

Lions International

Multiple District 11

(Lower Michigan)



"We Serve"

**3rd Council of Governors Meeting
Causeway Bay Hotel
Lansing Michigan
December 2-3, 2016**

Council of Governors Meeting
Friday, December 2, 2016
Causeway Bay Hotel, Lansing

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Council Chair Justin Faber. **District Governors** in attendance were: Matt Doney, SD 10; 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. **2nd Vice District Governors** in attendance were: Shirley Kelly, A1; Roger Spriggs, B1; Fran Grabowski, B2; Joe Bogar, D1; Jack Kriete, D2. Also in attendance: Council Chair Faber, Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, PID Gary Anderson, and Executive Director Wendy Burns.

The meeting opened with the invocation, pledge of allegiance and song.

MOTION: Barr, Athan, approval of the agenda. Motion carried.

MOTION: Hardt, Farrell, approval of the minutes from the October 2016 meeting. Motion carried.

Council Chair Faber announced the new 2017-2018 Council Chair, elected earlier in the afternoon by the 1st Vice District Governors. IPDG Peggy Allen will serve as the next Council Chair.

Lion Bob Snyders is with Experience Grand Rapids, sponsors of the Hospitality Room. Lion Bob (Grand Rapids Lions Club), along with Hannah McCarthy of the Crowne Plaza Hotel, shared a promotional video of Grand Rapids and what visitors can expect when coming to the area for a conference. A special concession package with reduced food & beverage rates will be offered to anyone booking an event at the Crowne Plaza now through December 2018.

MICHIGAN FORUM REPORT –PCC Linda Tate, Chair

Packets containing information on the Forum and a registration form were handed out to all. The complete mailing was sent to all club presidents and secretaries November 29. This year's keynote address will be presented by Mr. John Drake, Lingap Orphanage. The Friday night activity will be a Centennial Service Project to benefit school-aged children. Project Back Pack will involve putting together donated back packs and food that students can take home for a weekend and will provide extra meals/snacks when away from school, where

breakfast and lunch are offered. Governors were asked to use the list provided in their packets to obtain donations from their districts.

The 2018 MI Forum will be held in a new location, most likely Mt. Pleasant. All Governors were asked to sign up to help at the Forum on a sheet that was passed around the room. Any gaps will be filled in by the 1st and 2nd VDGs.

GLT REPORT –PDG Karen Routson

VDG training held earlier in the day focused on rules, regulations and guiding documents. Only one more Michigan training session is left, as well as GLT/GMT training to be held in Indianapolis in February and Chicago in June. Additional leadership development activities include the Lions Leadership Institute held in November, Michigan Forum in February. Districts D1 & D2 held a first-time joint Fall Conference which offered many breakout sessions and overall was well attended and highly successful.

There are three very good candidates for the MD 11 GLT Coordinator position for 2017-2020: PDGs Barry Allen, Jeff Mayuiers and Diane Wehby. Interviews will take place Saturday morning (December 3) and will be conducted by the seated Governors. Each candidate will be allowed to give a 20-minute presentation on a pre-determined topic, illustrating their “teaching skills.”

LCI NEWS & UPDATES –PID Gary Anderson

VDG Julie May was presented with a Lions University Bachelors certificate. PID Gary has been busy this past year leading the team working on the USA/Canada Forum, held this past September in Omaha. He has now worked on 10 (ten) Forums in 12 (twelve) cities, and gave a nod to Grand Rapids for the excellent service provided when a convention comes to town.

PID Anderson recently visited with Vice President Gundrun during the executive committee meeting in Chicago. VP Gundrun is working on the three-year plan for Lions. PID Gary encouraged the Governors and VDGs to look at your districts in terms of a three-year plan as well, and begin mentoring Lions to move into your position. Moving Lions into leadership positions while you are still in this role is beneficial to all.

DG CENTENNIAL PROJECT UPDATE –DGs Hardt, Gibson

Inquiries have been sent to both LCIF and MI Braille Transcribing Fund for grant opportunities for purchase of LMASB equipment.

POLICY MANUAL REVIEW & UPDATES –DGs Hardt, Hill

No changes reported.

The question was asked regarding the fee for dues for a college student. LCI charges \$21.50/student annually. The state fee for student membership is

\$9.50/year. Dues notices are sent to the districts in January and July, for 50% of the fee. Regular membership costs \$14.50/year.

Tail Twister fines were collected.

MOTION: Athan, Farrell, to recess the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Saturday, December 3. Motion carried.

Council of Governors Meeting
Saturday, December 3, 2016
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: Matt Doney, SD 10; 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. **2nd Vice District Governors** in attendance were: Shirley Kelly, A1; Roger Spriggs, B1; Fran Grabowski, B2; Joe Bogar, D1; Jack Kriete, D2. Also in attendance: Council Chair Faber, Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, and Executive Director Wendy Burns.

The meeting opened with the invocation, pledge of allegiance and song.

MOTION: Athan, Gibson, to receive written reports submitted by PR, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Sight/Conservation, Leo Clubs, Youth Exchange, LCI-Convention, LMASB. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS – Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director

A request for support has been received by the Detroit Convention & Visitors Bureau to submit a proposal to host the 2021 USA/Canada Forum in Detroit, MI.

MOTION: Foster, Barr, to support the Detroit CVB in their effort to bid on the 2021 USA/Canada Forum, to be held in Detroit, MI. Motion carried.

District winners of the Environmental Photo Contest should be brought to the February Council of Governors to be voted upon at the state level. One winning entry will be sent to LCI for consideration.

Flags will be handed out at the February CoG meeting to be used at district conventions in representation of your international guest speaker. The February Council meeting will begin on Feb. 18, 2017, with VDG training. Saturday, Feb. 19 and Sunday, Feb. 20, we will hold the Council of Governors meeting. Governors will participate in the Michigan Forum on Saturday. A group dinner will be announced for Saturday evening, and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday.

MD 11 STATE CONVENTION –PDG Bob Sturgis, Chair

Pre-Convention Picnic – Optimist Park Catered by Terry Conger, Traverse City
Menu: Old-fashioned pig roast. Cost: \$10.00/person. PID Townsend will try to arrive in time to attend this event. Room reservations are now being accepted at Great Wolf Lodge. There will be one ballot issue to vote upon: Combining the Publication Advisory Committee with the District Editors Committee.

The MD 11 Convention committee is looking into holding a live/silent auction during the Friday night Welcome Reception, and would like permission from the council to do so. The intent is to raise funds to help offset convention costs, as well as make for a lively evening for those in attendance.

MOTION: Barr, Hill, to support the live and silent auction, to be held at the MD 11 State Convention on Friday, May 19, 2017. Motion carried.

LCIF REPORT

Donations are being made to assist in the relief efforts in Gatlinburg, TN, due to the massive fires. Please remind members of your district to consider donating. 100% of the proceeds will go toward the community.

LEO REPORT –PDG Terry Walters, Chair

There are currently 31 Alpha Leo clubs in the state. The bus trip to LCI-Con, Chicago, is beginning to fill, with a total of 24 of the mandatory 30 registered. Leo Clubs have been busy with service projects this fall with community food drives and stuff-the-bus events. New this year: Each registered LMASB member is automatically a Leo member.

PDG Walters asked for assistance from the DGs to financially support Leos in your district who cannot afford to pay for dues or special events. The cost for the LCI-Con bus trip:

\$ 445.00 for Leos (based on Quad occupancy)

\$ 665.00 for adults (based on double Occupancy) *

*Adults must also pay the International Lions Registration charge which is included in this price. The costs include all meals except Friday lunch, bus transportation; hotel for two nights, all entrance fees to all sightseeing stops: (Museum of Science & Industry, Shedd Aquarium , and Skydome).

\$50.00 deposit for each person is due by December 20, 2016. Checks payable to: Bob Rogers Travel. A second payment of \$ 200.00 is due on February 25, 2017 with the remaining balance due on April 15, 2017.

Upcoming events designed for Leo members include: MI Forum Leo workshop led by ID Jenny Ware and MSU Club President Kayley Langlands; Eversight bowling tournament; Leo Convention in June, possibly held at Lions Bear Lake Camp; LCI-Convention trip to Chicago.

PDG Walters asked for a donation of older, miscellaneous pins to the Leo members attending the convention for trading purposes. Lion Wendy offered an assortment of past state pins. PDG Walters also stated six committee members will complete their terms on June 30, 2017, and advised 1st VDGs to consider replacements for the position.

FINANCIAL REPORT –PCC Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer

PCC Hemeryck reviewed the financial reports for the five-month period ending November 30, 2016. Revenues and expenses are normal for this time of year, which is not typically a high-activity period. Dues income is recorded on an accrual basis, which spreads the income over six months instead of recognizing it as income at the time payment is received. Treasurer Hemeryck is hopeful that there will be an increase in dividends at the end of the year. Invoices have not yet been received from expenses related to the Leadership Institute, which is why it appears that the account has a substantial amount of money in it. The Lion Pride account also reflects normal activity for this time period.

Membership as of 10/31/16 showed an increase to 10,854 members. Be aware that this may change by 12/31/16, when clubs experience membership drops. Dues notices will be sent in January for the 2nd half dues.

The annual independent audit took place in September and once again went very well with a favorable opinion by Robert Heemer, CPA. Taxes have been properly filed.

MOTION: Ridalls, Barr, to receive the financial report as presented. Motion carried.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE REPORT –PCC Paul Hemeryck, Co-Chair

It was another great event with 86 Lions in attendance. There were 43 in Leadership, 28 in Graduate and 15 in Masters. The attendees gave the Institutes very strong ratings on an overall basis. On a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest possible score, the Leadership Institute scored at 4.77, the Graduate Institute scored a 4.65 and the Masters Institute scored a 4.92.

Over the 18 years we have had 1,450 attending the Leadership Institute, 200 attending the Graduate Institute and 50 attending the Masters Institute.

GLT INTERVIEWS

MOTION: Wineman, Ridalls, to enter into closed session for GLT interview process. All VDGs invited to sit in for observation. Motion carried.

IPDG Jeff Mayuiers was elected as the MD 11 GLT Coordinator for 2017-2020.

PEACE POSTER/ESSAY CONTEST

The winner of the MD 11 Peace Poster contest is Emily Fairfield, 8th grader at Fruitport Middle School. Fruitport Lions Club, 11 C1, submitted the poster. Emily will win a \$300.00 prize from MD 11. No essays were received for review.

TRAFFIC CODE FOLLOW-UP

In response to the Attorney General's recent opinion on enforcement of the Traffic Law Code, the seated Governors met with a representative from MI Legislative Consultants for an information-gathering session. Based on information provided by consultant Matt Sowash, it was agreed by the DGs to invite Mr. Sowash to share with the full council ways by which the Lions of Michigan might utilize a consulting firm to assist in reversing this law. The creation of a strategic plan for Lions would be implemented, and finding the right "bill-sponsor" would be the key to pushing this through the House and Senate. MI Legislative Consultants would be able to find the right contacts that would be passionate about the cause for Lions.

Questions were brought up regarding the fee for services. There are several options available for payment. The monthly fee for retaining services typically range \$4,000.00-\$6,000.00 for a 12-month contract. A contract can be dissolved with a 60-day "out" clause. Another option is to form coalition with organizations who are also impacted by the Traffic Code restrictions and share the monthly cost. However, forming a coalition may increase cost due to a larger amount of members represented. It was suggested we form a coalition on our own and be the mediator between the various groups.

MI Legislative Consultants would create an event for Lions, which would be a "drive-in day at the Capitol." This gives Lions an opportunity to meet with Legislatures personally to discuss our concerns. It could become a large-scale event with the KidSight trailer, State Project representation, Lions information and the opportunity to engage everyone in "Lions Day at the Capitol."

When questioned on the timeline for creating a bill, Mr. Sowash said it could take up to 12 months. Discussion was held on where the money to support the consultant fees would come from, and CC Faber asked Treasurer Hemeryck's thoughts on whether the money could come from the White Cane account. Treasurer Hemeryck stated the money in the account is used to order White Cane supplies, when needed, and that of the \$79,000.00 in the account, \$25,000.00 is cash, the rest is inventory.

It was suggested we ask our State Projects if they obtain consultant services, and how it works for them. It was decided to form a committee to discuss the matter further.

MOTION: Foster/Hardt, to form a committee with representatives from SD 10, District Governors and 1st Vice District Governors. Motion carried.

It was also asked that the committee have a recommendation to the council by the end of the year. The council would hold a special meeting at the state office on Wednesday, December 28 at 11:00 a.m. if the committee is prepared to give a recommendation.

The committee will be made up of the following:

DG Lloyd Foster, C1; DG Tom Hardt, D1; DG Dave Wineman, D2; DG Matt Doney, SD 10; VDG Jeff Hunt, D1; VDG LuAnne Bullington, B1

MD 11 AWARDS NOMINATIONS

MOTION: Hill, Hardt, to adjourn the meeting and go into closed session for award nominations. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.