

**MD 11 Council of Governors Meeting
Lansing, Michigan
Friday, August 6, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Michigan Room of the Ramada Inn by Council Chair Frank Cunningham. Governors present were: Linda Tate, 11 A1; Jim Bone, 11 A2; Barbara Treichel, 11 B1; Don Brown, 11 B2; Fran Osborne, 11 C1; Marion Ramer, 11 C2; Dr. Gary McCray, 11 D1; Jerry Howard, 11 D2; Laura Johnson, 11 E1; William Stenback, 11 E2; and Gary Klop, SD 10. First Vice District Governors in attendance were: Harold Stephens, 11 A1; Robert Bobee, 11 A2; Dan Shepherd, 11 B1; Jerry Pearson, 11 B2; Ken Frary, 11 C1; Don Hartwick, 11 D1; Margaret Oldenburg, 11 D2; and John Monahan, 11 E1. Others present were: ID Gary Anderson; PID Bill Hansen; PID Dennis Cobler; PID Chuck Weir; PID Bill Hanel; Council Chair Frank Cunningham; and Executive Director Mary Brown.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

MOTION –McCray, Ramer, to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried.

COUNCIL MEETING RULES

First Vice District Governors are encouraged to participate in discussions, but they must first request permission to speak from their District Governor.

MOTION – Brown, McCray, to limit Tail Twister fines to \$5 per person per Council weekend. Motion carried.

There will be no smoking in the meeting room or the hospitality room on Council Meeting weekends.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION – Bone, Howard, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 21, 2010 on Mackinac Island. Motion carried.

MOTION – Bone, Tate, to re-confirm the committee chair appointments. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS – Mary Brown, Executive Director

Several thank-you letters were read. Road construction on Executive Drive will begin in mid-August, limiting access to the Lions State Office. CC Frank Cunningham distributed lists of Guiding Lions and Certified Lions in MD 11 to the Governors.

TRANSITIONING FROM MERL TO GMT/GLT – PID Dennis Cobler, GMT Area Leader

Membership in MD 11 is down 45 through the end of July. MERL has been primarily a US program over the past few years. It is being restructured and will be replaced after 2010-11. Membership, Extension and Retention (M-E- and R) Chairs will be consolidated into a Global Membership Team (GMT). Each district will have a GMT who works with the DG Team and a GMT Coordinator.

The Leadership function of MERL will be separated into a parallel structure known as the Global Leadership Team (GLT). The overall purpose of the new GMT/GLT structure is to address three goals: membership growth, club success, and better leadership development.

The Governors agreed to continue to use their existing MERL Chairs during 2010-11 while preparing to transition to the new structure in 2011-12.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT - Dennis Lautzenheiser, PDG, Convention Chair

Approximately 60 people from Michigan attended the 2010 International Convention in Sydney, Australia. The Governors expressed displeasure with the food service at their graduation banquet. They also noted timing problems at the Plenary Sessions. Chairman Lautzenheiser pointed out that LCI is responsible for those arrangements. The Governors also pointed out that the hats and scarves given to parade marchers were not the design they selected.

The headquarters hotel for the Michigan delegation for the 2011 convention is the Renaissance Seattle. The room rate is approximately \$225 per night (including taxes). It is .4 miles from the convention center. Delegations assigned to the same hotel include Ohio, California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, and Ontario. Governors-Elect will be housed at the Sheraton Seattle.

The committee will meet on August 14 to explore options for a parade giveaway, a Michigan Night event and a post-convention tour. Choices for Michigan Night include dinner at the Space Needle or an excursion to Blake Island/Tillicum Village for a Native American show and salmon dinner. Ideas for the post-convention trip include an Alaskan cruise, a train ride into Vancouver and Whistler, or a trip into the Canadian Rockies. Items mentioned as parade giveaways were umbrellas, rain slickers, fanny packs, or holsters for water bottles. The Governors advised PDG Lautzenheiser that they had decided to change the parade shirt in 2011.

LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION REPORT – Roger LaMothe, President

Within the last year, Medicaid has stopped paying for hearing aids. This has resulted in a huge increase in applications for funding from the Foundation for hearing aids. They have received so many requests that they have had to take funds from equity to pay for them.

Foundation trustees will be contacting Lions Clubs to present programs and request donations. Ads will be developed for placement in the Lion Pride Magazine and in district newsletters. These will include progress reports, sample wording for bequests, and information about fellowships that are available for donations of \$1000 and \$500 (the Noel and Lautzenheiser Fellowships). The Foundation is also considering the placement of ads in legal and professional journals and magazines to encourage contributions.

The Foundation has many accounts that are restricted for specific purposes. They recently received over \$300,000 that was designated for aid in Mackinaw County only. The Foundation has hired a professional fund-raiser. They would like to be able to develop an escrow account and use only the interest earned on it for grants, hearing aids, etc.

LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORT – ID Gary Anderson, Chairperson

ID Anderson reviewed recent actions of the International Board. Use of the word “spouse” has been changed to “one adult companion.” Criteria for the Governor’s Excellence Award have been changed so it is easier to attain. MERL will become GMT/GLT next year. The Governor-Elect Seminar in Seattle will be 4 days.

During the convention in Sydney, ID Anderson presented a wood lighthouse to President Sid Scruggs on behalf of the Lions of Michigan. A photo will be sent for publication in the Lion Pride magazine.

The Liaison Committee met on July 24 and approved a budget of \$4,850. They voted not to provide campaign funds for an ID candidate from SD 10. They agreed that the Liaison Committee has a responsibility to advise candidates regarding the most advantageous time to run for a position on the International Board. Because MD 11 currently has a seated director, and based on previous practice, they felt that Michigan would not be allowed to have two International Directors on the board concurrently.

MOTION – McCray, Johnson, to approve the Liaison budget of \$4,850. Motion carried.

Governors were asked to provide their convention dates and locations to ID Anderson so he can assist them in obtaining speakers. Priority is given to seated IDs; if none is available, then a PID or PIP can be selected. Governors are required to submit a Speaker Request Form in order to have LCI pay transportation expenses for their speakers. The paperwork must be submitted at least 60 days prior to the convention. It is recommended that the Governors email copies of their newsletters to their convention speakers.

POLICY MANUAL REVIEW

MOTION – McCray, Bone, to adopt the Policy Manual as written. Motion carried.

CC Cunningham reviewed the section of the Policy Manual that deals with a vacancy in the position of Executive Director. The current wording gives preference to applicants who are PDGs, but there are many well-qualified non-Lions who have nonprofit experience that would be good candidates. Noting that all of the Governors will have a voice in the final selection, he suggested dropping “a seated District Governor” from the Search Committee. This committee will develop a process for advertising, interviewing and hiring an individual for the position, and they will establish criteria based on the current job description.

MOTION – Tate, McCray, to change the wording to include “a Past Council Chair, a Past District Governor, and *a Lion member.*” Motion carried.

It was recommended that the committee include ex-officio members with specific areas of expertise. A Lion from SD 10 will also be involved (possibly the District Governor). The committee is empowered to seek candidates and narrow the field through interviews; however, the final say comes from the Council of Governors.

MD 11 Council of Governors Meeting Lansing, Michigan Saturday, August 7, 2010

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Michigan Room of the Ramada Inn by Council Chair Frank Cunningham. Governors present were: Linda Tate, 11 A1; Jim Bone, 11 A2; Barbara Treichel, 11 B1; Don Brown, 11 B2; Fran Osborne, 11 C1; Marion Ramer, 11 C2; Dr. Gary McCray, 11 D1; Jerry Howard, 11 D2; Laura Johnson, 11 E1; William Stenback, 11 E2; and Gary Klop, SD 10. First Vice District Governors in attendance were: Harold Stephens, 11 A1; Robert Bobee, 11 A2; Dan Shepherd, 11 B1; Jerry Pearson, 11 B2; Ken Frary, 11 C1; Don Hartwick, 11 D1; Margaret Oldenburg, 11

D2; and John Monahan, 11 E1. Others present were: PID Bill Hansen; PID Chuck Weir; PID Bill Hanel; Council Chair Frank Cunningham; and Executive Director Mary Brown.

LEADERSHIP REPORT – Tom Doyle, PDG, MD 11 Leadership Chairperson

Training for First and Second VDGs was conducted on Friday. PDG Doyle was assisted by PIDs Bill Hansen and Dennis Cobler.

The Leadership Committee met in July and set three goals: (1) Promote 100% attendance at Higgins Lake (60 participants at the Leadership Institute and 40 participants at the Graduate Institute); (2) develop leadership at the club and district level; and (3) promote participation in the Club Excellence program.

Lions are encouraged to attend this year's USA/Canada Forum in Milwaukee. It features excellent speakers and breakout sessions, and the location is nearby for Michigan Lions.

PDG Tom Doyle has not yet chosen a Lion to mentor as a backup trainer for VDG sessions. He plans to ask members of the Leadership Committee to assist him this year, and he will pick one to begin training with him next year.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Paul Hemeryck, PDG, State Treasurer

Five-Year Summary - Treasurer Hemeryck provided the Council with a 5-year summary of income and expenses (2005-06 through 2009-10) for 22 accounts administered by the Lions of Michigan. He noted that it was a historical document to enable them to see where they have been before looking ahead.

Fiscal Year 2009-10 Financial Reports – PDG Hemeryck reviewed the preliminary financial reports for the fiscal year 2009-10. He explained that year-end totals have not been finalized because there are still outstanding bills. All of the dues-funded accounts operated at a deficit last year. Dues income declined over \$5,000 as a result of the implementation of the ½-price family/student membership program. A portion of the loss in the State Office account was offset by interest income.

Treasurer Hemeryck explained the difference between an operating fund, a designated fund and a restricted fund. He reviewed the dues allocations per member for MD 11 and SD 10 and showed a comparison between projected dues income and actual revenues.

The final page of the financial report included a summary of membership totals by district for the years between 1998 and 2010. Membership in MD 11 stood at 15,786 in 1998, and fell to 12,933 by June of 2010.

Budgets – Treasurer Hemeryck presented proposed budgets for 2010-11 for the State Office, Lion Pride Magazine and the Council/Committee/Treasurer Account. A loss of \$2,700 is projected in the State Office account; a deficit of \$1,075 is anticipated in the magazine account; and a loss of \$11,870 is projected in the Council/Committee/Treasurer Account.

MOTION –Bone, Ramer, to approve the proposed State Office budget. Motion carried.

MOTION –Ramer, Bone, to approve the proposed budget for the Council/Committee/Treasurer Account. Motion carried.

MOTION –Ramer, Treichel, to approve the proposed budget for the magazine. Motion carried.

Projections – PDG Hemeryck distributed a 5-year projection for each of the dues-funded accounts. Membership is shown at a “flat” rate (no increases or decreases), but all of the accounts show an accelerating rate of loss due to inflationary pressures.

MOTION –McCray, Brown, to table discussion of the 5-year financial projections until the October Council of Governors Meeting. Motion carried. (Governors were asked to bring their copies to the meeting.)

MOTION –Ramer, Howard, to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE REPORT – PID Bill Hansen, Chairperson

The Leadership Institute is scheduled on November 12-14, 2010. Forty spots have been allotted for a Graduate Institute (for those who previously attended the Leadership Institute); and 60 spots have been allocated for the Leadership Institute. The deadline for applications is September 30th and the cost is \$175 per person. The Lions of Ohio have expressed an interest in sending 2-3 members to the institute.

The Graduate Institute will feature more in-depth information on conflict resolution, presentation skills, and leadership qualities.

A \$10,000 grant from LCI has been approved. This is the 12th consecutive year that they have supported Michigan’s Institute. In order to demonstrate to LCI that the Leadership Institute receives local support, each district is asked to contribute \$300. First Vice District Governors are allowed to attend the Leadership Institute or the Graduate Institute at no charge if their district donates \$300. Attendance by their spouses is not complimentary—every attendee must pay the registration fee and participate in classes in order to stay at the MacMullan Center.

PDG Hemeryck provided a list, by district, of Lions who have attended the Leadership Institute at Higgins Lake since its inception in 1999. There are over 1,000 names on the list.

MICHIGAN FORUM

The Forum Committee will offer a balance of Lions and non-Lions topics again this year. They agreed to forego having an International Director in order to save money. There will be entertainment at the luncheon instead of a speaker. One of the breakout sessions will be “So You Want to Move Up the Lions Leadership Ladder.”

PROGRESS REPORT ON COUNCIL GOALS – DGs reviewed the goals they set in May, which included a float in Detroit’s Thanksgiving Parade. It is too late to build a float from scratch, so they plan to rent the float owned by the Grand Haven Lions Club and decorate it. Gov. Linda Tate has confirmed arrangements with the Parade Company to store it. The Governors are looking for a flatbed to transport the float from Grand Haven to Detroit. Governor Don Brown will make arrangements for a vehicle to pull the float in the parade. Questions were raised about the possibility of obtaining grant funding or corporate donations.

DIRECTIVES TO STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

MOTION – Johnson, Ramer, to ask the Strategic Planning Committee to develop a 5-year plan, projecting where the Lions of Michigan want to be and how to get there. Motion carried.

MD 11 CONVENTION REPORT – Bob Sturgis, PDG, Chair

PDG Sturgis received communications from several Lions who were pleased to see a family-friendly convention site with additional free time built into the agenda. The financial report on the 2010 MD 11 Convention on Mackinac Island showed a better result than expected. Attendance was 125 more than anticipated, which caused additional challenges. There were issues with food service and the registration desk due to inexperienced hotel staff. Accessibility was a problem for older Lions. In the future, the Lions will bring an American flag to the convention site to insure that one is available for posting during meals.

The 2011 Convention will take place at the Marriott Centerpoint in Auburn Hills. The room rate is \$79. The hotel is providing a complimentary hospitality room. In addition, they will sponsor a Happy Hour for Lions in the lounge on Friday and Saturday nights. There are two hotels across the street for those who have pets and want kitchenettes. The Governors suggested the possibility of offering tours to Leader Dog School. The Convention Committee is looking for a local Lions Club to host the golf outing.

LEADER DOG COMMITTEE REPORT – Frank Cunningham, PDG, Chair

PDG Cunningham distributed statistics by district from Leader Dog School, indicating the number of graduates for the past two years, Lions’ donations for the past two years, and the number of active graduates. Like many other nonprofits, Leader Dog is experiencing a decline in donations. The ratio of students per trainer has changed from 6:1 to 4.5:1. Application procedures have changed, and the process now takes longer. They are also experiencing a shortage of dogs.

PARADE SHIRT

The Governors were informed of the number of shirts in stock at the State Office (97). They were advised that 60 additional shirts were taken on consignment two years ago.

MOTION – McCray, Ramer, to authorize Governor Don Brown to contact the individual who took the shirts on consignment about returning or paying for them. Motion carried.

CORRECTION OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

The motion approved on Friday night to table discussion until the October Council Meeting should have been a motion to postpone. A motion to table temporarily sets it aside for additional discussion during the same meeting.

MOTION – McCray, Bone, to remove the motion from the table. Motion carried.

MOTION – Brown, Ramer, to postpone discussion until the October Council Meeting. Motion carried.

DISTRICT EDITOR REPORT – PDG Jim Leach, Chair, District Editors Committee

Information was distributed to the Council, outlining the printing schedule for the Lion Pride Magazine. Each District Governor is asked to write an editorial for his/her assigned month, as well as providing a “Club of the Month.” Lists of previous editorial topics and Clubs of the Month were distributed. The 2010-2011 publication schedule is as follows:

<u>Issue</u>	<u>District Assignment</u>	<u>Copy Deadline</u>	<u>Press Date</u>	<u>Mail Date</u>
Sep/Oct	11 A2	Aug. 15	Sept. 1	Sept. 5-7, 2010
Nov	11 C1	Oct. 15	Nov. 1	Nov. 5-7, 2010
Dec	11 D1	Nov. 15	Dec. 1	Dec. 5-7, 2010

<u>Issue</u>	<u>District Assignment</u>	<u>Copy Deadline</u>	<u>Press Date</u>	<u>Mail Date</u>
Jan/Feb	11 C2	Dec. 15	Jan. 1	Jan. 5-7, 1011
Mar	11 D2	Feb. 15	Mar. 1	Mar. 5-7, 2011
Apr	11 E1	Mar. 15	Apr. 1	April 5-7, 2011
May	11 E2	Apr. 15	May 1	May 5-7, 2011
Jun/Jul	11 B2	May 15	Jun. 1	June 5-7, 2011
Aug	11 A1	July 15	Aug. 1	Aug. 5-7, 2011
Swing	11 B1			

The “swing” district assignment was explained. Nine issues are published each year, but there are 10 districts; therefore, the Governor of the “swing” district is asked to submit his/her information early in the year to fill a vacancy should a District Governor fail to submit the requested items. Otherwise, one issue will feature two districts.

More stories and educational information are needed for the magazine. Too many submissions are one-line captions or statements concerning past events and donations.

PUBLICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT – PDG Jack Becher, Chairman

The USPS is facing a \$7 billion loss and the upcoming postage increases aren’t enough to cover it. Annual increases are expected. The periodical rate is going up 8%—which means a \$2,500 increase in postage per year for nine issues of the magazine.

Over the past five years, the committee has implemented a number of cost-savings measures. They reduced the paper quality, changed the page size, eliminated duplicate mailings to family members, and re-bid the printing. There is nothing left to cut that will generate \$2,500 needed to cover increased postal costs. There is enough money in the magazine account to operate for one year. The committee sees three possible plans of action: (1) Ask for a \$1.00 increase in the subscription fee (which has not increased for 17 years); (2) cut one issue per year (resulting in a savings of \$4,500-\$4,700); or (3) cut two issues per year (resulting in a saving of approximately \$9,000). The projected savings assume that paper and printing costs will not increase.

MOTION – Bone, Ramer, to postpone further discussion until the October Council Meeting, at which time there will be discussion of both a dues increase and a subscriptions increase. Motion carried.

The Governors were asked to discuss the possibility of reducing the number of issues versus an increase in the subscription fee with Lions in their districts.

Several Governors do not have the software needed to open Microsoft Excel, Power Point, or Word files that are emailed to them by the State Office. Michelle Fields explained that they can download free software, called Open Office. It enables them to access these files and also includes a PDF reader/writer. She will email instructions to them.

MOTION – Ramer, Johnson, to accept the magazine report. Motion carried.

COUNCIL CHAIR SELECTION

What happens if nobody applies? What if the VDGs aren’t happy with any of the applicants? The Governors agreed that the issue should be dealt with when and if a problem actually arises.

FUND RAISING BY PROJECT COMMITTEES

MOTION – McCray, Ramer, a multiple district committee that wants to undertake a fundraiser for a project must first obtain approval from the charity and give 90-days notice to the Council of Governors. Motion carried.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE REPORT – Ed Weessies, Chairperson

The MD 11 Constitution and By-Laws contain “housekeeping” provisions that allow the Governors to automatically include changes that have been adopted by LCI without the necessity of a vote by the delegates at the MD Convention. No amendments were approved in Sydney that will require changes in the MD 11 Constitution and By-Laws.

The Governors asked the Constitution and By-Laws Committee to draft an amendment that would place the color of the shirt worn in the parade at the International Convention in the by-laws. This would prevent the Governors from making changes from year to year.

Depending on the outcome of Council discussions in October, the committee may be asked to deal with proposals to increase dues and/or magazine subscription fees. Chairman Weessies pointed out that LCI will be asking for a dues increase in the next couple years. He explained that it is the duty of the Council to "sell" any dues increase to the Lions of Michigan, that they should not rely on articles in their newsletters or the "Lion Pride" to get the message out for them. The need for an increase, as well as the amount, should be decided ASAP so members are not surprised by the request.

MOTION – McCray, Tate, to accept the report of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. Motion carried.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT – Wayne Kreitner, PDG, Chairperson

CC Cunningham explained to PDG Kreitner that a Search Committee will be appointed to develop procedures for advertising, interviewing and hiring a new Executive Director. However, advice and input from the Strategic Planning Committee is welcome. He was also informed of the Governors’ decision to allow the existing MERL Committees to continue to function for another year before changing to the GMT/GLT program. The Strategic Planning Committee was asked to develop a business plan for the Lions of Michigan.

MOTION – Ramer, Bone, to accept the Strategic Planning Committee report. Motion carried.

PEACE POSTER CONTEST

MOTION – Ramer, Johnson, to conduct the multiple district judging for the Peace Poster Contest in the hospitality room on Friday of the December Council Meeting. Governors, Vice Governors, and spouses will act as judges and will be asked to focus on the contest theme when voting. Motion carried.

GRACE LANGE MEMORIAL FUND

A committee was appointed to study the Grace Lange Memorial Fund. It will be chaired by Governor Laura Johnson. Governor Marion Ramer, State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, and White Cane Chairperson Charis Austin will also serve on the committee.

VISIT TO LCI HEADQUARTERS – Vice Council Chair Don Brown will coordinate arrangements for a visit to Lions International headquarters on Thursday, September 2, for the DGs, VDGs and spouses. The tour

will begin 9:00 a.m. (Central Time). They will meet with the heads of departments at LCI and view the facilities. The visit will conclude around 2 or 3 o'clock, enabling the group to leave Chicago before rush hour.

VDG TRAINING

Two of last year's Governors, Al Vredberg and Kevin Storberg, have expressed an interest in working with Leadership Chairman Tom Doyle during the VDG training sessions.

MOTION – Ramer, Johnson, to advise Leadership Chairman Tom Doyle to begin mentoring someone to work with him as a backup during VDG training sessions.

MOTION – Johnson, Ramer, to amend the previous motion to indicate that the trainee shall be a member of the current Leadership Committee. Motion carried.

Vote on the Motion as Amended – Motion carried.

ALL STATE BAND REPORT – Caro Uhlemann-Short, CEO

Caro expressed her pride at being selected as the new CEO of the All State Band. Her goal is to continue the fine traditions of the band, while increasing student participation.

The band's 2010 tour to Sydney was successful, with performances at a rugby game, a children's hospital, the LCI parade (including a performance for delegations as they lined up), a plenary session, and at Harbourside Mall outside the convention center. They visited a traditional sheep station and an Aboriginal village (where they painted boomerangs). They attended a performance of the Sydney Symphony and took a walking tour of the Sydney Opera House. There were 48 students in the band.

Donations from Lions Clubs toward the administrative expenses of the band fell just shy of the \$30,000 goal. Caro expressed thanks to all who contributed. Lions Club payments toward individual band members' trips averaged \$815.43.

The estimated cost of the 2011 band tour to Seattle is \$2,000 per student. It is a 6-day, 5-night trip. A mailing will go out to band directors and Lions Clubs around the second week in September. Auditions are scheduled on November 7th. The band hopes to perform at the MD Convention in May to increase their visibility to Lions Club members.

Information was provided about a fund-raising program for band members, called Evantage. Parents and friends who shop online can earn money for a designated student. Each year, fundraising information is included in the acceptance letter that is mailed to students. Band members are also encouraged to help Lions Clubs with their fundraisers. Pizza Hut, White Castle, Bennigan's and Subway also have fund-raising programs, but students have to be careful to avoid competing with their own high school band fundraisers.

Lions who collect ASB pins need to let Caro know they want them. The band no longer orders hundreds of additional pins as a fundraiser. Pins are purchased for members and staff, plus a few extras for those who request them.

MOTION – Johnson, McCray, to accept the All State Band report. Motion carried.

MOTHER TERESA AWARD

The Mother Teresa Award was created by PDG Jim Walls during the time he was MD 11 Membership Chair. It was first presented at the 11 B2 convention. Subsequent recipients were chosen by past recipients. Concern was expressed about the legality of using the name Mother Teresa without permission from her religious order.

MOTION – Johnson, Bone, to specify that the Mother Teresa Award is not recognized as an award of Lions of Michigan MD 11, and it shall no longer be presented due to concerns about legality, gender discrimination and religious connotations. Motion carried.

MOTION – Brown, Osborne, to adjourn. Motion carried.