair Jim Pettinato. Governors present were: DG Martin Malone, A1; DG Tom Hill, A2; DG Vicki Lautzenheiser, B1; DG Marsha Brown, B2; DG Diane Wehby, C1; DG Billy White, C2; DG Dennis Poirier, D1; DG Whitey Simon, D2; DG Peter Conarty, E1; DG Barb Durflinger, E2. 1st VDG’s present were: VDG Sharon Jordan-Crowley, A1; VDG James Leach, Jr., A2; VDG Peggy Allen, B1; VDG Jeff Mayiuers, B2; VDG Rock Wood, C1; VDG Russ Amidon, C2; VDG Leo Dolehanty, D1; VDG Pam Schroeder, E1; VDG Bob Gingerich, E2. 2nd VDG’s in attendance were: VDG Lloyd Foster, C1; VDG Ron Gibson, 11 E1; Also present were Council Chair Jim Pettinato, State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes –

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

MOTION – Malone, Hill, to approve the minutes of the November 2014 Council Meeting. Motion carried.

Financial Report – Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer

Treasurer Hemeryck explained the difference between designated, restricted and unrestricted accounts. It was noted that the net operating expenses are normal for this time of year, and that our cash assets remain strong.

DG Lautzenheiser questioned where the USA/Canada Forum account could be located on the report. Approval was made by a majority vote at the November Council meeting to borrow up to \$20,000.00 from the pin account for expenses incurred by hosting the USA/Canada Forum in September. DG Lautzenheiser also brought up past discussion regarding the need to liquidate some of the pin money and move to current operating accounts, which has not yet been done. Treasurer Hemeryck responded by stating it is up to the Governor’s to decide which accounts the money is to be moved to. Treasurer Hemeryck indicated he had not received the accounts to be adjusted, but he had indicated to the council previously he would bring the line items that could be dispensed with and we would decide on "yes" or "no".

Bonus money does not show up as a line item in the expense report. Treasurer Hemeryck stated the money is included in payroll, and will be moved to the proper account. DG Simon suggested it would be helpful to see the prior year’s expenses to have a comparison for the current year. DG Durflinger suggested a report on budget actuals for comparison as well.

DG Wehby questioned the GMT account which shows an expense to date of \$2848.24, which puts them over their original budget of \$2,000.00 annually. VDG Allen questioned if the Safari pin comes from the State pin account. It does not. The Safari pin is a membership expense, under GMT.

DG Simon suggested the formation of a Budget and Finance Committee to review the finances. VDG Mayiuers expressed his concern over approving expenditures for GMT the prior evening without the knowledge of the committee being over budget.

DG Whitey and DG Lautzenheiser asked Treasurer Hemeryck to provide a list of all accounts, with suggesting which accounts are obsolete and should be eliminated, and what accounts funds in the pin account could be moved into in an effort to deplete some of the money form that account.

MOTION: Malone, Simon, to require incoming Committee Chairs to submit a budget to the Council of Governors for approval for the 2015-16 Lions year. Motion carried.

Lion Wendy Burns informed the Council of the information packets that are sent to all Committee Chairs, which includes information on budget and their responsibility to present a budget to the State Treasurer for review, with final approval coming from the Council of Governors. DG Wehby asked if a committee ran out of funds, can they spend unused funds from another account. The answer was no, they cannot.

Continuing on with his report, Treasurer Paul gave an explanation of the Operating, Designated and Restricted accounts. The Grace Lang account is restricted, and money can only be spent on scholarships. At the recent MI Forum, the White Cane Committee awarded \$10,000.00 in scholarship money from this account.

Lion Pride Magazine is a separate corporation. The account shows a loss of -973.00 for the year, mainly due to postage increases. VDG Rock Wood suggested an increase in advertisers to create more income. Advertisers are always encouraged, and as Lion Wendy pointed out, the postage has increased due to the fees charged by the Postmaster when they flag advertisements in the Pride. We pay a fee to advertise events such as the MI Forum, which charges a dollar amount.

Treasurer Hemeryck requested approval for funds to purchase a laptop for the State Office and a projector. The current projector is outdated and does not work properly, and there is not a laptop for use. Both items are critical for use at the Forum, State Convention and Council meetings.

MOTION: Malone, Poirier, to purchase a new laptop and projector.

DG Durflinger pointed out capital expenditures need to have a limit placed on the dollar amount.

MOTION: Malone, Poirier, to purchase a computer laptop and projector with expenses not to exceed \$3,500.00. Motion carried.

MOTION: Hill, Lautzenheizer, to file the Financial Report as submitted. Motion carried.

Council Chair Pettinato will submit a letter to IPDG Anderson regarding the expenses for the GMT account and will copy the Governors on his correspondence.

DG Tom Hill thanked Lion Paul for the volunteer work he has provided to the Council for the past many years.

International Convention Report –PDG Dennis Lautzenheiser, Chair

The Convention in Hawaii will be held June 26-30, 2015. To date, LCI reports 65 Lions and guests from MD 11 and 5 Lions and guests from SD 10.

Michigan has been assigned the Waikiki Beach Marriott. Cost of a room is \$265.00. Room rate does not include resort fees. The DGE's have been assigned the Hilton Hawaiian Village. We will have a complimentary hospitality room provided to us and LCI has sent the appropriate forms to PDG Dennis for completion. The plan is to pick up snacks while in Hawaii to have on hand in the hospitality room, rather than transport anything from Michigan.

Parade shirt (red, white, blue with stars on the sleeve), navy slacks, skirt or capris, black shoes. It was suggest if participants wear hats to protect from the sun, a white hat is advised. Light-weight shirts were looked into, but were unable to be found in the current style used. Again this year, a small American flag will be given to those attending the convention and are to be handed out along the parade route. The Governors are asked to contact their State Representatives and Senators to see if a donation of a small Michigan state flag can be made. If you are able to get Michigan flags, they can also be used along the parade route. PDG Dennis will look into the cost of ordering a small quantity, but highly likely they are .70 ea.or more. US flags are .13 per 2,000. Old pins are also popular along the parade route and you may bring yours if you'd like.

Four (4) feather flags (light-weight nylon flag) will be purchased and affixed to a pole to carry at the parade line-up; during the General Session and at the Caucus, helping to identify Michigan. The committee voted on a white background with blue lettering: MICHIGAN.

Sunday, June 28 –Michigan Night at Germaine's for a traditional Hawaiian Luau. Transportation from both the Governor's and Michigan delegates designated hotels, tax, tip, and three adult beverages are included in the \$80.00 price. A reservation form is in the upcoming issue of the Lion Pride, indicating checks are to be sent to PDG Dennis. He will keep a registration list and forward checks to Lion Wendy for deposit.

Illinois will host the breakfast at the Sheraton Waikiki, which is approximately a 15 minute walk from either Michigan hotel. Menu and cost to be determined.

Caucus -Monday, June 29, 2015 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at the convention center. All convention attendees are encouraged to listen to the speeches, as this will give you a first-hand look at the candidates you may wish to invite to your District conventions. Michigan has a candidate in MD 11: PCC Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer, and PCC Jenny Ware from SD 10.

MD 11 State Convention Report –Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director

Plans are moving forward on the May 15-16 convention, to be held in Holland. There will be a picnic once again on Thursday evening, May 14, for anyone coming to the convention early. Lion Wendy and Chair, PDG Sturgis have met with Lion Mike Apple, Holland Lions Club. The club will provide a “traditional Lions cookout” for us at a waterfront park in Holland. PID Brian Sheehan of Bird Island, MN has been confirmed as guest speaker.

An assignment sheet was passed out to the Governors, with the explanation of their duties during the convention.

State Office Communications –Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director

The District Governors received blazer patches for next year's 1st and 2nd Vice Governors and District Governors, to be presented upon election at their district conventions this spring. Comp

pins were given to Governors and Governors-Elect who are registered to attend the International Convention in Hawaii.

Presidential and Leadership Medals approved by President Preston were distributed to the Governors for presentation at their district conventions.

Evaluation of State Treasurer and Executive Director - The Council conducted a performance review and Council Chair Pettinato will present the results to the State Treasurer and Executive Director.

Written Reports – Written reports were submitted by the Bear Lake Camp, Youth Exchange Committee, Leader Dog Committee, Lions Quest Committee, Sight, Conservation & Diabetes Committee, PR Committee, Constitution & By Laws Committee.

MOTION – Conarty, Poirier, to receive the written reports as submitted. Motion carried.

USA/Canada Report -PCC John Johnson

**Due to the non-working conference phone, a written report was submitted for discussion by PCC Johnson.*

1. While many Lions say they will volunteer only 30 some have actually filled out and returned the volunteer form. We are at about 10% of what we need. We need them to commit so we can schedule volunteers. We arranged free parking near the CC.

2. About 700 people are currently registered so all hotel choices are likely available. Now \$277, increasing 5/31 to \$288 and again on 7/20 to \$310 per person. We need to push registration for the Forum and to volunteer at district conventions with announcements and tables to complete forms.

3. We would like each district to commit \$300 or more to the forum which would be used to refund the dearby registration fee to someone in the district who registers at the district convention so long as at least 25 register during that district convention. The money would be rebated to the attendee after they actually attend the forum.

4. We would like the multiple district to commit \$600 so a couple registering (or 2 Individuals if the first name we pull is a single registrant) by whatever time exhibit tables close at the MD convention would have the same opportunity as 3 above. I envision this drawing to include all MD 11 pre-registrants thru the convention to keep the incentive to register at district conventions.

5. Host committee pin design is approved and 2500 should be ordered soon. Price will be \$5 with our cost about \$1 each so we can defray some of our expenses.

6. We expect to rebate some portion of the registration fee for the forum for volunteers who work at least 8 hours certified by the Host Committee to the Planning Committee, but we don't know the amount until we get final approval from Planning Committee. This may be limited to those who volunteer by 5/31.

7. Planning Committee returns to Grand Rapids for meetings March 29 to April 1. We expect to put together a permit application for a rubber duck regatta in the river for a host committee fundraiser during those meetings. We will also get a state raffle license.

8. We need additional donations of money and supplies for hospitality and to equip our host committee office in the convention center. Anyone interested or with contacts should let me know and I will connect them with the right person.

9. We are looking for organizations to help sponsor the host committee to defray expenses.

Discussion was held on items #3 and #4. It was decided not to support commitment of \$600.00 by MD 11 for a drawing to win a free registration. It was also pointed out the Host Committee Pin is a pin designed by PDG Harry Johnson and will be sold to attendees as a fundraiser to off-set costs of the Forum.

DG Brown is in need of donations of items to place in gift baskets for the LCI Planning Committee. Any donations should be sent to her directly.

Leadership Institute Report – PCC Paul Hemeryck, Co-Chair

The LI is in its 16th year and remains rated as one of the best in the country. LCI has again approved \$7,500.00 in grant money to support our efforts. With his campaign for International Director this year, Co-Chairs PCC Hemeryck and PID Hansen felt the need for a third person to assist as co-chair. PID Gary Anderson has agreed to become part of this team. ID Esther may be back after her LCI obligations are completed, but that remains unsure at this time. Handouts were provided which list all LI participants. This guide may prove a valuable resource when looking for leaders within your district.

MOTION: Durlinger, Malone, to appoint three (3) Co-Chairs of the 2015 Leadership Institute Ad-Hoc Committee, PID Bill Hansen, PID Gary Anderson and PCC Paul Hemeryck. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The 1st VDG's were presented with a draft of three options for the 2016 State Pin. The approved pin is in the shape of the State of Michigan (upper and lower peninsula) blue background with a white crane and the lettering: 2016 (corrected from 2015) Fukuoka, Japan. Lion Wendy to place an order for 3,000 pins.

CC Pettinato reminded the Governors to return the completed State Treasurer and Executive Director evaluations back to him by March 6, 2015. He will then meet with Treasurer Paul and Lion Wendy to review the results.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Wendy Burns, Executive Director