

MD5M GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL MEETING
SHOOTING STAR CONFERENCE CENTER
MAHNOMEN, MN

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 2009

Council Chairperson Judy Loken called the meeting to order with District Governors present from all Districts. CC Judy established protocol, along with welcoming dignitaries and guests. The meeting began with the Pledge to the flag of the United States led by DG Jim Diehl, 5M8, the Pledge to the flag of Canada led by DG Ivan Pollock, 5M10, and an invocation by DG Josip Lecnik, 5M13.

CC Judy reviewed the rules of the meeting.

Motion #09-10/16 M/S/P DG Darwin Mathwig, 5M2 / DG Mike Appel, 5M3 to approve the minutes of the July meeting.

Motion #09-10/17 M/S/P DG Charlie Anderson, 5M6 / DG Jeannine Windels, 5M11 to approve the agenda of the October meeting with additions.

ID Debra Wasserman – After checking with the staff at Lions Clubs International Headquarters, they passed on some information for the Governors on CERT and ALERT and how they can work together. To summarize, LCI's position is that Lions participating in both CERT and ALERT are covered by several liability related things. Under ALERT the Lions policy would cover. Under CERT there are "Good Samaritan" laws and also a Federal act that would cover people participating under CERT. Further, we now have some good information on how CERT and ALERT are different, how they are compatible and how they can work together.

Project New Hope – DG Jim Arvidson, PCC Bert Nelson Project New Hope is a successful project that is getting results. In the interest of expanding the project and putting on more retreats. To do this, we are putting on a raffle and raffling off a Ford Mustang GT. The tickets are going to sell for \$20.00 and our goal is to raise a minimum of \$60,000 for Project New Hope. Governors, please help us out, get behind this program and help us sell these tickets. More copies of the flyer are available.

Financial Consultant Proposal – DG Kevin Walsh The previous Governors set up a committee to assist with the budget process and understanding the finances of the Multiple. This did not go as planned, so the suggestion is that we as a group of Governors set up a position on the Multiple as a Financial Advisor, similar to the Legal Advisor and P.R. position. This position would be appointed by the new incoming Governors in the Spring.

Presidential & Leadership Awards – ID Debra Wasserman Membership growth is being stressed this year by our President as a criteria for presenting these awards. At this point about ½ of the nominations for awards submitted mentioned membership. There was discussion as to if some of those that were submitted with out mention of membership should be re-written with more of a focus on membership growth. It was decided that on ID Debra's recommendation, the Governors would review their submissions and wherever possible would increase the emphasis on membership contributions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Constitution/By-Laws – PDG Bob Wharton Bobble head's are available for the District Governors to take home and use as they wish. 500 gift cards are ordered for those that registered for the Convention and also volunteered. These should be available soon. There are also banners available. Each Governor should take 8 or 9 with you, they are a gift to you from the Convention Committee. A final financial report will be given at the March Council meeting. Anything that you would like changed on the Constitution and By-Laws needs to be to PDG Bob Wharton & Exec. Sec. Bob Harms prior to March 1.

Youth Exchange – Lion Jay Norby, Lion Nancy Mathwig The request for funds for Youth Exchange has not been sent out recently. Expenses have been reduced and previous funds collected have been used. In the future, Youth Exchange many need to again ask the Districts for permission to solicit funds. The next Youth Exchange meeting will be on Feb 27th in St. Cloud and any Council Member is invited to attend. It will be at the Kelley Inn starting at 9:00 AM. Please thank the Youth Exchange Chairs for the great job that they have done.

Diabetes – PDG Wally Sapp The Diabetes Foundation has been very busy. Please read the written report that is in your folders. We are in the process of setting up a WEB page for Diabetes. This should answer a lot of questions. It should be up and running in January. The Diabetes Foundation is also moving forward to join with the Eye Bank and the Hearing Foundation to have tours at the same time.

Hearing and Service Dogs – PCC Frank The Heel and Wheel fundraising walk was unfortunately down this year because it was the same time as the USA/Canada Forum. We did, however, raise \$45,180.00. Next year we will do a lot better. Thanks to PDG Allen and Terri Bailey for hosting the Lions tent at the walk. All Lions are invited to the 25th anniversary of Hearing and Service Dogs, it is called the Fetching Ball. If you would like a speaker for your mid-winter, please call Laurie Carlson at 612-729-5986 or alcarlson@hsdm.org

LEO Clubs – PDG Jim Martindale Last weekend we had a wonderful Leo Leadership Forum. We doubled our numbers from last year. We had 66 participate. It was held at Camp Friendship in Annandale. The facility was great and the administration bent over backwards to help us. The young people had a wonderful time. A special thanks to PDG Allen Bailey for his help as a DJ. A forum costs about \$10,000, and we need funding. We will be asking the Governors and the LEO Chairs to go back and see what we can do to promote next year's forum.

LCIF – PCC Bert Nelson Thanks were expressed to the Governors for their past support and hopefully continued support for the LCIF program. Some Districts have not applied for a grant for over 5 years, please consider doing that. Also, please consider using the Melvin Jones awards for recognizing great Lions. Since 1968 more than 9,300 grants have been given world wide, which total over 660 Million dollars.

Leader Dog – PDG Kay Elliott There are 4 Districts that are not having Leader Dog at their Conventions this year. It is understood that it is your decision, but it would be appreciated if you could let me know by September of next year if you are going to need a Leader Dog Representative to come to your convention. Please also encourage your Leader Dog Chairs to set some goals so that your District can be 100% with Leader Dog.

Lions Hearing Foundation – Lion Marlene Martinek We have had lots of things going on, we had a golf tournament that raised \$25,000. In September we had a Cochlear Implant picnic, which allows families of patients to get together and share. In October we had the Eye Bank and Hearing Foundation Tours. There was lower participation, but it was one of the best tours because the groups were small and we got to see more. We approved over \$125,000 towards equipment at the University, research and the Lions Children's Center. Please promote the Hearing Foundation members going to each of the clubs in your district. The clubs need to know that when a hearing issue comes up that they should go to these Trustees and not try to handle the situation on their own. The Trustees have been trained to know what can be done to help a variety situations.

Long Range Planning – IPCC Deborah Harms Each of the DG's, 1st VDG's, and 2nd VDG's have received an email with the Long Range Plan that is currently being worked on. If you have any questions, please ask. The next step is to get in touch with all of the different Program Chairs and ask for updates that they wish to make to this plan. The following step will be to go to the District Long Range Planning people and discuss the changes that need to be made and see what we can do to help in your District. It is the goal that the report will be ready for you to review at the March meeting. We are working on the Convention Bid package and are close to finishing. We will have something ready to be sent out soon.

Minnesota Lions Eye Bank – PCC Dick Reger At the International Convention in Minneapolis, the Lions brought in 61,463 used Eye Glasses. Since January 2009 we have taken in 225,000 pair of glasses. MD5M has provided over 7 million pairs of eye glasses to the Recycling Center, which is an average of 350,000 + per year. A Strategic Planning retreat was held on October 2nd and 3rd to put together a plan for the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank for the next 3 years. I would like to ask for your endorsement of a project of the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank to raise 3 million dollars for research during the next 3 years to end blindness in children. (A handout was provided)

The Department of Ophthalmology would not have attained the level of excellence in patient care, research, and education that it enjoys today without past support from the Minnesota Lions. The Department's research scientists, clinical and practicing physicians, and other health professionals will use this gift to make a positive difference for the children and infants that will last for the rest of their lives.

Leadership Development – PDG Mary Ferleman On behalf of the entire MERLO team I would like to thank you for your support. We had every District represented. We just completed 2 days of Vice District Governor training and it was wonderful. I want to thank the

Vice Governors for their participation and enthusiasm. The faculty was thanked as well as guest presenter DG Dewey Essig. PDG Mary stated that if there is anything that she can do for the Governors at any time to give her a call.

Extension/New Clubs – PID Maynard Rucks Last night at the GMT presentation each District Governor was asked to give synopsis of what is going on in their District on Membership and Extension. Each District is doing well, but we need to work a whole lot harder. Extension is not the total answer. The whole MERLO team would agree that this is a team effort and we need to use the MERLO teams in all of our Districts to work together to save the members that we have, to get the new members that we need and to get the new clubs that we need.

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum – PID Maynard Rucks For you that were at Memphis we had a good Forum, we had 2,785 Lions there. Please make plans for attending Milwaukee next year. It is close and the last time we were in Milwaukee 5M had the highest number of Lions from any Multiple there. We would like to do that again.

Membership/Retention – PCC Brian Please keep your eye on your Cumulative reports and your Healthy Club reports. As we discussed last night, retention is really a key. We are getting a lot of members but we are having a hard time keeping them around. I want to thank the District Governors for keeping membership, retention and GMT in the front boarders of your District. It is very much appreciated.

Orientation – PCC Bob Jechorek I want to remind you of the goal of Orientation. The goal of Orientation, especially for this year is to raise the level of awareness of Orientation, as an absolutely integral portion and component of Membership, Extension, Retention, and for inspiring members to go on to leadership either at the Club or District level. The MERLO training in St. Cloud went very well, there was tremendous excitement and a lot of really great ideas. All of these ideas were emailed to each of the District Orientation Chairs. There were 20 CD's on Orientation distributed at the training and there is requests for 15 more. We have a fair amount of work to do, but we are off to a good start.

Political Liaison – DG Mike Appel The Political Liaison meeting was held prior to the Council Meeting this morning. ID Debra Wasserman reported that the Council should consider the endorsement of PID Wayne Madden of Indiana for election at the International Convention in Sydney in 2010. ID Debra also suggested that the Council consider a candidate for the office of International Director at the International Convention. This person would need to be endorsed at the 2010 Multiple Convention in Mahanomen.

Motion #09-10/18 M/S/P DG Darwin Mathwig, 5M2 / DG Dewey Essig, 5M4 to endorse PID Lion Wayne Madden of Indiana for 2nd Vice President of Lions Clubs International.

Project New Hope – PDG Dale Johansen Thanks to everyone for their support, it has been great! There was a retreat last week and it went well. We maybe could have squeezed in one more family. It was requested that each of the Districts that have officially adopted Project New Hope would notify PDG Dale. We are looking for Corporate sponsors so that we can use some of their money for travel to other States. We have officially moved into Wisconsin and have a retreat lined up in Wisconsin. It looks like New York and Connecticut are next. There are a few of us that would like to speak at Mid Winter conventions. Please contact us for a speaker. We have hats, pins, and wrist bands for sale.

Public Relations – PDG Allen Bailey I am asking all Multiple District Chairs, Consultants, Program Chairs to write a brief narrative regarding their particular project or specialty in the Multiple District so we can put it in the Multiple Newsletter to continue to explain to all Lions what we do and why we do it and that we are all here to support the clubs in the districts. Please get these to me as soon as possible and I will spread them out over the course of the Lions year. How do you become famous? The answer is to stand out from the crowd. We all know this, but we need to inform our clubs and other Lions that we all do great things. We need to take advantage of the opportunities that we can find to make each of the clubs and our districts stand out in the crowd and make sure that everyone knows about it. If you need assistance, please let me know. I am willing to present a PR program at your Mid Winter if time allows or assist with officer training.

Spring Point – Lion Larry Winner Things are changing. There is a plan to channel the funding through the Schultz Diabetes Institute and they will be supporting the Spring Point Project. They have been doing pre-clinical trials, injecting monkeys with pig islet cells. They are expecting to complete these trials by late 2010 or early 2011 and start the clinical trials with pig to human islet cell transplants. In working with these two organizations they have asked that I coordinate speakers from either of these two organizations for any Lions activity. If you have a desire for a speaker please contact me, and I will coordinate it for you.

2009 Multiple Convention – PID Ross Thorfinnson The report that is in your packets is a preliminary report. The final report is being passed out. Negotiations are still in process with the 2009 hotel to settle the difference in rooms guaranteed and the rooms actually occupied, but they feel confident that a reasonable agreement will be reached. A suggested chart of accounts is also submitted for future conventions to use to try to get a better accounting for the sources of revenues and expenses.

The Lions Clubs International President will be speaking at the Saturday noon luncheon at the 5M5 Mid Winter convention at the Ramada hotel in Brooklyn Park. There is limited seating for this event. If you wish to attend and be seated in the main ballroom, you must register by 13 November, 2009, those that register after that date may have to be seated in the overflow area.

PDG Wayne Swanson presented a check to MD5M from the 2009 Midwinter Host Committee for \$3,560.27.

2010 Convention – Lion Wayne Myrvik There are 10 committees that have been meeting once a month and they are all busy and are where they should be on this project. The Shooting Star Casino has reduced the room rates from \$74.95 to \$64.95 if the rooms are booked before April 1, 2010. The fee for vendor tables for Lions projects and Pin Traders has also been waved if they are booked prior to March 1, 2010. After March 1st a \$40.00 fee will be charged. All commercial tables will be \$100.00. The District Governors were asked to make sure that the photos are sent to Jim Johansen for the memorial service as soon as possible. Ads will be sold to Lions Clubs and others that wish to advertise an event. Full page ads will be: Full Page, \$100.00 – ½ Page, \$55.00 – ¼ Page, \$30.00 – 1/8 Page, \$20.00 – Sponsorship, \$10.00. The ads are due by 1 March, 2010. Ads should be sent to Elizabeth Lions 2010 Convention, Box 1037 Fergus Falls, MN 56538. Monthly notes have been sent to the District Governors for their Newsletters. Please help us promote this convention.

Youth Outreach, Pease Poster and Quest – PDG Jack Riordan It is the Quest 25th anniversary, PDG Jack has been working with Quest for 22 years and has attended quite a few of the training programs. We have changed a little bit about Quest. Districts 10, 11, and 13 are handled by Bruce Mintenko from Canada and PDG Jack has the other 9 Districts. We are trying to get Core 4 Grants. We need to be flexible in order to get the maximum amount of money. School district lines cross Lions District lines and sometimes County lines, so some Districts must work together and not worry about boundaries. We have two different ways to go with teachers. Canada goes with the affiliate and so far we have been using the ones from International. Both are very well trained. Quest is exactly the same in both the US and Canada. The Governors were encouraged to get acquainted with the folks in the local papers and try to get information out to the public.

Legal Consultant – PDG Wayne Swanson There is a copy of a proposed Whistle Blower Policy, Conflict of Interest policy, and a Privacy Policy in the Governor's folders. This needs to be reviewed and acted on in order to properly complete the requirements of the IRS. PDG Wayne offered to come to Mid Winters and do a Legal seminar at a general session. Please contact him if interested.

Parade Consultant – PCC Keith Johnson Thanks to everyone that helped with the International Convention parade, especially PCC Frank Loken who assisted with the running of it and organizing of it. He was a valuable asset to the whole thing. Also, thanks to the Districts for encouraging the bands to come. It is unusual to have 24 musical organizations in a parade and it was fun for the audiences to see it. Also thanks for encouraging people to come watch the parade. Many of the bands were overwhelmed at all the spectators along the line that wanted to see the parade. The folks at LCI were very impressed with the way we ran our convention.

Protocol Advisor – PDG Robert Vokes When I look at the roll of the Protocol Chair, certainly it's how do you introduce people, where do you sit at head tables, how do you put the flags up etc. To me the more important part of the roll, from my perspective, is the challenge to think about things. Why do we do certain things the way we do them? Is this the best way of doing them? Today we are going to talk about the image that the District Governors and Vice District Governors have. At your mid winter conventions, consider asking the Governors to sit with the Lions attending rather than with fellow Governors. Lions have asked: Why do they always sit together and not with us? Another question from a Canadian Lion was What about this Canadian Pledge, is there such a thing, it seems made up to me? I am going to say today that there is not an official Canadian Pledge. Our Canadian Governors need to pick their battles, but to some the can be very hurtful and disrespectful. We have to remember that we are two different countries. It is suggested that we memorize each others National Anthems so that we know those and not recite an artificial pledge.

Technology Operations – Lion Steve Wasserman Additions to the report which is in your folder is to let you know that all those nice CD's that I made and mailed out to you don't work. I do have a version that does work on my thumb drive, if you have your lap top. Otherwise I will be mailing out another CD. It is very important to provide brail to your conventions if you have any blind Lions, any Leader Dog representatives, or anyone else that uses brail. Even if you don't know that they are coming and if now body picks it up and uses it, it is good to have it there. Everything that is handed out in paper to anyone should be available in brail and I would love to produce it for you. We will probably not be at most of the Mid Winters this

year, so it is important for you to get that information to me earlier this year. The best way to get it to me is with email. If you don't have everything, send me what you have.

Comments – ID Debra Wasserman Governors, if you have not submitted your Speaker Request Form for your International Directors please do that as soon as you can.

An invitation has been extended to Past International President Mahendra Amarasuriya and we are waiting to hear from him as to if he will be able to accept the invitation. It is always a bit trickier when you are inviting a guest from outside North America relative to travel schedules and mileage that Past Presidents are allotted. I am hoping to hear from him shortly and I would appreciate any suggestions of Past Presidents that you would like to invite if PP Amarasuriya is not able to attend.

Notes from the International Board Meeting: Approved the use of the term “One adult companion” or other appropriate verbiage to replace the term “Spouse” in the Associations Policy, Procedures, and Practices effective immediately and to be implemented as soon as administratively feasible and to the fullest extent possible. What that goes to is a desire on the part of our Association to be inclusive and open to our leaders, especially our District Governor Elects, International Directors and Executive Officers to travel with the person that they want to travel with when representing the Association. For some of our District Governor Elects, the spouse is not necessarily a person of the other gender. Some of our District Governor Elects, Directors and others are in long term relationships with significant others, currently the use of the work spouse does not include those people.

One more item is that International Convention Certification forms will no longer be mailed to every club secretary in the world. 46,000 of those have been mailed in the past. When a person registers for the Convention they will receive a delegate certification along with the confirmation. The certification form will also be available on the website and printed in the February and April Lion Magazine. It should also be noted that Australia requires a visa and so anyone going to Australia will need to apply for a visa.

The District Governor Team is what is really being looked at, at LCI. We are not hearing District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor & 2nd Vice District Governor. There is a lot of talk about the District Governor Team and how they can work together. A lot of information that will come from LCI will be going to the District Governor Team.

There will also be some information sent to PCC Brian about the Club Excellence Process. This is a piloted program in North America in November & December that will be an opportunity for clubs to look at their health and well being to help them see if there are areas that they can expand.

GOVERNORS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Convention Committee – DG Jeannine Windels

Motion #09-10/19 M/S/P DG Jeannine Windels, 5M11 / Convention Committee to leave the selection of the music for the Memorial Service be left to the soloist provided that the selection is non denominational.

Motion #09-10/20 M/S/P DG Jeannine Windels, 5M11 / Convention Committee that Past International Directors, Past Council Chairs and Past District Governors will be asked to host tables at meal functions at the Multiple Convention.

Motion #09-10/21 M/S/P DG Jeannine Windels, 5M11 / Convention Committee to adopt the Convention Financial Report template, include it in the bid package, for future conventions and that the 2010 Host Committee also use this format for their financial report.

Motion #09-10/22 M/S/P DG Jeannine Windels, 5M11 / Convention Committee that MD5M begin the bidding process to host the International Convention in 2017 or the next available convention to bid on.

Service and Activities Committee – DG Clay O’Flanagan

Motion #09-10/22 M/S/P DG Clay O’Flanagan, 5M7 / Service and Activities Committee to endorse the Minnesota Lions fundraising project to raise 3 million dollars to prevent blindness in infants and children.

Motion #09-10/23 M/S/P DG Clay O’Flanagan, 5M7/ Service and Activities Committee to have the Service and Activities committee review chapter 14 of the Policy Manual, determine if there needs to be changes made to the dress policy and make recommendations at the March Council meeting.

Legal Committee – DG Mike Appel

Motion #09-10/24 M/S/P DG Mike Appel, 5M5 / Legal Committee to accept the Conflict of Interest policy that LCI has on file.

Motion #09-10/25 M/S/P DG Mike Appel, 5M5 / Legal Committee to adopt the Whistle Blower Policy as printed in the Governors folders on page 25c.

Motion #09-10/26 M/S/P DG Mike Appel, 5M5 / Legal Committee to adopt the Privacy Policy as recommended with corrections to be made at a later date.

Motion #09-10/27 M/S/P DG Mike Appel, 5M5 / Legal Committee to create a position of Financial Consultant to be appointed by the District Governor Elects for each year. **NOTE**, Motion #09-10/35 was made later in the meeting to rescind Motion #09-10/27.

Motion #09-10/28 M/S/P DG Mike Appel, 5M5 / Legal Committee to open the endorsement process for an International Director with the intent of endorsing a candidate at the MD5M 2010 convention.

Headquarters and Finance Committee – DG Barb Ernster

Motion #09-10/29 M/S/P DG Barb Ernster, 5M1 / Headquarters and Finance Committee to accept the financial report ending June 30,2009.

Motion #09-10/30 M/S/P DG Barb Ernster, 5M1 / Headquarters and Finance Committee to accept the financial report ending September 30, 2009.

Motion #09-10/31 M/S/P DG Barb Ernster, 5M1 / Headquarters and Finance Committee to approve the replacement of the Multiple Lap top computer.

Motion #09-10/32 M/S/P DG Barb Ernster, 5M1 / Headquarters and Finance Committee to send the remaining \$142.61 from the Lions of Minnesota Charitable Foundation to the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation.

Motion #09-10/33 M/S/Tabled DG Barb Ernster, 5M1 / Headquarters and Finance Committee to create a position of Financial Consultant to be appointed by the District Governor Elects for each year.

Motion #09-10/34 M/S/P DG Mike Appel, 5M5 / DG Duaine Essig, 5M4 That the Council table the Financial Consultant issue until the March meeting, when there is job description and a list of actual duties, giving the Council a better understanding on what is being voted on.

Motion #09-10/35 M/S/P DG Darwin Mathwig, 5M2 / DG Duaine Essig, 5M4 to rescind motions # 09-10/33 and #09-10/27.

DG Kevin Walsh was appointed Chair of the committee to work on the job description for the Financial Consultant and DG's Jim Diehl and PDG Wayne Swanson members of the committee. This committee will give their recommendations to the March Council meeting.

Our next meeting will be in Roseville on March 20, 2010.

Since there was no further business, CC Judy declared the meeting to be adjourned

Submitted by Lion Bob Harms
MD5M Executive Secretary