

Lions International

Multiple District 11

(Lower Michigan)



**2nd Council of Governors Meeting
Quality Suites Hotel
St. Ignace, MI
October 5-6, 2018**

2018-2019
2nd COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING
Quality Suites Hotel, St. Ignace Michigan
Friday, October 5, 2018



The 2nd meeting of the Council of Governors was called to order at 7:00 pm by Council Chair Barry Allen. Governors in attendance were: DG Mike Kobasic, SD 10; DG Shirley Kelly, A1; DG Jack Patton, A2; DG Roger Spriggs, B1; DG Fran Grabowski, B2; DG Greg Wehby, C1; DG Michael Golden, C2; DG Joe Bogar, D1; DG Jack Kriete, D2; DG Al Roeseler, E1; DG Gordon Harris, E2;. 1st Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Bruce LaBelle, SD 10; VDG Norris Turner, A1; VDG Scott Barry, A2; VDG Michael Scott, Jr., B1; VDG John Postelli, B2; DG Paul Hodge, C1; VDG Becky Hamilton, C2; VDG Steven VanTol, D1; VDG Jackie Glazier, E1. 2nd Vice District Governors in attendance were: VDG Joe Maki, SD 10; VDG David Wilbert, A1; VDG Julie Mayuiers, 11 B2; VDG Kurt Stromlund, 11 C2; VDG Harold DeMott, 11 D1; VDG Sami Makhoul, D2; VDG Bill Koch, E1. Also in attendance: Council Chair Barry Allen, State Treasurer PCC Paul Hemeryck; PDG Jeff Mayuiers, GLT Chair; Lion Lula Gardfrey, GMT Chair; PCC Justin Faber, GST Chair; IPID Jenny Ware, Lion Ed Weessies, PDG Jeff Hunt, PDG Dave Hill and Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director.

The meeting opened with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: Bogar, Golden, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MOTION: Kriete, Spriggs, to approve the Minutes as presented from the August 2018 Council of Governors meeting. Motion carried.

MOTION: Bogar, Kriete, to approve the Written Reports as presented. Motion carried.

LIAISON REPORT –IPID Jenny Ware

IPID Ware recognized IPCC Peggy Allen and Executive Director Lion Wendy Burns for their support during her past two years as International Director.

Speakers for the District Conventions have been contacted and many confirmed for 2019. First Vice Governors were asked to provide dates for their 2020 conventions to enable IPID Jenny to begin scheduling speakers. The LCI guest speaker for the MD 11 convention will be 3rd VP Brian Sheehan. PID Sheehan attended the convention a few years ago, and has just begun to serve as 3rd VP. The ID calendars fill up quickly, and the sooner she has dates, the more likely it will be to get the speaker you have requested. Your LCI guest speaker will bring with them extra Presidential Certificates to your convention. This gives you the opportunity to honor outstanding Lions in your district with the 4th highest recognition award from LCI. 1st highest is the Ambassador of Goodwill, followed by the Presidential medal and Leadership award.

President Gudrun’s award criteria will act as a guide for the DGs as they submit nominations for the Governors to vote upon in December. This information has been shared with the Governors, and will be resent to all as a reminder.

IPID Jenny currently holds the position of Vice Chair of the LCIF Campaign 100, Constitutional Area 1; serving under Past President Joe Preston and alongside PID Esther LaMothe, as well as Group Leader for incoming Governor's training.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP –PDG Jeff Mayuiers

The District GLT met in Lansing recently to review the District Governors goal. They discussed ways in which to incorporate these goals within the district and move them forward.

Many of the District GLT's attended the USA/Canada Forum. Some were event moderators or presenters. Many relatable, current topics were presented this year and as always, it was a well-planned educational seminar providing a lot of great information to take back to the districts.

During the 2nd VDG training, these goals were also discussed. Some districts have similar goals and discussion was held regarding what is working in each district. Goal-setting for their year as Governor, leadership styles, team building and the role of Council Chair were all topics covered in this training.

PDG Mayuiers will be traveling to a few districts to assist with them with specific areas of need and has offered to meet with any other districts that would like his service.

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP –Lion Lula Gardfrey

Membership totals for MD 11 July-August were -11 overall. Current membership stands at 10,308. The District GMT has been working diligently with their districts to reverse this trend. Ideas to increase membership include exploring new territory, for example: Battle Creek, Ypsilanti, Benton Harbor, and Branch County. Establishing specialty and campus clubs, i.e. Hispanic, Eastern MI and Wayne State University and Branch clubs which increase membership and bridge the gap between traditional members and millennial.

Some districts have exit surveys. The information gathered will assist in determining the major reason a member leaves, therefore allowing programs to be developed to correct the problem.

Think Tank: A flyer focusing on Leos, ASB or Campus club members was developed which will provide information on how to continue volunteerism as a Lion. Governors are asked to provide this flyer to Leo Advisors. The message by the district leadership to these young people should be a strong invitation of *welcome*. Welcome our new Lions and their new ideas as they continue to serve.

The GMT committee will have an informational table at the upcoming Leo conference.

Proceeds from the Women's Symposium netted \$1,718.00 and a donation check was sent to the Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation.

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM –PCC Justin Faber

All of the District GMTs have been notified of a meeting on Oct. 27 at the State Office. They will discuss projects to be held at the Michigan Forum, District Conventions and the MD 11 Convention. Any suggestions for service projects for both the Forum and MD 11 Convention

will be discussed at this meeting.

DG Joe Bogar made a motion for all the District Governors to participate in a service project for Bear Lake Camp's cleanup day next May. Support by DG Jack Kriete. This could act as a service project by the 2018-2019 Governors. Motion carried.

LEO CONFERENCE REPORT –VDG Steven VanTol

The Leo Conference will be held at the Leader Dogs for the Blind office November 10. The Council was asked to help promote the conference throughout their districts. Registration is at approximately 25 at this time. Cost is \$40/person and includes lunch and a shirt.

VDG Steve asked if there was access to a list of all Leos and Leo Advisors in the state. It was suggested maybe this is available through LCI.

IPID Ware noted that Single District 10 offers a "Leadership Institute" to all Leos in their district and it is well attended.

Request: Lion Amy Anderson, State Leo Chair, has requested permission from the Governors to pursue a one-day Leo event to coincide with the MI Forum of the MD 11 Lions Convention. All were in support of her request. Lion Wendy will inform her of the decision.

LIONS OF MICHIGAN –VDG Steven VanTol

The Lions Hearing Center – now a partner of LMF- will hold a fundraising Gala on Saturday, November 3. Tickets are on sale and all are encouraged to support this cause.

House Bill 4031 has passed! This bill allows for a donation check box to be added onto income tax return forms and could generate thousands in extra funds for the Foundation. A minimum of \$50,000.00 must be donated within a three year period, or their name falls off the form.

Raffle Calendars are now available. The goal is to sell 1,000 calendars. Sweepstakes tickets will be mailed out in December.

Project KidSight: 15,000 children were screened this past fiscal year, tripling the amount screened last year.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE REPORT –PCC Paul Hemeryck

Space is filling up but there is still room available for registrants. Please submit all applications by October 15. Those already registered should expect to receive their acceptance letter in the mail within two weeks.

The committee has developed a very strong program this year, bringing back PID Jenny Ware, Carl Burlson and PID Gary Anderson. We continue to be ranked by LCI as the best Leadership Institute in the country. You should add your training to your resume.

LCI granted the institute \$3,500.00 this year in support of our program. All districts are encouraged to make a donation of \$300.00, which allows the district free registration for one

member to attend.

Six (6) Lions have been selected/invited to attend the PhD program. The purpose is to strengthen their leadership skill and training. The overall program will see internal changes to continue to strengthen the training.

USA/CANADA FORUM RE-CAP

Open discussion on the USA/Canada Forum was held and those who attended in Columbus had positive feedback – outside of the food!

TAILTWISTER questions were centered on the recent Lion Pride, fines were collected and the meeting recessed until Saturday morning, 9:00 a.m.



**2018-2019
2nd COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING
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Friday, October 5, 2018**

The Council of Governors meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Council Chair Barry Allen. Governors in attendance were: DG Mike Kobasic, SD 10; DG Shirley Kelly, A1; DG Jack Patton, A2; DG Roger Spriggs, B1; DG Fran Grabowski, B2; DG Greg Wehby, C1; DG Michael Golden, C2; DG Joe Bogar, D1; DG Jack Kriete, D2; DG Al Roeseler, E1; DG Gordon Harris, E2;. **1st Vice District Governors** in attendance were: VDG Bruce LaBelle, SD 10; VDG Norris Turner, A1; VDG Scott Barry, A2; VDG Michael Scott, Jr., B1; VDG John Postelli, B2; DG Paul Hodge, C1; VDG Steven VanTol, D1; VDG Jackie Glazier, E1. **2nd Vice District Governors** in attendance were: VDG Joe Maki, SD 10; VDG David Wilbert, A1; VDG Julie Mayuiers, 11 B2; VDG Kurt Stromlund, 11 C2; VDG Harold DeMott, 11 D1; VDG Sami Makhoul, D2; VDG Bill Koch, E1. Also in attendance: Council Chair Barry Allen, State Treasurer PCC Paul Hemeryck; PDG Jeff Mayuiers, GLT Chair; Lion Lula Gardfrey, GMT Chair; PCC Justin Faber, GST Chair; IPID Jenny Ware, Lion Ed Weessies, Lion Bill Bradfield, PDG Jeff Hunt, PDG Dave Hill and Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director.

LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND –Lion Mike Dengate, Leader Dog

The new Canine Development Center was completed in 2016 with \$2.6 million dollars received in contributions from Lions. The perception is that LD no longer needs additional funds, but this is not true. With a \$13 million dollar budget, the need is ongoing. Of the \$13 million budget, \$7 million comes from fundraising, grants, third party donations and special events; \$3 million is from estates and bequests; \$3 million comes from the Leader Dog Foundation.

Ten years ago the cost of a Leader Dog was \$28,606.00. That cost has increased by 44% to \$41,680. Over time, a client could receive three dogs.

100% Districts include A2, D1 and D2. The goal is for Michigan to become a 100% state. There are 45,000 blind persons in Michigan, of which 10% travel with a cane and 2% travel with

a dog. 165 dogs are with clients in Michigan. Lion Mike asked the Governor's to encourage their Districts to become a 100% District.

Of the 500 puppies that go through the program, 45% graduate. Others are career-change, work with clients at Paws with a Cause or the Wounded Warrior program. 22 dogs are now in the Canine Advocacy Program, working in courthouses. There are also currently 100 puppies being raised by prison inmates, a program with a high rate of success.

Governor Al Roeseler made a motion to donate the Tail Twister money to Leader Dog. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT -PCC Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer

Financial reports through August 31 were provided to all. Treasurer Hemeryck reviewed the balance sheet, income statement and operating accounts, reviewing each in great detail.

Restricted accounts include Grace Lang, Leadership Institute and Liaison. Money for the 3-White Cane Scholarships, up to \$9,000.00, comes from the Grace Lang account. Funds from this restricted account may only be used for scholarship money. The Liaison funds are only to be used for International Director/Candidates, and funds from the Leadership Institute are restricted to expenses related to the institute.

Membership has shown a decline for eleven years. At a \$10.00 per member loss, we are down \$30,000.00 in revenue this past year. A continued decline greatly impacts our operating budget. Everyone needs to work on membership to reverse this trend.

Each year there is an independent audit conducted by Robert Heemer, CPA. Lions of Michigan are not be required by law to conduct an audit, but it is stated in our Constitution and By Laws than an audit be performed annually. Our long-term auditor, Mr. Heemer, recently announced his retirement. His professional fee is under \$2,000.00. A future audit may cost as much as \$6,000.00 by another firm.

Council Chair Allen asked if there is an alternative solution. Treasurer Hemeryck stated we could have a CPA provide an independent review, which provides the same outcome but far less expensive.

The MD 11 Constitution and By-Laws states we need an audit. Lion Ed Weessies, C&BL Chair, will review this with his committee and report back at the December Council of Governors meeting. This would be a change to the Constitution & By Laws requiring a vote of the membership at the MD 11 Convention.

MOTION: Kriete, Harris, to create a ballot proposal changing the language as stated in the Constitution and By Laws to review. Motion carried.

(Current verbiage "...provides for a **review or audit** at the end of the fiscal year of the books and accounts of the Multiple District Treasurer.")

MOTION: Kriete, Bogar, to receive the Financial Report subject to audit. Motion carried.

The annual budget was reviewed and a motion to accept was requested.
MOTION: Kriete, Bogar, to accept the budget as proposed. Motion carried.

LCIF CAMPAIGN 100

IPID Jenny Ware is the Vice Chair of Area 1.

The goal is to raise \$300 million in three years. \$61 million has been raised to date. This goal supports our five areas of service, but not restricted to only this. Packets prepared by State Chair PDG Connie Shelton were provided to all. Everyone is encouraged to make a financial commitment to LCIF during these difficult times of multiple world and US disasters. IPID Jenny pointed out the US routinely gets more donation money from LCIF than they give back, and it's time to stretch and help exceed our goal.

DEFENSE AGAINST DIABETES GRANT –Lion Bill Bradfield

The DAD Grant committee has completed the first phase of the grant draft and sent this onto LCIF on September 23, 17 days in advance. This will allow plenty of time for review and edits. The International board meets in October and the grant will be reviewed during their meeting. All Districts agreed to fund the project for a maximum amount of \$5,681.00. If funding is approved with a match from LCIF it will total \$250,000.00, or \$22,500.00 per District.

The 2017 District 11 E1 grant was used as a template, with changes made as needed. A tri-fold brochure was created which can be customized to each District for promotional use. The committee is negotiating with Walmart to reduce the cost of A1C test units and test kits, and is hoping to partner with Sam's Club for glucose monitoring and A1C testing at health fairs.

All expressed praise and appreciation of the work the grant committee has done.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT –PDG Bill Simpson, Chair

The convention in Milan will be held July 5-9, 2019. A small Michigan attendance is expected, and for that reason there may not be a need to rent a hospitality room. Hotels are scattered throughout the convention general vicinity, and there are three hotels designated for Michigan Delegates. The Holiday Inn Garibaldi is the closest to the convention center, followed by Crowne Plaza and the IH Hotel.

When attempting to research a location for a Michigan Night, PDG Simpson found it was going to be difficult to coordinate. Due to the tourism season in July, there are no buses available for hire to transport a group to a venue. PDG Bill had little response from the restaurants he reached out to for information on holding a group dinner. His thought is to work through the LCI-Con staff to find a room at the hotel that would accommodate our group for dinner. Ohio and Illinois Lions could be included, or keep it strictly Michigan Lions and guests. The general consensus was to limit the group to Michigan Lions/guests only. PDG Simpson will pursue this option with LCI-Con staff for Michigan Night.

COMMUNICATIONS –Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director

The MD 11 Lions Convention was discussed with the District Governors during their Friday afternoon meeting. All were provided a sample convention packet which detailed each area of responsibility for the DGs during the convention in May. Governors were asked to carefully

review the details, as they will be asked to volunteer for one of many assignments to assist with the convention. LCI 3rd VP Brian Sheehan and his wife, Lion Lori are our guest speakers. Proposals are being received and reviewed for the 2020 location. The MD 11 Convention Committee will meet November 3 to review proposals, set a theme and plan details for the upcoming convention.

S.A. Dodge, Presidential and Leadership award nominees will be voted upon at the December Council of Governors meeting. This is typically a closed-session meeting and DGs have the option to allow 1st and 2nd VDGs to sit in on the voting process. The DGs decided to list the name of their nominee, as opposed to keeping the name off the nomination form. S.A. Dodge winners will be announced early and made public, allowing for friends and family members to attend the award recognition dinner. Leo of the Year nominations will be held at the February meeting. Once the Presidential and Leadership nominees are determined, Lion Wendy will submit the nominations to PID Esther LaMothe. PID Esther will review and forward onto President Gudrun Yngvadottir for consideration. **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS: NOVEMBER 14, 2018.**

Lion Wendy reported she has been asked to give presentations at two (2) upcoming meetings: E1 Zone 1 meeting in Clare, and Jackson Host Lions Club meeting in Jackson. The Executive Administrator's session at the USA/Canada Forum was well received. This was the 2nd year for this networking group, organized by Lion Wendy to form a partnership with administrators across the country. The group agreed more time was needed and I will work on the outline of speakers or trainers for a ½ day session in Spokane.

Three designs for the 2019 Milan, Italy pin were revealed. The International Convention committee will review the designs and make suggestion/edits. Lion Wendy will forward the designs to the pin company who will create a template for review of what the finished product will look like. The committee will forward their suggestions onto the 1st VDGs for final vote.

Michigan Forum: The committee has met to discuss details of the Forum and topics for the 16 breakout sessions and keynote speaker. A group service project for Friday evening is being organized by the GST committee. PDG Linda Tate will review in detail the Forum at the December CoG meeting.

District Peace poster and Essay contest winners will be brought to the December meeting for voting during the luncheon on Saturday. Lion Wendy will mail the winners to LCI by the December 15 deadline.

ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT –Robert Heemer, CPA

Mr. Heemer conducted an independent audit of the financial statements of Lions of Michigan MD 11, Lions of Michigan Publication and the Lions of Michigan All State Band. The LMASB account showed a loss of \$2,600.00, but outstanding payments should make up for this and bring the year to a breakeven point.

The auditor's responsibility is to perform the audit and obtain reasonable assurance the financial statements are free from material misstatement. It was determined that the changes in net assets

and cash flows ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the US. 990 tax forms were all filed and dated 10-02-2018.

Mr. Heemer announced his retirement, and the Governors expressed their grateful appreciation of his service these past, many years.

MOTION: Bogar, Kreite, to receive the audit report provided by Robert Heemer, CPA. Motion carried.

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MD-11 POLICY MANUAL –DG Fran Grawboski

Final updates and recommendations to the MD 11 Policy Manual from the August Council of Governors meeting were edited and reviewed by the Governors. More in-depth discussion was held regarding the current language regarding student dues.

Districts with student members will not be charged directly for student dues or the Lion Pride Publication. Instead, the exact amount will be transferred from the DG Special Project Fund to the Administrative Fund to cover the amount. This policy should be reviewed annually to identify that the necessary funding is present in the DG Special Project Fund.

The Governors agreed to continue this trend and pay the student dues/Pride subscription from the DG Special Project Fund for fiscal year 2018/2019. A motion was made to change the language of the current policy.

MOTION: Harris, Bogar, to pay for Campus Club members' dues and Lion Pride subscription, \$7.25 annually, from the DG Special Project Fund.

Motion amended to read: Motion to pay for student members' dues and Lion Pride subscription, \$7.25 annually, from the DG Special Project Fund. Motion carried.

District invoices were sent in July and included student dues. Lion Wendy will refund the districts the amount paid for student dues.

Sight Conservation / Diabetes currently serve as one committee. This has been changed to two (2) separate committees, Diabetes and Sight Conservation.

Liaison travel companion has been changed through LCI. If an ID does not have a spouse, a travel companion can be appointed and must be approved by LCI. IPID Jenny will provide DG Fran with the correct language as written in LCIs policy.

MOTION: Roesler, Bogar, to approve all updates and edits to the MD 11 Policy Manual as outlined and reviewed. Motion carried.

The Tail Twister collected fines in the amount of \$154.00. Money will be given to Leader Dogs for the Blind.

MOTION: Roesler, Harris, to adjourn the meeting of the Council of Governors. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director