

**COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING
CAUSEWAY BAY HOTEL, LANSING, MICHIGAN
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. in the Imperial Room. Governors present were: 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; Bob Schalow, 11 C1; Kevin Storberg, 11 C2; Keith Cregar, 11 D1; Bob Ryan, 11 D2; Wayne Kreitner, 11 E1; and Beverly Bodem, 11 E2. Also present were: PID Bill Hansen; PID Dennis Cobler; Council Chair Terry Bowerman; CC-Elect Bob Jenkins; State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck; and State Secretary Mary Brown.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Governor Mike Johnson announced that a portion of the tail twister fines had been used to purchase a bell for Council Meetings. He presented the new bell on behalf of the 2008-09 Council of Governors.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

MOTION – Morlock, seconded, to move discussion of the MERL appointments to the end of the agenda. Carried.

MOTION – Zeller, seconded, to approve the proposed agenda as modified. Carried.

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to approve the minutes of the March 2009 Council Meeting, with the addition of two motions that were approved in executive session. Carried.

The two additional motions are:

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to provide a \$1,000 performance bonus to Mary Brown-Bazany and to freeze her salary and benefit package at the 2008-09 contract rate. Performance bonus to be presented at the Council of Governors Meeting on May 15. Carried unanimously.

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to present to Paul Hemeryck a plaque for service to the Michigan Lions. The plaque will be designed by Shelton and presented to Paul at the MD 11 Convention. Carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer

Fund balances are down slightly at the end of April and will decline further by the end of the year. Most of the expenses for Youth Exchange, Liaison, International Convention and MD Convention won't come in until the end of the year. The State Office account is operating in the black, thanks to interest earned on investments. The magazine shows a small loss but will probably break even by the end of the year; increases in postage and paper costs continue to impact the bottom line.

The 2008-2009 budget is based on 12,750 members in MD 11. A comparison of projected revenues to actual totals showed a slight increase due to membership gains. The 2009-2010 budget will be based on 12,850 members. Treasurer Hemeryck reviewed membership totals for the past 12 years, noting that between June 30, 2008 and April 30, 2009, membership increased by 66 members. He cautioned

the Governors to keep up their membership growth efforts during May and June because it is during these two months that clubs traditionally report drops to LCI in order to avoid paying dues for inactive members. Last year, MD 11 saw 115 drops during May and June; the previous year's total during those two months was minus-111.

MOTION – Zeller, carried, to receive the Treasurer's Report. Carried.

MD 11 CONVENTION REPORT – PDG Bob Sturgis

Pre-registration figures show 292 people registered for the convention. Meal totals are: Friday Night Dinner - 220; Saturday Lunch - 244; and Saturday Banquet -251. These figures are slightly lower than last year.

Governors received a booklet of agendas, introductions and seating arrangements. They will "host" tables during the Friday dinner and Saturday lunch. There is a head table at the Saturday Banquet, but they won't march in.

Governors were asked to facilitate the voting process during the convention by assisting with credentials and elections.

LCI UPDATE – PID Bill Hansen

Seven International Directors from the United States will be elected during the 2009 International Convention in Minneapolis. There are currently nine candidates—including Dr. Sara Doubledee from SD 10. PID Mike Butler is likely to be drafted as a candidate for 2nd International Vice President (to run in 2010) by the Lions of Texas.

PID Hansen explained the process used for submission and awarding of Presidential and Leadership Medals. Each year the International President establishes the criteria and he makes the final decision on who receives them. President Brandel was very restrictive in the distribution of medals. Eleven names were submitted from MD 11 this year. Four presidential medals and six leadership medals were approved; one nomination was declined.

GMT REPORT – PID Dennis Cobler

The Global Membership Program was established at the beginning of this fiscal year. It was to be a 3-year program that was not under the control of the International President. A number of changes have come about recently. Mike Butler has stepped aside as head of GMT. The program will now be under the direction of the International President (as chair). There will also be an executive level consisting of the Executive Officers, the Leadership Chair and the Membership Chair from the International Board, plus nine past International officers from various constitutional areas.

Under the Global Membership Program, GMT Leaders held positions that were performance-based. At the January meeting, half of the GMT Leaders from the United States were dismissed. Other GMT Leaders have been replaced worldwide. PID Cobler will continue his role, but he now will report to PIP Jim Irvin.

In the reorganization of the Global Membership Team, there is no GMT Liaison position. There is also talk of changing the MERL program—to have it at the district level, but not the MD level. LCI is looking at putting together a membership team consisting of the Governor and the two Vice Governors.

The emphasis of GMT this year was new clubs. Caution must be exercised, however, because the real work begins *after* clubs are organized—keeping them alive. Retention is the new emphasis. It is easier to grow a club by one or two members per year than it is to get 20 people together to form a new club.

Like other businesses around the world, the Lions must look to the future, to move forward or die. The Governors were urged to continue their efforts to finish the year with a net gain in membership, but to remember that they need the support and efforts of their clubs to achieve this goal.

Governors-Elect have been asked to submit projections of net membership and club growth, based on knowledge of their district. PID Cobler has to defend these numbers to the International President. It has been determined that the United States *should have* net growth of 800 members. Canada *should have* net growth of 100 members. India wants to be the largest country in Lionism in the world, and they are very focused on that goal. They have been growing by 5,000 to 7,000 members per year. India has a strong leadership program, and members have a great sense of pride in being a Lion.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This year the Strategic Planning Committee discussed the need to establish policies for the Lions of Michigan, such as conflict of interest, retention of records, discrimination, and harassment. Samples will be reviewed with Council Chair-Elect Bob Jenkins and presented to next year's Council for discussion and implementation.

AUDIT OF BOOKS

CPA Bob Heemer has offered to audit the 2008-09 financial records for the Lions of Michigan/Magazine.

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to approve Bob Heemer to perform the annual audit. Carried.

WRITTEN REPORTS

The written reports submitted by committee chairs will be included as part of the Minutes of the MD 11 Convention. These reports include: All State Band, Extension, Hearing, International Convention, Leader Dog, Leadership Development, Membership Development, Michigan Eye Bank, Michigan Forum, Public Relations, Strategic Planning, White Cane, Welcome Homes, and Youth Exchange.

MOTION – Johnson, seconded, to receive all of the written reports. Carried.

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS INSURANCE

The cost of D&O insurance depends on the dollar amount of coverage and whether optional insurance is included for fiduciary coverage and employee practices. The cost for basic coverage is \$1,244 for \$2 million and \$744 for \$1 million.

MOTION – Johnson, Bosma, to purchase \$1 million in D&O insurance for the Council of Governors for one year, to include fiduciary coverage.

A question was raised about a possible conflict of interest because a seated District Governor was handling the paperwork for this insurance coverage. Only seven companies in the state of Michigan provide this type of coverage, and prices from all of them were researched.

MOTION – Morlock, seconded, to amend the motion to indicate a three-year term, to become effective on Wednesday, May 20, 2009. Carried.

Vote on the Motion as Amended: Carried.

STATE OFFICE RENOVATION

DG Mike Johnson came to Lansing in April and took measurements for renovation of the Lions of Michigan offices and store room.

MOTION – Williams, seconded, to run an ad in the next issue of the Lion Pride Magazine (to be drafted by DG Mike Johnson) offering Lions who are contractors the opportunity to bid on the remodeling of the State Office, with bids to be submitted to Mike Johnson by July 15, 2009. Carried.

MOTION – Shelton, seconded, to have the State Office send quarterly updates to the Governors on donations to the building renovation fund. Carried.

REVISIT COUNCIL GOALS

The Council established two goals at the beginning of the year: (1) to increase the number of clubs in their district and (2) to personally sponsor one or more new members. They were proud to announce success in achieving these goals in many districts.

APPOINTMENT OF M-E-R-L CHAIRS

MOTION – Morlock, seconded, to go into executive session with only seated Governors in attendance.

MOTION –Johnson, seconded, to call the question. Carried.

Vote on the Motion –Defeated.

Three candidates submitted applications for MD 11 Membership Development Chair: Dr. William Barr, Al Kelpinski, and Jim Williams. Written ballots were cast by the Governors, and Jim Williams was selected.

Two candidates submitted applications for MD 11 Extension Chair: Harry Johnson and Mike Johnson. Written ballots were cast by the Governors, and Mike Johnson was selected.

Flo Kelpinski submitted an application for MD 11 Retention Chair, but she asked for her name to be withdrawn.

MOTION –Williams, seconded, in the absence of any applications, to open nominations from the floor for the position of MD 11 Retention Chair. Carried.

MOTION –Sexton, Bosma, to nominate Shirley Marshall.

MOTION –Johnson, Zeller, to nominate Dr. Gary Anderson.

Written ballots were cast by the Governors, and Dr. Gary Anderson was selected.

Two candidates submitted applications for MD 11 Leadership Development Chair: Esther LaMothe and Janalee McClure. Written ballots were cast by the Governors, and Janalee McClure was selected.

MOTION –Rivette, seconded, to destroy the ballots. Carried.

DG Mike Johnson suggested to the Governors-Elect that they implement an Orientation Committee at the district and multiple district level during their year.

TAILTWISTER FUNDS

Fines collected by Council Tail Twister Mike Johnson will be donated to the State Office remodeling fund.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.