

MD5M GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL MEETING

Kelly Inn

St. Cloud, MN

Saturday July 23, 2005

Council Chairman Brian Sheehan called the meeting to order with all District Governors present. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flags of Canada and the United States and an invocation.

Motion #1 M/S/P DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 / DG Al Fravert, 5M1 to approve the Committee Chairs that were appointed by them as DGE's.

Motion #2 M/S/P DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 / DG Marlys Meskan, 5M2 to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Motion #3 M/S/P DG Barney Olson, 5M3 / DG Kent Beissel, 5M4 to approve the agenda.

The issue of Multiple District 5M removal of endorsement of the International Hearing Dog organization was referred to the Legal Consultant for preparation of a resolution. This resolution will be reviewed at the October Council meeting and presented to the delegates of the MD5M Multiple convention in Rochester.

PID Ross encouraged each of the Governors to assist in promoting the New Orleans and Chicago International conventions as they will be critical to the success of his campaign. We need to get people to register as soon as possible to assure that they will be in the delegation hotel. Our goal for New Orleans is to have 500 voting delegates present.

PID Ross announced that applications for the 2009 Convention Chairman were closed on May 1 and recommends that the Council of Governors and the 2009 Convention Committee consider DG Jack Hines as the 2009 Convention Committee Chairman. We are very pleased that DG Jack came forward and we think that he would do an outstanding job in 2009.

CC Brian nomination of DG Jack Hines as Convention Chair is referred to the Convention Committee.

There was no representative from the Brandon, MB Convention committee available to present a report. This report will be given at the October Council meeting.

PDG Dudley Parsons – Rochester Convention Report The theme for the Convention will be “Soaring to Excellence” It is recommended that rooms be reserved soon in order to be booked in the headquarters hotel. Details will be provided in the Convention Committee Meeting later today.

PDG Wayne Swanson commented on raffle gambling. Any raffle that has less than \$1.500 in prizes can be held without registering with the gambling control board. PDG Wayne will send out an announcement to this affect. More information can be found at www.gcb.state.mn.us

PCC Keith Johnson commented on a band for New Orleans. Several bands have been contacted and there is still some time to make suggestions on a band for New Orleans. Funding for this was referred

to the Headquarters and Finance committee for consideration of increasing the amount offered to the band for representing us.

PID Ross discussed the Al Jensen award and stated that nominations must be in to the Council Chairman by the end of the March meeting. This award is available to Lions of 5 or more years of service. The selections committee may choose to give 0 – 1 – or 2 awards from the Multiple each year.

The Hall of Fame award should be promoted starting now. The applications need to be in to the District 30 days prior to the District convention. The delegates at the Mid Winter Convention vote and decide who the winners are. This is the last year that 2 awards per district will be available. One of the two must be posthumous and the other can be presented to either a living Lion or given posthumously.

Presidential and Leadership awards can only be given through the Mission 30 program. You must earn enough points through the Mission 30 program to qualify to submit an application form to present these awards.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Hearing Foundation – PDG Vern Docter A written report was presented to the Council prior to the meeting.

Minnesota Lions Eye Bank – Mike Molenda A written report was presented to the Council prior to the meeting.

International Convention Report – Maynard Rucks Commented on the fact that the larger numbers in uniform stand out the best. MD5M was recognizable by the uniforms and the Snowman Banners. There were a little less than 12,000 at the convention, not as many as were hoped for. Governors were encouraged to complete their speaker request for ASAP.

USA - Canada Forum - PID Ross Thorfinnson Distributed a sheet with the dates for the upcoming Forums. The next Forum will be Sept 22 – 24th registration can be done on line or make copies of the registration form provided. We are hoping that in 2008 in Calgary, our own PID Ben Ward will be the Forum Committee General Chairman. Go on line at www.usacanadalionsforum.org and you can find out all of the information about Peoria. You still have time to talk to your Lions and get them to Peoria. Contact CC Brian Sheehan to arrange for bus transportation.

Political Liaison – DG Jim Strandlie Our International Director, Maynard Rucks spoke about the fact that our District is considered very important in the eyes of our political candidates and that our District conventions are among the best attended in the country. PID Ross mentioned that the campaign in Hong Kong went well and that there will be a contest for 2nd International Vice President in New Orleans and MD5M needs to make a decision on which candidate to endorse. Our game plan is to get large amount of Lions to New Orleans and Chicago and to get people excited about Lionism. If anyone has any questions about PID Ross's campaign for 2nd International VP, they should be directed to PID Ben Ward or PDG Robert Vokes.

Leader Dog – PDG Curtis Norenberg Governors were encouraged to make sure that all Vice District Governors and Leader Dog Chairs attend the October 1 Seminar in Mpls at the Thunderbird.

Liberty Day – PDG Jack McKernan A written report was presented and credit was given to Mark Kennedy and Jim Ramsdell for their help in promoting Liberty Day. Social and cultural history are important elements in our history, but they disregard lessons of the past, American Leaders, and a variety of important and historical dates and events. There are 6 Districts that do not have Liberty Day representatives. Governors are encouraged to appoint one. It is something that can help in our total recruitment by presenting programs like Liberty Day to the schools.

Youth Outreach, Peace Poster and Quest – PDG Bruce Mintenko A written report was presented. 14 workshops were held this last year which means that we trained another 500 teachers to deliver this program to the students. The Governors were encouraged to continue their support of the Peace Poster Contest and try to get more students involved. Project Pride is a Canadian program with the flag and a certificate. This is a program for grade 1 students that is conducted in June in preparation for Canada Day on July 1, which is similar to the July 4 celebration in the US. The Governors were thanked for setting up the Leos position.

Youth Exchange – Lion Darwin Mathwig A written report was submitted. The Governors were encouraged to make sure that each has a Youth Exchange chairman. Lion Linda and Jay Norby, 5M9 are taking care of the care of the students that are going abroad. We have 10 students this year that are traveling abroad. A number of Youth Exchange students were introduced and each gave a short bio and a bit of information on their country. There will be 27 students from 15 countries at Camp Spicer.

Leo Clubs – PDG Rick Plaisier PDG Rick was not able to attend, but he sent an e-mail to CC Brian stating that he is planning to have a meeting with all District Leos chairs and is planning to submit a proposed budget at the October Council meeting.

Leadership Development – PDG Robert Vokes DGE training will be March 16 & 17th in the Twin Cities, VDG training will be October 13 & 14 which is a Thursday and Friday in Mahanomen, the VDGE mini training will be done in Rochester. MERLO training will be April 8 & 9 in Mahanomen. People that will be going to that will be the VDGE's as head of the MERLO teams and the newly appointed team members. The curriculum committee will be meeting soon to review the upcoming training materials.

Extension – PID Ross Thorfinnson The membership reports were just received in the last few days and they are not very good. We need to do something to kick this thing into gear so we are going to put on a 1 day training session for Extension and Orientation. This session is planned for Sept 10.

Orientation – PDG Ed Holst One of the goals is to give the orientation program to all of the Lions clubs in MD5M. Governors were encouraged to promote the orientation program at Cabinet meetings, Zone meetings etc. PDG Ed offered to meet with the Governor's Cabinets to discuss orientation.

Membership and Retention – PDG Wayne Swanson As of the end of May, we had 24,193 members, which is very good except that is 357 members less than we had on July 1 of 2004. PDG Wayne expressed an interest in attending Mid Winter conventions and giving presentations on Membership and Retention.

Legal Consultant – PDG Wayne Swanson Goals are to update the policy manual, put together a legal manual for clubs, present seminars on legal issues at Mid Winters, and work with the Foundation to get it set up as a Lions of Minnesota Diabetes Foundation.

Hearing Dog – PCC Frank Loken After meeting with Al Peters of Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota, the Hearing Dog Chair will receive much more information on a monthly basis. The Hearing Dog Chair will also attend many of the functions that Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota offers, including fund raisers, board meetings, orientations, graduations, etc.

Honduras Consultant – PDG Jack Riordan PDG Jack will be going to Honduras on the 20th of October. Not all Districts have completed their commitment to eliminate the balance pledged and not paid for the Honduras project.

CC Brian - Each Governor is to report to Brian on if their District has paid or not so that we can complete this project.

Diabetes – PCC Robert Beard A written report was submitted. The Multiple committee has not met, pending the creation of the Diabetes Foundation. We have broken our ties as a Multiple with the International Diabetes Center. Each District can continue those ties if they choose. Districts can continue to send money to each of the Diabetes organizations that we have supported in the past.

Long Range Planning – PCC Keith Johnson MD5M has a booklet on Long Rang Planning and will be sending a letter to each of the LRP Chairs to see if they would like to make changes to that booklet.

LEHP – DG Bert Nelson for PDG Dale Johanson Written report submitted along with a package for use and distribution.

Canadian Report – Bill McKitrick Written reports were distributed. The Foundation of Canada Dog Guide are reporting that donations are up for this year. Most of the activity has been in the amalgamation of the Eye Bank and the Foundation, which is well underway. We are now operating in one office with one employee.

Technology Report – CC Brian Sheehan A few of the things that we hope to accomplish this year is that we hope to give as much assistance and seminars as we can on technology. Currently working on the curriculum for the technical seminars that last years Governors wanted to put on. There will be two sessions, one basic and one intermediate session that will deal with mail merging, etc. December 10th will be the date for the first seminar in Thief River Falls.

Long Range Planning – Lion Allen Bailey Written report submitted. Met with outgoing Public Relations committee chair and discussed Public Relations. Coordinated advertising for the Liberty Day event on June 29th. Working on obtaining more advertising for Lions at Lions day at the Metrodome as well as working on the Multiple District newsletter. Lion Allen is willing and ready to help out where ever he can in the Districts.

LCIF – Gordon Affield Written report submitted. Thanked the Governors for appointment as LCIF Chair and asked the Governors to review the written report.

The Governors had a closed meeting prior to breaking for lunch to discuss the contract of the Executive Secretary.

Motion #4 M/S/P DG Lynn Farley, 5M6 / DG Marlys Meskan, 5M2 to approve the contract for the Executive Secretary as proposed.

DG Jack Hines requested permission on behalf of the Eden Prairie Lions to be able solicit funds from other Districts to build a dormitory at the Edenwood Center. The project total will be \$250,000. Edenwood is part of Camp Friendship. Permission was granted by consensus as long as the Eden Prairie Lions contact each District Governor in advance to make sure that they and their cabinet are aware of the solicitation and agree to it.

PID Ross Thorfinnson – Campaign Sight First II and Mission 30 Campaign Sight First II was kicked off in Hong Kong, it is a 3 year campaign that will culminate in Thailand in 2008. The proposed target for this campaign will be \$200 million dollars. \$150 million of that will be used pretty much the way the original Sight First money was used. Much of that will go to developing countries. If we look at what \$10,000 can do here in the US and compare that with what it can do in China or India there is no comparison. For \$10,000 we can build an eye clinic and we can train doctors to do thousands of cataract surgeries. \$10,000 here, for example, wouldn't make a dent in their budget. We are putting our money where it will have the greatest impact. For the cost of about \$6.00 per person, we have saved millions of people from sight loss. \$50 million will be used to combat emerging threats to sight. The good news is that much of that money will go to countries like the US and Canada because that is where most of the research is being done on macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy. Melvin Jones designations will be given for the amount of money contributed to Campaign Sight First II.

In Minnesota we have 2 Sector Coordinators to coordinate this effort. PDG Debra Wasserman for Districts 1-6 and PDG Larry Schul for Districts 7-11 minus the Canadian side of 10 and 11. The Canadians will have their own Coordinator. The Coordinators will have formal training the end of August. Each zone will have a person that will have made a 3 year commitment to support this project in their zone. The Governors are asked to set the stage for Campaign Site First II and let people know that it is coming and how important this is.

PDG Debra Wasserman – Sector Coordinator, Campaign Sight First Phase II “Campaign Sight First to me is the quintessential and purest way that we as Lions can carry out Helen Keller’s 80 year old mission to us to become Knights of the Blind”.

PDG Larry Schul – Sector Coordinator, Campaign Site First Phase II “I am looking forward to this project for a lot of the same reasons as PDG Debra mentioned, but also I am looking forward to going into parts of Minnesota that I have not seen, meeting new people, making new friends and I do believe that Campaign Sight First is what it is all about.

PID Ross Thorfinnson – Mission 30 “What I would like to talk about now is the portion of the President’s program that we would refer to as the Passion to Grow or Mission 30”. Our jobs are to encourage the Clubs, the Districts, and the Multiple Districts to participate in the program of the Plus One Challenge. Plus one member in each club and plus one club in each district. If we could do that, we would have a positive growth in the Association of about 60,000 members. This is very simple, very achievable, we just have to work at it. The Passion to grow awards are not only available to Districts, but individual clubs. The District awards are understandable and really revolve around the Plus One Challenge. Based on the number of stars that you achieve, and that is based on the number of points that you gather, you are then rewarded for your performance. The Star Awards allow you, the District Governor, to choose the membership strategy that fits your needs and it recognizes your people that are successful through the points system. PID Ross gave a detailed explanation of how points can be earned and what awards are available.

Motion #5 M/S/P DG Jack Hines, 5M5 / DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 to accept the Committee reports as presented.

Convention Committee Report – DG Al Fravert.

Motion #6 M/S/P DG Al Fravert, 5M1 / DG Jim Martindale, 5M10 to approve the appointment of DG Jack Hines as the Convention Host Committee Chairman for the 2009 International Convention.

Items that were discussed during the Multiple Convention Committee meeting were:

- A 2nd VP rally will be held at the Saturday breakfast followed by a general session on the Site First Seminar.
- There will be a silent auction to raise funds to help defray costs of attendees at the New Orleans Convention.
- There will be two Leadership Seminars and PDG Robert will pick the presenters
- The Governors need to provide a photo and a bio for the Convention Brochure. The bio should be 150 words or less and the photo (in Blues) sent to Dudley Parsons by 10/31/05.
- Photos and bios of deceased members should be sent to Dudley Parsons ASAP, but prior to 1 April, 2006.
- There will be sessions for Leos, Mission 30, Membership and Retention.

Motion #7 M/S/P DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 / DG Kent Beissel, 5M4 to have Executive Secretary Bob book the rooms for the District Governors, Vice Governors, and Council Chair at the Multiple Convention in Rochester.

District Organization – Jim Strandlie

The District organization committee recommends that the Council of Governors make a motion to endorse PID Albert Brandel of New York for 2nd VP in 2006-2007.

Motion #8 M/S/P DG Barney Olson, 5M3 / DG Kent Beissel, 5M4 that the Council of Governors of MD5M endorse PID Albert Brandel of New York for 2nd VP in 2006-2007.

The District organization committee recommends that the Council of Governors endorse the Orientation and Extension meeting on Sept 10th with support and financial assistance to come out of existing MERL funds. Site to be determined.

Motion #9 M/S/P DG Al Fravert, 5M1 / DG Marlys Meskan, 5M2 to support the Sept 10th Orientation and Extension meeting with financial assistance with funds to come out of existing MERL funds.

Motion #10 M/S/P DG Allen Stanlake, 5M1 / DG Jim Strandlie 5M11 to accept the District Organization report.

Service Activities – Bert Nelson

Motion #11 M/S/P DG Marlys Meskan, 5M2 / DG Jack Hines, 5M5 that the Multiple District charge \$1.50 per pin to each District and that the District picks up the cost of the Vice District Governors pins.

Motion #12 M/S/P DG Kent Beissel, 5M4 / DG Barney Olson, 5M3 that the MD5M Snow Man Pin shall be designed exclusively by the Vice District Governors with approval of the Council of Governors.

Motion #13 M/S/P DG Marlys Meskan 5M2 / DG Al Fravert, 5M1 to have the Service Activities committee and DG Bill McKittrick research the US Speak off and come to the October Council meeting with a recommendation. PID Ben Ward will be asked to be the advisor to the committee on this issue.

Motion#14 M/S/P DG Pat Kennedy, 5M7 / DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 that the Council supports and endorses the annual Timber Wolves and Twins Lions games.

Motion #15 M/S/P DG Kent Beissel, 5M4 / DG Al Fravert, 5M1 to accept the report of the Service Activities committee.

Legal Committee – Lynn Farley

The committee recommends that the Council of Governors move to discourage the use of the Snow Man or the MD5M logo on individual District, Club, or Governors Pins, Banners, or other paraphernalia.

Motion #16 M/S/P DG Barney Olson, 5M3 / DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 to discourage the use of the Snow Man or the MD5M Logo on individual District, Club, or Governors Pins, Banners, or other paraphernalia and to ask the Legal Consultant to add wording to the Policy Manual to this effect.

Motion #17 M/S/P DG Barney Olson, 5M3 / DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 to send a letter to the Pin Traders asking them to stop production of their own pin design.

The issue of Pin Traders producing their own Multiple pin will be addressed again at the October Council meeting.

The Legal Committee recommends referring the issue of dropping support for International Hearing Dog to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and bring it to the October meeting.

The Legal Committee asks that CC Brian continue his search for a suitable vendor for appropriate spouses apparel.

Motion #18 M/S/P DG Al Fravert, 5M1 / DG Kent Beissel, 5M4 to accept the report of the Legal Committee.

Headquarters and Finance – Jack Hines

Motion #19 M/S/P DG Barney Olson, 5M3 / DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 to appoint a task force to set up finance operational procedures and bring back at the October meeting. The members are Ed Holst, Kent Beissel, Bob Harms and Jack Hines.

Motion #20 M/S/P DG Jim Strandlie 5M11 / DG Pat Kennedy, 5M7 to give PDG Jim Aasness a gift of \$500 for his work in Hong Kong. The money will come from the miscellaneous convention expenses fund 2004-2005.

Motion #21 M/S/P DG Barney Olson 5M3 / Kent Beissel, 5M4 to add a line item to the District activities portion of the proposed budget for Technology at \$250.

Motion #22 M/S/P DG Bert Nelson, 5M9 / DG Al Fravert, 5M1 to increase the amount that we give the band from \$3,000 to \$5,000 and approve the proposed budget as amended.

Motion #23 M/S/P DG Al Fravert, 5M1/ DG Allen Stanlake, 5M8 to accept the report of the Headquarters and Finance committee.

Motion #24 M/S/P DG Allen Stanlake 5M8 / DG Pat Kennedy, 5M7 to adjourn the meeting.

Submitted by Bob Harms
MD5M Executive Secretary