

**FOURTH COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
LIONS OF MICHIGAN, MULTIPLE DISTRICT 11  
LANSING WEST HOTEL  
FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2009**

**Attendance** – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. It was attended by the following District Governors: Jim Williams, 11 A1; Connie Shelton, 11 A2; Roberta Sexton, 11 B1; Linda Bosma, 11 B2; Mike Johnson, 11 C1; Shirley Marshall, 11 C2; Frank Rivette, 11 D1; Chuck Belesky, 11 D2; Larry Morlock, 11 E1; David Zeller, 11 E2; and Robert Miller, SD 10. Vice District Governors in attendance were: John Daoud, 11 A1; Ron Holler, 11 A2; Terry Walters, 11 B1; Al Vredberg, 11 B2; Robert Schalow, 11 C1; Kevin Storberg, 11 C2; Robert Ryan, 11 D2; Wayne Kreitner, 11 E1; and Beverly Bodem, 11 E2. Others present: PID Bill Hansen; PID Chuck Weir; PID Bill Hanel; PID Ken Lautzenheiser; Council Chair Terry Bowerman; Council Chair-Elect Bob Jenkins; State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck; and Executive Director Mary Brown.

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes –**

MOTION – Zeller, seconded, to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried.

MOTION – Morlock, seconded, to approve the minutes of the December Council Meeting. Motion carried.

**Leadership Development Report – Esther LaMothe, PDG**

A revised training schedule was developed to address both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governors. The first session will be held on Saturday morning of the MD 11 Convention in May. Sessions will continue to be held on Fridays of Council Meetings. First VDGs are invited to attend all Council Meetings, and 2<sup>nd</sup> VDGs will be invited to the March and May meetings. In the past, VDGs attended the Leadership Institute at Higgins Lake at no charge; this year, LCI is inviting them to attend the Senior Lions Leadership Institute on the same weekend.

MOTION – Rivette, seconded, to approve the proposed VDG training schedule. Motion carried.

**Leadership Institute Report – Paul Hemeryck, PDG**

The second \$5,000 grant installment from LCI for the Leadership Institute was received in February, resulting in a small profit. All districts except one donated \$300 towards support of the event. PID Dennis Cobler will step down from the Institute Committee next year to concentrate on GMT. PID Bill Hansen will take over as chairman. LCI will not provide funding for regional Faculty Development Institutes next year. The program may be re-designed as a graduate program for Leadership Institute graduates with a modified curriculum.

MOTION – Zeller, seconded, to move forward with plans for the 2009 Leadership Institute and to apply for a \$10,000 grant from LCI. Motion carried.

**Financial Report – Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer**

All accounts are operating within proposed budgets. The magazine currently shows a small deficit because income is allocated as issues are published (9 times per year), but labor costs are allocated monthly.

MOTION – Sexton, seconded, to have the Magazine Editor contact the respective District Governor on the 16<sup>th</sup> of the month if information is not received from the District Editor by the deadline date for submission of news. Motion carried.

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to receive the Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried.

**Collection of Used Eyeglasses – PID Chuck Weir**

Many clubs in 11 C2 and 11 B1 have been sending used eyeglasses to the State Office. From there, they are transported to the Hope program at Ionia Prison for sorting and cataloging of prescriptions. Due to budget cuts, the program (which provided over 500,000 glasses per year for vision missions) will be cancelled on March 23 when the prison closes. VDG Bob Schalow will contact Dr. Dennis Cobler and Dr. Gary Anderson to determine whether the Muskegon Northside Lions Club is able to process additional glasses at their facility.

**Lease Agreement**

The committee appointed in December met with the Foundation and negotiated a new lease agreement. It has been reviewed by attorneys for both organizations. Plans call for remodeling the building.

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to approve the lease agreement. Motion carried.

MOTION – Sexton, seconded, to authorize the District Governor to send letters to clubs in their districts on their letterhead asking for \$100 contributions toward the cost of remodeling the office. All Governors will use the same language (to be drafted by DG Linda Bosma). The language will stipulate that donations must come from administrative funds, not service funds. Motion carried.

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to appoint a committee to review building costs on a ongoing basis, to be composed of three members from the Lions of Michigan and three members from the Lions of Michigan Foundation. They will serve three-year terms on a rotating basis. The initial appointees from the Lions of Michigan will be Dave Zeller, Linda Bosma and Mike Johnson. Motion carried.

Committee appointees from the Foundation will be Bill Klingensmith, Clem Ruiz, and the new Vice President (when elected).

The lease was signed by Council Chair Terry Bowerman and Foundation President Bill Klingensmith.

**FOURTH COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
LIONS OF MICHIGAN, MULTIPLE DISTRICT 11  
LANSING WEST HOTEL  
SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2009**

**Attendance** – The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. It was attended by the following District Governors: Jim Williams, 11 A1; Connie Shelton, 11 A2; Roberta Sexton, 11 B1; Linda Bosma, 11 B2; Mike Johnson, 11 C1; Shirley Marshall, 11 C2; Frank Rivette, 11 D1; Chuck Belesky, 11 D2; Larry Morlock, 11 E1; David Zeller, 11 E2; and Robert Miller, SD 10. Vice District Governors in attendance were: John Daoud, 11 A1; Ron Holler, 11 A2; Terry Walters, 11 B1; Al Vredberg, 11 B2; Robert Schalow, 11 C1; Kevin Storberg, 11 C2; Robert Ryan, 11 D2; Wayne Kreitner, 11 E1; and Beverly Bodem, 11 E2. Others present:

PID Bill Hansen; PID Chuck Weir; PID Bill Hanel; PID Ken Lautzenheiser; Council Chair Terry Bowerman; Council Chair-Elect Bob Jenkins; State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck; and Executive Director Mary Brown.

**Lions International Update – PID Bill Hansen**

Several districts are currently showing gains in membership and new clubs; however, they should be prepared for the “June slaughter” that typically occurs at the end of the fiscal year. DGs need to build a cushion by continuing to organize new clubs and recruit new members.

LCIF will take a new approach to fundraising next year. IPDGs will not automatically serve on the LCIF Committee. Instead, there will be a MD Coordinator who serves a three-year term. PID Hansen will serve in this capacity, and he will select committee members from each district. LCIF will not have an official dollar goal like Campaign SightFirst, but it will have an unofficial goal of raising \$11 million. The economic stimulus package presents a fundraising hurdle because large donors will not be allowed to deduct as much on their income tax. LCIF will attempt to localize publicity and provide statistics that can be used regionally. They also will emphasize the availability of funds for non-Lions projects.

**MD 11 Convention Report – Bob Sturgis, PDG, Convention Chair**

The committee met last weekend to reviewed 12 bids for the 2011 MD 11 Convention. They prioritized their top three choices: 1) Holiday Inn Big Rapids, 2) Crown Plaza Grand Rapids, and 3) Marriott Centerpoint.

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to approve the Marriott Centerpoint’s bid for the 2011 MD 11 Convention. Motion carried.

This year’s convention features a sports theme. Entertainment on Friday evening will be provided by members of the MSU Marching Band. Confirmation is pending for an appearance by football coach Mark Dantonio. MSU will donate an autographed football and possibly an autographed basketball. These items (and any others sports-related items than can be obtained) will be raffled during the convention. Proceeds will be divided between the Lions All State Band administrative account and band members.

**Strategic Planning Report (via conference phone) – John Johnson, PDG**

The committee reviewed the State Office Policy Statement and recommended deleting the sectarian religious references in the section dealing with a Good Friday Observance. (Language after “The office closes at noon...” would be deleted.) Another recommendation was to modify the paragraph on death or serious illness in the “Other Recognized Absences” section, to add “or vacation allowance” in the last sentence after “sick leave allowance.”

MOTION – Rivette, seconded, to accept the recommendations of the Strategic Planning Committee regarding wording changes to the State Office Policy Statement. Motion carried.

Succession planning for the position of State Secretary was discussed by the committee. Written procedures from MD 9 and MD 37 were reviewed, and a proposal was drafted and recommended for inclusion in the MD 11 Policy Manual.

MOTION – Sexton, seconded, to insert in the Policy Manual the language on “State Secretary Selection” as proposed by the Strategic Planning Committee. Motion carried.

**Welcome Homes Residential Services – Rod Prys, President, Welcome Homes Board of Directors**

A series of questions from the District Governors were forwarded to Welcome Homes by CC Terry Bowerman in February. Board President Rod Prys read a statement to the Council that was drafted in response to those questions. It covered the history of Welcome Homes, the number of residents served at the Monroe Street facility, changes brought about by ADA, and development of new Welcome Homes initiative to provide assistance to senior living facilities that have blind and visually impaired residents. It also explained the affiliation agreement between the Welcome Homes, the Gerontology Network and the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI). Welcome Homes operates as an independent 501(c)(3) corporation, with a self-appointed board of 15 members, the majority of whom are Lions Club members.

**Written Reports -**

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to receive the written report from the Bear Lake Camp Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Zeller, seconded, to receive the written report from the Leader Dog Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Rivette, seconded, to receive the written report from the All State Band Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Zeller, seconded, to receive the written report from the Youth Exchange Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to receive the written report from the Lions-Quest Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Zeller, seconded, to receive the written report from the White Cane Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to receive the written report from the Hearing Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to receive the written report from the Michigan Eye Bank Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to present the Diabetes Awareness and Sight Conservation Certificates at the Multiple District 11 Convention. Motion carried.

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to receive the written report from the Public Relations Committee. Motion carried.

MOTION – Zeller, Rivette, to receive the written report from the Lion Pride Magazine. Motion carried.

MOTION – Bosma, seconded, to support the creation of deadlines to enable the Magazine Editor to complete layout of the magazine on time to meet printing deadlines in situations where District Editors have not provided sufficient (or any) news by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. When such a

deficiency occurs, the Magazine Editor shall provide notice to the District Governor, who will inform the District Editor that news/photos must be received in the Lions State Office within 5 days. If information is not received within that time frame, the Magazine Editor is authorized to publish a partial page of district news based on materials received, or to proceed with publication without news from the district in question. Motion carried.

MOTION – Rivette, seconded, to accept the written report from the Information Technology Committee. Motion carried.

#### **Digital Tape Recorder for Council Meeting Minutes –**

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to authorize the State Office to spend up to \$200 for the purchase of a digital tape recorder. Motion defeated.

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to ask State Office personnel to obtain specifications and prices on an appropriate digital recorder. Motion carried.

#### **GMT and Retention Reports – Hank Bosma, PDG**

The goal for this year is to break even in membership. Last year at this time, MD 11 was down 200; at the end of February 2009, membership is down 18. Losses have been reduced substantially.

#### **International Convention, Minneapolis**

At the December Council Meeting, the Governors recommended that marchers carry small Michigan flags in the parade. The Convention Committee has requested reconsideration of this decision.

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to have water bottle holders as giveaway items for the parade at the International Convention in Minneapolis. Motion carried.

#### **Membership Report – Jim Walls, PDG**

District awards for Lions who sponsor the most new members will be presented at District Conventions. Governors are asked to email names of their recipients to PDG Walls. On average, 25% of members in clubs are female; PDG Walls suggested that DGs present plaques to clubs with the most women members (criteria to be set by the Governors).

#### **Extension Report – Bob Jenkins, PDG**

Most districts have utilized LCI's Extension Team; these workshops have been very productive and have resulted in a number of new Lions Clubs. This has been the best year in extension in recent history.

#### **MERL Appointments**

Selection of the 2009-2012 MERL Chairs will take place at the next Council of Governors Meeting on May 15. Assistance is requested from the DGs, VDGs and MERL Chairs to seek applicants for these four positions. Application forms (which include job descriptions and qualifications) were provided to the DGs and VDGs.

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to advertise in the Lion Pride Magazine for applicants for the MD 11 MERL Chairmanships. The deadline for applications to be submitted to the State Office is April 17 (postmarked on that date, or faxed or emailed on that date). Motion carried.

**International Convention Report – Jesse Arnold, Convention Chair**

During their meeting in January, the Convention Committee approved a Michigan Night dinner at the Mall of America for \$35 per person. Chairman Arnold was advised, when he called to confirm the event, that the price did not include tax and gratuity, a \$400 setup fee, or AV charges (microphone and podium).

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to cancel the planned Michigan Night dinner on Thursday night at the Mall of America. Instead, Michigan Lions will be encouraged to attend the Twins/Yankees Baseball Game on Wednesday night. Motion carried.

**Michigan Forum Report – Jim Pettinato, Forum Chair**

The preliminary financial report on the Michigan Forum shows that the event broke even. There were 210 people registered. Three presenters were “no shows” due to the bad weather, but the committee was able to scramble to obtain last-minute replacements. All of the breakout sessions were well received.

**Constitution & By-Laws Report – Lion Ed Weessies**

DG Williams presented a proposal to de-certify a state project if it fails to maintain 2/3 endorsement of the districts. Chairman Weessies will contact PDG/attorney John Johnson for a legal opinion on the proposal.

The Governors were asked to approve placement of five amendment proposals on the ballot at the 2009 MD 11 Convention. Amendment #1 would revise the MD 11 Constitution and By-Laws to conform to LCI’s Standard Form, while maintaining items unique to MD 11.

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to place amendment proposal #1 on the ballot at the 2009 MD 11 Convention. Motion carried.

Proposal #2 would clarify language relating to MD 11 dues by deleting references to minimum dues to be charged by sub-districts.

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to place amendment proposal #2 on the ballot at the 2009 MD 11 Convention. Motion carried.

Proposal #3 would institute a half-price MD 11 dues structure for “family members” as defined by LCI policy.

MOTION – Bosma, seconded, to place amendment proposal #3 on the ballot at the 2009 MD 11 Convention. Motion carried.

Proposal #4 would institute a half-price MD 11 dues structure for “student members” as defined by LCI policy.

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to place amendment proposal #4 on the ballot at the 2009 MD 11 Convention. Motion carried.

Proposal #5 would remove terms of office for committee members from the By-Laws and place them in the Policy Manual.

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to place amendment proposal #5 on the ballot at the 2009 MD 11 Convention. Motion carried.

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee approved one housekeeping change during the year—the term of office for the Leo Committee was changed from two years to three years to comply with a change instituted by the LCI Board of Directors.

**FOURTH COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
LIONS OF MICHIGAN, MULTIPLE DISTRICT 11  
LANSING WEST HOTEL  
SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2009**

**Attendance** – The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. It was attended by the following District Governors: Jim Williams, 11 A1; Connie Shelton, 11 A2; Roberta Sexton, 11 B1; Linda Bosma, 11 B2; Mike Johnson, 11 C1; Shirley Marshall, 11 C2; Frank Rivette, 11 D1; Chuck Belesky, 11 D2; Larry Morlock, 11 E1; and David Zeller, 11 E2. Vice District Governors in attendance were: John Daoud, 11 A1; Ron Holler, 11 A2; Al Vredberg, 11 B2; Robert Schalow, 11 C1; Kevin Storberg, 11 C2; Robert Ryan, 11 D2; Wayne Kreitner, 11 E1; and Beverly Bodem, 11 E2. Others present: PID Bill Hansen; Council Chair Terry Bowerman; Council Chair-Elect Bob Jenkins; State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck; and Executive Director Mary Brown.

**Policy on Written Materials Distributed to the Public -**

MOTION – Zeller, seconded, effective with this meeting, that minutes of Council Meetings shall contain only information required by Robert’s Rules of Order. Motion carried.

MOTION – Zeller, seconded, to erase and re-use tapes of Council Meetings following approval of the minutes. Motion carried.

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to request that written reports to the Council shall not include private, restricted information and to ask project chairs and committees to be cautious and prudent about providing personal information. Motion carried.

**Request for Bids -**

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to give the committee of five that handled lease negotiations the responsibility of obtaining bids for remodeling the State Office. Motion carried.

**Evaluation of State Treasurer and State Secretary**

The Council invited the VDGs and PID Bill Hansen to participate in an Executive Session to evaluate the State Treasurer and State Secretary.

Meeting adjourned.