

Lions International

Multiple District 11

(Lower Michigan)



"We Serve"

**1st Council of Governors Meeting
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Grand Rapids, MI
August 4-5, 2017**

2017-2018
1st COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING
Thornapple Room, Crown Plaza Hotel
Grand Rapids, MI
Friday, August 4, 2017

The first meeting of the 2017-2018 Council of Governors was called to order by Council Chair Peggy Allen at 7:00 p.m. in the Thornapple room of the Crown Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI. Governors in attendance were: DG Terry Treppa, A1; DG John Bingham, Jr., A2; DG LuAnne Bullington, B1; DG Barb Stutesman, B2; DG Julie May, C1; DG Brent Beracy, C2; DG Jeff Hunt, D1; DG Peggy Walls, E1; DG Bob Gingerich, E2. 1st Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Shirley Kelly, A1; VDG Jack Patton, A2; VDG Roger Spriggs, B1; VDG Fran Grabowski, B2; VDG Mike Golden, C2; DG Joe Bogar, D1; DG Jack Kriete, D2; VDG Al Roeseler, E1; VDG Gordon Harris, E2; VDG Mike Kobasic, SD 10. 2nd Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Norris Turner, A1; VDG John Postelli, B2; VDG Steve VanTol, D1; VDG Bruce LaBelle, SD 10. Also in attendance: State Treasurer PCC Paul Hemeryck, PID Esther LaMothe and Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director.

The meeting opened with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: Gingerich, Bingham, Jr., to approve the May 19 minutes of the Council of Governors meeting. Motion carried.

MOTION: Bingham, Jr., Stutesman, to approve the May 19 minutes of the District Governor-Elect meeting. Motion carried.

MOTION: Beracy, Stutesman, to receive the written reports as presented by the LCIF and GMT committees. Motion carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT –Lion Laura Hunt, Chair

MD 11 of Michigan applied for and received a \$15,000 Centennial Public Relations (PR) Grant from LCI. Our four (4) State Projects each donated \$1,500.00 and over 125 clubs made donations to the campaign, resulting in a total budget of \$36,725. “Brand Awareness” became our goal, and all media and print carried the same logo/theme. There was at least one billboard in each of our 10 Districts plus 2 ‘bonus’ (print fee only or free) boards in the highest contributing Districts. The boards were all up for 4 weeks per contract, but several were extended at no cost to us if the space was unsold at the end of our campaign. The customizable flyer will remain on the Lions of Michigan website for clubs to download as they see fit. A video was created that was very popular and was pushed out over 150,000 times. Over 30% watched it to the end, which is a fantastic result. The video remains available on YouTube. Our online ads generated 50% of the traffic to our website during the campaign, and the billboards would account for the rest of the increase in hits.

DISTRICT EDITORS ADVISORY REPORT –PDG Pete Conarty

All Governors have the opportunity to contribute an editorial and a club highlight in one issue of the Lion Pride publication. A schedule of dates and deadlines was provided, and information on content. At the MD 11 Convention, the delegates voted to pass the proposal to merge the

District Editors Committee with the Publication Advisory Committee, which will eliminate the overlap of these two committees. Also passed was the proposal to reduce the cost of the Lion Pride for student members. PDG Pete commented on this proposal, stating that he was not opposed to the cost reduction but that the committee to oversee the publication was overlooked and not included or informed of the discussion or decision to amend the policy manual.

GLT REPORT –PDG Jeff Mayuiers, Chair

PDG Mayuiers assured the Council they need not worry about the group of upcoming Vice-Governors! With 270 years of combined Lions experience, this dedicated group will be strong leaders in our state.

Once LCI provides updated information on the 2017-2018 year, a GLT meeting will be held with all of the District GLT committee members. Last year, LCI provided \$600.00 for training needs, which helps off-set any expenses. Emerging Leadership Institute (ELLI) will be held in Denver November 11-13, 2017. Deadline to apply is August 30. Advanced Lions Leadership Institute (ALLI) will be held in Houston at the same time with an August 30 deadline for application.

GMT REPORT –Lion Lula Gardfrey, Chair

Training was held on July 29 at the State Office for all District GMT coordinators. LCI’s PDG Steve Anton, Area Leader, and Council Chair Peggy Allen were in attendance with the group. Three more training sessions are planned, and District Governors were encouraged to ask their District representative to attend.

LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION REPORT –PDG Pete Conarty, Trustee

LMF has had a busy year assisting those in need and improving the quality of life for Michigan residents. In 2015-16, the Foundation provided \$203,501.00 in grant assistance; \$114,609.00 went to hearing aid and audiology services. The Foundation requested and received a \$40,000.00 grant from LCI to purchase six (6) KidSight trailers.

The Foundation is designing a calendar to sell as a fundraiser to raise funds to support their programs. An 18-month calendar will be published and will include advertising. 1,000 calendars will be sold at \$20.00 each. The calendar is a “prize” calendar, with weekly drawings and one grand prize drawing. Advertising cost is to be determined, but is estimated to be approximately \$400.00. A page can be shared to reduce cost. Complete details will be provided once the committee is ready.

2017 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE REPORT – PCC Paul Hemeryck, Co-Chair

Dates for this years’ Institute will be November 10-12, at the MacMillan Center, Higgins Lake. Presenters will include PDG Jerry Stephens and PID Dennis Coblér. The new PhD course will be offered and is limited to a hand-picked, small group. The theme of the Leadership Institute is “Mentoring Leaders.” The registration fee has been raised for the first time in ten (10) years with a \$50.00 increase. Cost will be \$225.00, up from \$175.00. Increases in room and board have necessitated the increase.

For the first time in 19 years, the LI was denied funding through a grant from LCI. LCI has issued a new requirement that all instructors must be LCI faculty trained. Co-chairs Hemeryck

and Hansen are working on alternate speaker approval, such as a submission of a videotape of the presenter, and it is hoped they will be considered for a grant again in the future.

PCC Hemeryck reminded all DGs that if their District sends a \$300.00 donation to the LI, they are eligible to send one participant free of charge.

COMMUNICATIONS – Executive Director Lion Wendy Burns

Lion Wendy handed out a draft of the Who's Who to the DGs, asking that they proof and return any edits to her by the end of the Council meeting. The roster book is nearly completed, and each member of the council will receive a complimentary book. Additional copies will be sold for \$8.00.

An announcement for the 2018-2019 Council Chair position will be posted in the Lion Pride, and a mailing will be sent to qualified members. Applications must be received by November 8. Interviews will be conducted by the 1st VDGs on Friday, December 1.

Lion Mirabell Peter was one of 11 Leo members selected by LCI as Leo of the Year. Congratulations to Mirabell, District 11 B1. A medal and plaque have been sent by LCI to IPCC Faber for presentation.

The PDG Association made the decision at their recent meeting to disband. An article was included in the Lion Pride by PCC Bob Jenkins, President. Any leftover money will be divided equally and sent to the State Projects.

AWARD RECOGNITION BOOKLET –PDG Clem Ruiz

PDG Ruiz handed out updated Award booklets, compiled by the Lions of Michigan Foundation. The booklet is designed to assist clubs with award recognition by having a guideline of which to adhere to for specific award qualifications in the state and through LCI. Both the Lions of MI Foundation and Eversight provided funding to offset the cost of printing.

TAILTWISTER – DG John Bingham, Jr.

Fines were collected in the amount of \$36.00.

The meeting was recessed at 9:00 p.m. and will resume at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 5.

The Governors, 1st & 2nd Vice District Governors went into closed session and concluded at 9:15 p.m.

2017-2018
1st COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING
Thornapple Room, Crown Plaza Hotel
Grand Rapids, MI
Saturday, August 5, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Peggy Allen at 9:00 a.m. in the Thornapple room of the Crown Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI. Governors in attendance were: DG Terry Treppa, A1; DG John Bingham, Jr., A2; DG LuAnne Bullington, B1; DG Barb Stutesman, B2; DG Julie May, C1; DG Brent Beracy, C2; DG Jeff Hunt, D1; DG Peggy Walls, E1; DG Bob Gingerich, E2. 1st Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Shirley Kelly, A1; VDG Jack Patton, A2; VDG Roger Spriggs, B1; VDG Fran Grabowski, B2; VDG Mike Golden, C2; DG Joe Bogar, D1; DG Jack Kriete, D2; VDG Al Roeseler, E1; VDG Gordon Harris, E2; VDG Mike Kobasic, SD 10. 2nd Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Norris Turner, A1; VDG John Postelli, B2; VDG Steve VanTol, D1; VDG Bruce LaBelle, SD 10. Also in attendance: International Director Jenny Ware, State Treasurer PCC Paul Hemeryck, PID Esther LaMothe and Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director.

The meeting opened with an invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and song.

LIAISON REPORT –International Director Jenny Ware

ID Ware has been appointed to serve on the Long Range Planning Committee as well as the Diabetes Service committee through LCI, and looks forward to continued service. The International Convention was an enormous success, and she was pleased with the turnout from Michigan.

ID Ware congratulated the 2016-17 Council and the Legislative Committee for the work they did to assist in the passage of HB 4160. She presented IPCC Justin Faber with her first LCI Presidential Certificate of the year for his dedication, leadership and passion toward reversing a law preventing Lions from collecting donations in the street.

DG Bob Gingerich stated that he has received five (5) International President's Certificates, without explanation as to how they are to be used. ID Jenny offered to look into this and get an answer before the meeting ends.

Lioness Clubs began in 1920 as a project of a local Lions Club. In 1987, women were allowed to join a Lions Club but many chose to remain Lioness members. Lions Clubs with Lioness Clubs as projects should report membership, activities, service, etc. for club credit. DG Hunt asked if Lioness Clubs are insured through LCI as a project of a Lions Club, and ID Ware responded that she will confirm this with LCI. Treasurer Hemeryck reminded the Governors that clubs need to report Lioness income on their club 990 reports. If a Lioness Club becomes a Lions Club, then they are guaranteed full membership benefits.

PID Esther LaMothe praised ID Jenny on her leadership as International Director, and for the excellent work she is doing for Lions in Michigan and around the world.

*ID Jenny provided information on Lioness insurance coverage: Under LCI's Liability Policy, they have general liability coverage only.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Treasurer PCC Paul Hemeryck

Reports for FY 2016-2017 were provided. Treasurer Hemeryck reviewed the accounts, pointing out that we had normal activity for the year. Our investment accounts had an exceptional year, showing a growth of \$36,435.49. The MD 11 Convention had a very good year. The International Convention has outstanding bills and is not a complete report at this time. The Lion Pride account is strong and also showed an increase in interest from the investment account.

Restricted Funds: Money to be used for a designated purpose only. For example, the Grace Lange account is restricted. This money can only be designated for White Cane Scholarship recipients.

Dues Structure: Single District 10 does not receive the Lion Pride, and pays \$2.58/member in dues annually. MD 11 pays 10.00/member and the money is divided as follows:

Administration Account	\$7.61
Council/Committee/Treas	1.25
MD 11 Convention	.24
International Convention	.40
Restricted Fund	<u>.50</u>
	\$10.00

A membership graph was provided to show growth and decline over the past 12 years. Loss of membership equals loss of income and operating revenue.

PID LaMothe asked how the dues will be affected by the reduction in costs to the students. There should not be a noticeable difference, as the money will be transferred from the DG Special Project fund to cover the first-half dues, as was agreed upon by the 2016-17 District Governors.

2017-2018 Budget: Treasurer Hemeryck asked that the Governors review and digest the reports provided before approving a budget for the current year. The new GST committee will need a budget added, and some committees may not require a large budget as in the past, etc. After review of the current financial information it may be easier to make informed budget decisions at the October meeting. Budget requests/suggestions can be sent directly to Treasurer Paul.

MD 11 CONVENTION REPORT –PDG Bob Sturgis, Chair

2017's Convention at Great Wolf Lodge was well received and we had excellent reviews from those in attendance. The picnic was well attended by 100 Lions and guests, in spite of the cold and rain. Our off-site tour to the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Park and Black Star Farms winery was a sell-out. The exhibitor area was a bit over-crowded for the amount of exhibitors we had, but some space needed to be utilized for our donated auction items, also very successful.

2018's convention in Grand Blanc at the Holiday Inn Gateway Center will be another winner, with 1st VP Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir slated to be our speaker. VP Gudrun will be the very first female president of Lions International, and we are honored to have her attend the convention, thanks to ID Jenny Ware! VP Gundrun is from Iceland. Hotel rate for 2018 is \$79.00 plus tax. A short, sidewalk distance away is a Marriott Hotel that can also be reserved for guests.

2019: Seven sites provided proposals that were reviewed or visited by Chair Bob and Lion Wendy. Of the seven, the top pics included: Wyndham Gardens Ann Arbor, \$99.00; Double Tree Grand Rapids, \$85.00; Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids; Tree Tops Gaylord, \$85/\$109, and the Auburn Hills Marriott, \$79.

After discussion on all, the council made a determination to select Auburn Hills.

MOTION: Treppa, Gingerich, to hold the 2019 MD 11 Convention at the Auburn Hills, MI, Marriott Hotel. Motion carried.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT –PDG Bill Simpson, Chair

The 100th Celebration in Chicago was well attended by over 30,000 Lions. Attendance in Chicago from SD 10 and MD 11 was just over 300 Lions, making Michigan the 5th largest delegation in the United States. It was estimated that approximately 20,000 Lions and guests participated in the International parade.

PDG Bill Simpson reported he had the cooperation of past chair, PDG Dennis Lautzenheiser and assistance from Executive Director Wendy Burns, who attended her first LCI Convention thanks to approval by the Council of Governors. Parade shirts, hats and pins were sold this year in the hospitality room, allowing many to pick up shirts for last minute walkers in the parade. The hospitality room was well attended by members playing cards, stopping for a break and enjoying the provided water and soft drinks. We managed to stay under budget, spending less than \$2,000.00 at this very expensive hotel.

Michigan Night at Tommy Gun's Garage was attended by 137, and was a very entertaining and interactive evening. Rebates were given in the amount of \$20 to nearly all who attended, reducing the \$57.00 fee down to \$37.00.

2018 – Las Vegas: The dates are June 29-July3. PDG Simpson reported he is looking into a "Tournament of the Kings" event at the Excalibur Hotel. The MGM Grand is the designated Michigan hotel. Light-weight parade shirts will be made available for purchase to wear in the International Parade. Temps can reach into the 100s this time of year in Vegas.

GST REPORT –IPCC Justin Faber

District representatives are in the process of being selected by the DGs and once the list is complete, IPCC Faber will make contact with all. SD 10 will be added to the committee, with IPDG Matt Doney as their representative. IPCC Faber intends to attend some of the District Cabinet meetings to discuss the GST Actions for Success. A large group service project will again be held during the Michigan Forum and a breakout session on GST will be part of the MI

Forum and MD 11 Convention, as well. All Governors were asked to consider a project at your District Conventions.

DG Peggy Walls reported that a \$45,000.00 Diabetes Grant was awarded to the District to be used immediately. They are working with hospitals and have placed eight (8) billboards throughout the district. Lion Bill Bradfield was instrumental in applying and receiving this grant: Out of 160 applications received by LCI, District 11 E1 was one of 20 to be selected.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE –Lion Matt Sowash –Teleconference Call

Lion Sowash, MI Legislative Consultants, reviewed what has been happening with House Bill 4160 since last May. The Senate Transportation Committee passed out HB 4160 June 15, 4-0 (Senator Marleau was absent). They adopted the S-3 substitute which is much more favorable to us than what was passed out by the house. The S-3 substitute maintains our position that locals can regulate this activity; however, they cannot ban it.

Another key point he highlighted is that we were able to have the 90-day effective date language removed. Part of the negotiation was that this bill will be given immediate effect, allowing charities to engage in this activity immediately. There was one small exception. The bill will give 60-days to municipalities that have ordinances currently in place regulating or banning roadway fundraising to bring their ordinances into compliance with the new state law. This is another important win for us.

HB 4160 is now referred to as Public Act 112-2017. As with any law, there will be some “growing pains” with the changes. Lion Matt suggested clubs make their city/county officials aware of the new changes which are now in effect.

IPCC Faber followed up on Lion Matt’s report by suggesting the addition of the Legislative Committee in our MD 11 Policy Manual, and setting aside funds should the need arise to enlist the aid of MLC for any unexpected, related legislative costs. HB 4160 was amended to include not only 501(c) (3) and 501(c) (4) organizations, but 501 (c)(8) organizations, as well. This move was done to ensure Knights of Columbus the ability to collect donations in the roadways. The Knights of Columbus were in opposition to the bill, but are now satisfied with approval of an amended version. Concern was raised during a Legislative Committee meeting that once the bill is “opened” to amend it to include the addition of a 501 (c) (8) organization, any opponents of the bill could protest. Due to the fact that our contract has ended with Michigan Legislative Consultants, we do not have representation to keep us informed of issues or take action on our behalf, if needed. Lion Matt Sowash will alert IPCC Justin Faber if an issue should arise. Lion Justin stated the Legislative committee discussed the need to have a contingency plan in place if we are met with opposition.

ID Jenny noted that she has requested a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation for Lion Matt, due to the work he has done on behalf of the Lions of Michigan. Her request was approved, and the certificate will be given at an as-yet-to-be-determined date.

WINTER CAMP FOR THE BLIND –PDG Barry Allen, VDG Roger Spriggs

For 44 years, Winter Camp for the Blind has provided a mid-winter camp experience for blind and visually impaired adults. Due to a critical lack of funding, camp may not be able to continue in the tradition so many have come to enjoy. A nominal fee is charged to the camper, but the bulk of the financial support comes from the Parade of Checks donations from **MD 11-B1**.

Campers enjoy snowmobiling, hay rides, crafting and many other activities. Most arrive by train to the camp. Volunteers include Lions and at-risk teens from the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy, located in Fort Custer. Camp will be held Feb. 2-4, 2018, in Dowling, MI, near Battle Creek. Registration fee is \$125.00, of which \$80.00 is paid from by District 11 B1, and the remaining \$45.00 is paid by the campers.

Your help is needed in promoting financial support to the clubs in your district. \$3,000.00 is needed to ensure that the cost of the 2018 camp is covered. Please help by reaching out to Lions, foundations and corporations for financial support.

ALL STATE BAND REPORT –PDG Dave Bennett

The LMASB Leo Band had a highly successful trip to Chicago for the 100th Anniversary Convention. There were many highlights: Participation in the International parade, where they took 2nd place in the competition; participation in a “flash mob” during a Plenary Session; participation in the flag ceremony, to name a few. They also enjoyed the “Taste of Chicago” which was going on in Grant Park.

Efforts to make the band a Lions of Michigan State Project are paying off. Nine of ten Districts have approved to date. MD 11 B1 has yet to approve, and it was noted this may be an oversight and the Governor will make sure there is approval from the District. All of the criteria required thus far have been met, according to the Constitution and By Laws. Approval by the Council of Governors is the next step in the process.

MOTION: Bingham Jr., Gingerich, to approve the Lions of Michigan All State Band as a Lions of Michigan State Project. Motion carried.

Lion Ed Weessies, Constitution and By Laws Chairperson, reported that he will draft the language for the ballot with approval from the C & BL committee. The proposal to make the LMASB a State Project will be published in the Lion Pride, with a vote of the delegates to take place at the 2018 MD 11 Convention.

MOTION: Stutesman, Gingerich, to approve the Constitution & By Laws committee draft of the language for the ballot to be voted upon by the delegates at the MD 11 Convention in Grand Blanc, May 19, 2018. Motion carried.

The proposal to make the band a State Project will be sent to each club 45-days prior to the convention via the Lion Pride.

USA/CANADA LEADERSHIP FORUM –DG Julie May

Michigan Lions will be needed in Portland, Oregon, during the Forum in September to help with the promotion and to assist Ohio in any way necessary during the 2018 Forum in Columbus. DG May proposed the formation of a USA/Canada Forum Ad-Hoc Committee and suggested this committee is added to the MD 11 Policy Manual. DG May nominated Lion Cheryl Anderson as Chair of the committee. There were no other nominations.

MOTION: Bingham, Jr., Bullington, to appoint Lion Cheryl Anderson as Chairperson of the USA/Canada Ad-Hoc Committee. Motion carried.

District Governors were instructed to select a District representative to sit on the committee.

MD 11 POLICY MANUAL:

DGs Jeff Hunt and Brent Beracy were tasked with updating any necessary changes or additions to the policy manual. Edits, deletions and additions were reviewed in great detail.

MOTION: Treppa, Stutesman, to approve changes, edits and updates to the MD 11 Policy Manual as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion was continued on the Legislative Ad-Hoc committee's reference to a contingency plan, should a problem arise with PA 112's amendment to include "501 (c) (8)" into the language, which will cover Knights of Columbus. Without an advocate (MLC) on retainer, we would need to get approval once again to pay a fee for services, if needed.

IPCC Faber suggested that \$5,800.00 (two months fee from MLC) be earmarked for future legislative efforts.

MOTION: Beracy, Treppa, to earmark \$5,800.00 (two months service fee) for the legislative efforts should the need arise due to the amendment of PA 112 to include "501 (c) (8)".

Treasurer Paul informed the council that any amount over \$5,000.00 would need to go through the bidding process once again. The motion was amended to state:

AMENDED MOTION: Beracy, Treppa, to earmark up to \$5,000.00 for the legislative efforts should the need arise due to the amendment of PA 112 to include "501 (c) (8)". Motion carried. Opposed: DG Walls.

Lion Ed Weesies reminded the Governors they are permitted, per LCI rules, to hold an electronic vote for any situation that may warrant a council vote prior to an official meeting. They would then be required to confirm the vote at the next Council of Governors meeting.

MOTION: Hunt, Bingham, Jr., to retain the members of the current Legislative Committee and create the Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Both the White Cane and Leo committees are in need of new chairpersons. Lion Bill Stevens was nominated to the position of White Cane Chairperson.

MOTION: Bingham, Jr., Treppa, to accept the nomination of Lion Bill Stevens to the position of White Cane Chairperson for a two-year term, 2017-2019. Motion carried.

Council Chair Allen will contact members of the Leo Committee first, to see if there is an interest from someone familiar with the work PDG Terry Walters has done.

GOVERNORS GOALS:

The DG Special Project Fund is available to each council for a special project. This could be a current service project or one they could create. Discussion to continue at the next CoG meeting.

Tail Twister Fines - \$11.00 collected.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Burns, Executive director.