

Lions International

Multiple District 11

(Lower Michigan)



"We Serve"

**Official Minutes
Second Council Meeting
October 7-8, 2011**

**COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING
MACKINAW CITY, MICHIGAN
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Bridge Vista Beach Hotel. Governors present were: Harold Stephens, 11 A1; Robert Bobee, 11 A2; Dan Shepherd, 11 B1; Jerry Pearson, 11 B2; Ken Frary, 11 C1; Ray Robins, 11 C2; Don Hartwick, 11 D1; Margaret Oldenburg, 11 D2; John Monahan, 11 E1; Roger Houthoofd, 11 E2; and Jim Wash, SD 10. Vice District Governors in attendance were: Steve Horvath, 11 A1; Jim Pettinato, 11 A2; Dick Dettling, 11 B1; Norm Stutesman, 11 B2; Rock Wood, 11 C1; Karen Routson, 11 C2; Karen Ates, 11 D1; David Hacker, 11 D2; Bill Simpson, 11 E1; Lynne Jauss, 11 E2; and Ruth Snyder, SD 10. Also present were: PID Bill Hansen; Council Chair Roger LaMothe; State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck; PCC Esther LaMothe; Constitution & By-Laws Chair Ed Weessies; MD 11 GLT Coordinator Brian Shepard; and Executive Director Mary Brown.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION – Frary, Stephens, to approve the minutes of the August Council Meeting. Motion carried.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT – John Johnson, PDG, Chair

At the August Council Meeting, the Governors directed the Strategic Planning Committee to develop redistricting plans for five, six, seven and eight districts. The committee drew boundary lines using club and membership numbers from June 30, 2011. Two alternatives were considered—redistricting the entire multiple district, and redistricting only the sub-districts with fewer than 1,250 members.

PDG Johnson reviewed the history of redistricting in MD 11, explaining the process and the timelines. A minimum of two years is required from inception to implementation. To meet constitutional requirements, any new proposed sub-district must have at least 35 clubs and 1250 members.

Prior to the committee meeting, PID Bill Hansen contacted other states that recently approved redistricting plans. There were lots of emotional issues involved, and the boundary changes affected **every** district. They recognized that it was not possible to make every district equal in geographic size and number of clubs and members. They appointed a committee whose sole responsibility was to educate Lions about redistricting and sell the plan. The proposed plan was shown at every district convention, but voting didn't take place until the next year.

PDG Johnson suggested that the Governors appoint a Redistricting Committee composed of individuals who will commit to developing and selling a plan that is good for the Lions of MD 11 and the future of the organization. PDG Johnson is willing to serve on the committee. Once a plan is approved, the next step is to craft a presentation with a uniform message. It could include a PowerPoint presentation and/or a page on the Lions of Michigan website.

Members of the Strategic Planning Committee agreed that reducing the number of districts from 10 to five was too drastic. They also agreed that 7-district plans wouldn't have enough longevity. They selected a first and second choice among the 6-district plans, noting that both plans show a good equalization in number of members (approximately 2,000 per district). It was also suggested that current district identification should be changed completely to eliminate disputes over the retention of a name (i.e., to remove A-1, A2, B1, etc. and replace it with a different letter or number designation).

Noting that there could be resistance to a redistricting plan that affects every district, the committee agreed to present an 8-district map to the Governors, which would merge the five districts that are currently transitional into three districts. The advantage is that the plan could go immediately to the MD Convention for a vote because the boundaries of the districts with more than 1250 members are not affected. The downside is that membership numbers for the non-affected districts are in danger of falling below 1250 in the near future, and the redistricting process would have to be repeated in a few years.

MOTION – Robins, Shepard, to table discussion of redistricting until tomorrow afternoon. Motion carried.

PROJECT KID SIGHT REPORT – Larry France and Lloyd Kilbreath

More Project Kid Sight screenings are being done with the PediaVison or PlusOptix cameras instead of the MTI PhotoScreener. The advantage is that “pass” or “refer” results are known instantly, and the parent can be informed. When the need is indicated for an eye exam, a packet of information is provided, which includes a form to be filled out by the eye doctor. Project Kid Sight considers the return of the forms from the examining eye doctor to be critical to the success of their program.

Three components are needed for Kid Sight screenings to be accepted by the medical community: (1) A proven method of screening where results and referral rates can be evaluated and changes can be made if referral rates fall out of normal range, (2) follow-up by an eye care professional, and (3) treatment to correct or help the condition.

Project Kid Sight will consider becoming a state project of the Lions of Michigan at a later date. Their goal is to detect vision problems in children as early as possible. They plan to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Michigan Department of Community Health whereby they would collaborate in the eye screening and reporting process to ensure that all children receive appropriate follow-up care.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer

Treasurer Hemeryck reviewed the financial reports through August 31, 2011. Revenues and expenses are normal for this time of year, which is not typically a high-activity period. Small losses are reflected in the State Office and the Council and Committee accounts. The International Convention and MD Convention accounts are positive, but these activities don’t occur until late spring. PDG Hemeryck explained the difference between operating funds, designated funds, and restricted funds.

The Lion Pride Magazine shows a loss through the end of August. However, eight issues are produced annually, while wages are paid monthly; therefore two months of wages are reflected, but no issues were published during July and August.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE REPORT – Bill Hansen, PID, Chairman

As of October 6, 65 people had applied to the Leadership Institute and 27 had applied to the Graduate Institute. Every district is represented.

LCI has provided financial support for all 13 Leadership Institutes held in Michigan to date. In return, districts are asked to show their support by paying a share of the costs. Participants are charged \$175, but the actual cost is closer to \$300 per person. Each district is asked to donate \$300, which guarantees

that their 1st Vice District Governor can attend at no charge. As of September 30, only three districts had contributed—B1, B2 and E1.

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT - Bill Hansen, PID, Chairman

There were 73 applicants for the Executive Director position. Thank-you letters will be mailed to all who applied. Nine candidates were selected for interviews by the committee on two dates in September. The Search Committee considered the following criteria: Non-profit and management experience, accounting and meeting planning skills, and a “good fit” for the Lions organization. Four finalists were chosen, and they will be interviewed during a meeting with the Governors on October 15.

Resumes for the finalists were provided to the Governors. References have been checked by the Search Committee. A list of questions asked during previous interviews was given to the Governors, as well as potential questions to be asked on October 15. DGs were instructed to submit additional questions by October 12. Council Chair Roger LaMothe will chair the interviews on October 15; questions will be posed by him and two members of the Search Committee. The Governors will observe the candidates, make notes and watch their body language. Upon completion, the Council will determine which person they wish to hire.

Base salary has been set between \$40K and \$45K, plus a benefits package valued at \$6K (health insurance, retirement, life insurance, etc., as selected by the individual). PDG John Johnson has agreed to assist in developing the employment contract.

MICHIGAN EYE BANK COMMITTEE REPORT – Don Brown, PDG, Chairman

PDG Don Brown reported that the “I Joined” campaign hosted 160 events last year and brought in 3,600 new donors. Nearly every Secretary of State Office in Michigan participated in Buddy Day, and 2,549 people registered. The Lions of Michigan donated \$130,998 to the Eye Bank last year. Corneal transplants were provided for 1,123 people in Michigan.

**COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING
MACKINAW CITY, MICHIGAN
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Bridge Vista Beach Hotel. Governors present were: Harold Stephens, 11 A1; Robert Bobee, 11 A2; Dan Shepherd, 11 B1; Jerry Pearson, 11 B2; Ken Frary, 11 C1; Ray Robins, 11 C2; Don Hartwick, 11 D1; Margaret Oldenburg, 11 D2; John Monahan, 11 E1; Roger Houthoofd, 11 E2; and Jim Wash, SD 10. Vice District Governors in attendance were: Steve Horvath, 11 A1; Jim Pettinato, 11 A2; Dick Dettling, 11 B1; Norm Stutesman, 11 B2; Rock Wood, 11 C1; Karen Routson, 11 C2; Karen Ates, 11 D1; David Hacker, 11 D2; Bill Simpson, 11 E1; Lynne Jauss, 11 E2; and Ruth Snyder, SD 10. Also present were: PID Bill Hansen; Council Chair Roger LaMothe; State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck; MD 11 GLT Coordinator Brian Shepard; and Executive Director Mary Brown.

COMMUNICATIONS – Mary Brown, Executive Director

A thank-you card was received from Fran Weir expressing gratitude to the Lions of Michigan for their support. Lions International will no longer publish a printed Directory; information will be available online. The Lions of Michigan have been named as a beneficiary of an estate; however a letter from the

attorney indicates that it is doubtful that there will be funds left for charitable gifts after the debts of the deceased are paid.

In 1950 the Lions of Canada dedicated a monument to the Lions of the United States to commemorate years of community service. With the construction of the International Bridge between Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, the plaque was displaced. Recent collaborative efforts between the Lions of the two "Saults" have resulted in a new monument to display the original plaque, which has been restored. A re-dedication ceremony will take place on November 6 at 1:00 p.m., followed by a luncheon on the campus of Lake Superior State University.

S.A. DODGE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Criteria for the S. A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award are listed in the MD 11 Policy Manual. The maximum number awarded each year is two. It is a non-repetitive award—recipients may receive only one. Each Governor may nominate one Lion. Names are not listed on the forms so nominees are judged on the basis of their service to Lionism at the multiple district and/or international level. November 15th is the deadline for submission of nominations.

LEADERSHIP AND PRESIDENTIAL MEDALS

Application forms and a letter outlining the criteria for Presidential and Leadership Medals were mailed to the DGs in July. A writeable PDF was also emailed to the Governors to simplify the process of completing the application forms. A list of past recipients was presented to the Governors. They were urged to avoid nominating previous recipients. Governors may nominate one Lion from their district for the Presidential Medal and two for the Leadership Medal. November 15th is the deadline for nominations to be received in the State Office.

MD 11 has typically received 3-4 Presidential Medals and 7-8 Leadership Medals. However, the number to be awarded is at the sole discretion of International President Wing-Kun Tam. During the Council Meeting in December, the Governors will prioritize their list of nominees and send them to ID Gary Anderson for his endorsement.

GMT REPORT – PDG Brian Shepard (on behalf of GMT Coordinator Wayne Kreitner)

MD 11 GMT Coordinator Wayne Kreitner has visited four clubs in three districts and has more visitations scheduled. He plans to present a breakout session on the Club Excellence Program (CEP) during the Michigan Forum in February. Articles will also appear in the Lion Pride Magazine.

MD 11 shows a net loss in membership of 103 through September 30. Traditionally the greatest number of membership drops occurs in December and June (to avoid assessment of dues).

GLT REPORT – Brian Shepard, PDG, MD 11 GLT Coordinator

During the Leadership Summit in Indiana, all but two districts in Michigan were represented. PDG Shepard will meet with 11 E2 during their upcoming Cabinet Meeting.

One of the goals of GLT this year is to increase filings of the Club Service Report to at least 60%. They also want to decrease the number of clubs with repeat presidents and increase awareness of LCI training opportunities, such as webinars and institutes (Leadership, Senior Lions, and Faculty Development). A CEP facilitator training session was held at the State Office in July, but the committee

would like to have more CEP facilitators trained in each district by the end of November. Zone Chairs can to help identify clubs that could benefit from participating in the process.

Four VDG training sessions will be conducted in MD 11 this year. All will include both the 1st and 2nd VDGs, except the October meeting. Forms have been filed with LCI for reimbursement of expenses for the August training session. PDG Shepard presented an itemized budget for anticipated GLT expenditures in 2011-2012.

WELCOME HOMES REPORT – Brian Shepard, PDG, Director

The Rose Day fundraiser which started in 11 C1 and 11 B2 has been expanded to other districts in Michigan. The ad placed in the September/October issue of the Lion Pride Magazine has generated a good response.

2012 marks the 60th anniversary of Welcome Homes as a project of the Lions of Michigan.

2013 STATE PIN

Six potential pin designs were reviewed. Each depicted a German theme to commemorate the 2013 Lions International Convention being held in Hamburg. The 1st VDGs were asked to participate in the design selection because it would be the state pin for their year in office.

MOTION – Pearson, Frary, to select the design designed as #1. Motion carried.

AUDIT REPORT – Robert Heemer, CPA

The audit report covers two corporations: Lions of Michigan and Lions of Michigan Publication. Mr. Heemer issued an unqualified opinion, indicating that the financial statements are correct in all material respects and records are kept in accordance with accepted accounting standards.

Investments are shown at market value. (This is different than the reports prepared by State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, which show investments on a cost basis.) The gains or losses shown are “unrealized” because nothing was actually sold; dividends and capital gains are reinvested. During the past year, investments increased in value. Liabilities at the end of June were less than the previous year, and expenses for 2010-2011 were down. The magazine showed a profit because one less issue was published during the year.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS REPORT – Ed Weessies, Chairman

MOTION – Frary, Robins, to approve a change in the Policy Manual to reflect that appointments to the Leo Committee and the Lions Quest Committee are for 3-year terms instead of 2-year terms. Motion carried.

Lions International has revamped the MERL program into GMT and GLT. Housekeeping changes were proposed to the Policy Manual and the MD 11 By-Laws to reflect these changes.

MOTION – Monahan, Oldenburg, to approve the changes to the Policy Manual and the By-Laws to delete references to the Membership Committee, Extension Committee, Retention Committee and Leadership Committee and replace them with GMT (Global Membership Team) and GLT (Global Leadership Team). Motion carried.

Several years ago, the MD 11 Constitution and By-Laws were revised to ensure automatic conformity with LCI's Standard Form Constitution and By-Laws. Review of LCI's document indicates that changes have been made in the past few years that are unrelated to amendments that were voted upon at the annual International Convention. The following items from the Standard Form should be added to the MD 11 C&BL as housekeeping changes to comply with LCI's document: (1) Article V of the Constitution (page 6) spells out the "supremacy" of the International C&BL over the MD C&BL in cases where there is a conflict. (2) Article VII, Section 4 of the Constitution (page 8) permits a "Special Convention." (3) An entire Article VIII (pages 9-12) has been added to the Constitution dealing with Dispute Resolution Procedures. (4) Article V of the By-Laws (Meetings) includes a new Section 2 (page 18) called "Alternative Meeting Formats." (5) Article VIII of the By-Laws (MD Administrative Fund) adds a Section 2, called Remaining Funds (page 21).

Districts that have adopted C&BLs that automatically comply with the Standard Form C&BL for Sub-Districts should review their documents to determine whether similar changes need to be incorporated.

MOTION – Houthoofd, Bobee, to approve the five housekeeping changes to the MD 11 Constitution and By-Laws, as presented. Motion carried.

During the Strategic Planning report on Friday night, PDG Johnson noted that his committee contains six members who are automatic appointees by virtue of holding another position (Council Chair, Immediate Past Council Chair, GMT Coordinator, GLT Coordinator, Public Relations Chair, and Constitution and By-Laws Chair). The remaining committee members are appointed by the District Governor if his/her district is not represented in the aforementioned list. The effectiveness of the committee is hampered by "automatic" appointments of individuals who aren't interested or don't want to serve on the committee. Chairman Weessies suggested an amendment to the By-Laws, Article IX, Section 5a. The current language would be deleted and replaced with the following: "The Council of Governors shall appoint a Strategic Planning Committee composed of one member from each sub-district. In addition, the Constitution and By-Laws Chairperson shall serve as an ex-officio member of the committee." In order to maintain continuity within the committee and to make the transition from 1-year terms to rotating 3-year terms, the District Governors would make the following appointments during the first year of implementation (2012-2013): Districts 11 A1, 11 B2, 11 D1 and 11 E2 appoint for a 3-year term. Districts 11 B1, 11 C2, and 11 E2 appoint for a 2-year term. Districts 11 A2, 11 C1, and 11 D2 appoint for a 1-year term. This proposal would have to be presented for a vote at the MD 11 Convention.

MOTION – Monahan, Frary, to approve the amendment to be placed on the ballot in Grand Rapids.

The Governors suggested that consideration be given to the idea of requiring Strategic Planning Committee members to be Past District Governors (or at minimum, Zone Chairs).

Vote on the Motion: Carried.

MICHIGAN FORUM REPORT (via conference call) – Dave Zeller, Chairman

The 2011 Michigan Forum will be held on February 18 at the Ramada Inn in Lansing. As usual, a bonus session and a hospitality room are scheduled on Friday night for those who arrive early. Saturday morning begins with breakfast refreshments. Fourteen breakout sessions, which include Lions and non-

Lion topics, are scheduled during the day. DGs and VDGs who attend are asked to serve as moderators and introducers.

One of the featured breakouts will be "Lions Jeopardy." It will be an interactive session that incorporates well-known and little-known facts and information about the Lions organization. White cane supplies will be available for pick-up at the Forum for those who order in advance.

Fifteen percent of the Forum budget comes from advertising in the Forum Book. Clubs can buy small congratulatory ads, or future RCs, VDGs and DGs can promote their candidacy through ads in the book.

MD 11 CONVENTION ASSIGNMENTS FOR DGs

District Governors volunteered to chair the following events during the 2012 MD 11 Convention in Grand Rapids:

Friday Night Dinner/Reception	Governor John Monahan
Saturday Awards Breakfast	Governor Roger Houthoofd
Business Session	Governor Ray Robins
1 st Breakout Session (Topic TBD)	Governor Ken Frary
2 nd Breakout Session (Topic TBD)	Governor Harold Stephens
3 rd Breakout Session (Topic TBD)	Governor Bob Bobee
4 th Breakout Session (Topic TBD)	Governor Margaret Oldenburg
Memorial Service (Poem/Naming of Districts)	DG Harold Stephens
Candle Lighting at Memorial Service	DGs Jerry Pearson & Don Hartwick
Saturday Night Banquet	Council Chair Roger LaMothe
Oversight of Credentials & Elections	DGs Dan Shepherd, Ken Frary & Don Hartwick

Margaret Oldenburg agreed to serve as Chaplain, and John Monahan will serve as Song Leader. Bob Bobee will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. PID Bill Hansen will serve as Parliamentarian.

VISIT TO LCI HEADQUARTERS

DGs John Monahan, Dan Shepherd and Harold Stephens and VDGs Dick Dettling and Bill Simpson expressed an interest in visiting LCI headquarters. Suggested dates were October 27-28 or November 17-18. Roger and Esther LaMothe will accompany the group.

PEACE POSTER CONTEST

Governors should bring their winning district entry to the Council Meeting in December, where a multiple district winner will be chosen. They were reminded to check their entries for compliance with the contest rules.

FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING DATES/LOCATIONS

The 1st VDGs approved the following dates for Council Meetings in 2012-13: August 10-11, 2012, October 5-6, 2012, December 7-8, 2012, March 1-2, 2013, and May 17, 2013. The May meeting is held in conjunction with the MD 11 Convention, which will be held in Shipshewana, Indiana. The VDGs requested bids from hotels in Lansing, DeWitt, Clare and Mt. Pleasant for the August, December and March meetings and from hotels in St. Ignace, Mackinaw City, and West Branch for the October meeting.

YOUTH EXCHANGE REPORT – Peggy Allen, Chairperson

Peggy Allen is developing a procedures manual for Youth Exchange. When it is completed, she will submit it to LCI for review and approval.

A mailing was sent to 607 high school counselors throughout Michigan, advising them of the Lions Youth Exchange program. As a result, there have been 12 inquiries in six districts.

Five students are arriving from Australia and Peru for the winter exchange program. Two of them have been assigned to host families. District chairs are searching for host families for the other three.

Background checks through the Michigan Sex Offender Registry are conducted on host families for the protection of the students who are placed with them. Peggy plans to check criminal records through the Michigan State Police as well.

Because only three countries (Turkey, Australia and Finland) will accept exchange students from Michigan that are under 17 years old, Peggy plans to increase the minimum age from 16 to 17. She noted that students who come into Michigan on the Youth Exchange program are between 15 and 21 years old.

MOTION – Oldenburg, Shepherd, to approve the Youth Exchange budget as presented. Motion carried.

ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTO CONTEST

Lions may enter an original, unaltered, black-and-white or color photo in Lions International’s Environmental Photo Contest in one of the following categories: Animal life, landscape (urban or natural), plant life, weather phenomenon, or protecting our future with trees. Each district selects one winning entry by January 15th. These are judged at the multiple district level, and one winning photo is submitted to LCI by March 1. In order to meet the submission deadline, the Governors will judge entries during the Michigan Forum in February.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AT THE DECEMBER MEETING

MOTION – Frary, Hartwick, to donate toys to St. Vincent’s Home during the December meeting in lieu of a gift exchange. Motion carried.

Governor Ray Robins will contact St. Vincent’s Home to obtain “angel tags” for children. Unwrapped gifts will be delivered by the Governors to the home on Saturday of the December Council Meeting.

YOUTH EXCHANGE AWARD

Governor Dan Shepherd nominated Lion Peggy All for Lions International’s Youth Exchange Award.

VENTILATORS FOR BEAR LAKE CAMP

At the August Council Meeting, it was reported that ventilation fans were needed for 10 cabins at Bear Lake Camp. It was suggested that each district pay for one fan. VDG Jim Pettinato offered to check into the cost. A licensed electrician will pre-wire each of the cabins, and Lions from each district (2-3 people) can install the fans. The approximate cost per cabin is \$700.

USE OF LIONS NAME BY PROJECT KID SIGHT

Question were raised about the legality of Project Kid Sight using “Lions of Michigan” as a part of their name and whether there were liability issues for the Lions if the Memorandum of Understanding with

the Michigan Department of Community Health was signed. As a separate corporation, is Project Kid Sight covered by Lions International's liability insurance?

MOTION – Monahan, Frary, to contact the Legal Department at Lions International for an opinion. Motion carried (opposed by Shepherd, 11 B1).

WRITTEN REPORTS

Written reports were submitted by the All State Band Committee, Hearing Committee, Leader Dog Committee, Leo Committee, Lion Pride Magazine, MD 11 Convention Committee, Public Relations Committee, Sight Conservation/Diabetes Committee, and White Cane Committee.

MOTION – Shepherd, Hartwick, to receive the written reports. Motion carried.

OPEN DISCUSSION OF REDISTRICTING

Lions International prefers to have district boundaries drawn along county lines because it makes identification easier. Redistricting plans must be approved by the delegates at the multiple district convention **and** the delegates at the district convention of any sub-district **whose boundary lines are affected by the plan**. However, approval at the sub-district convention is not required if the membership of a sub-district is below 35 clubs or 1250 members. Said sub-district(s) **may** conduct a vote; however, their approval or disapproval does not prevent affect the proposal from advancing to the multiple district and is not considered by the International Board of Directors. A district that exceeds Lions International's "minimum requirements" can halt a multiple district-wide redistricting plan by defeating it at their district convention.

Members of the Council were asked to develop a list of reasons why Lions are opposed to redistricting. Some felt that the new GMT/GLT program needs time to work and bring in more members. Statistics do not support the idea that membership will increase. Changes in annual membership from 1985 to 2011 indicate that it is likely, at the current rate of decline, that every district in MD 11 will be transitional (i.e., fewer than 1250 members or 35 clubs) in 3-5 years. Five districts are currently transitional (three have had fewer than 1250 members since 2005). The five districts that are not transitional showed membership totals of 1520, 1345, 1333, 1339, and 1296 as of June 30, 2011.

Declining membership is not a "Michigan problem." Just a handful of US multiple districts show a net gain as of September 30, and US membership is down 3,548. Lions are an aging organization that has not been successful in attracting and meeting the needs of young people. Redistricting is not intended to "solve the membership problem." Redistricting will help reduce costs to support the infrastructure of the organization, and it will create a larger pool of members from which to draw people to fill leadership positions in the districts. For example, a district with 1800 members has more potential candidates for VDG and DG than a district with 900 members. By the same token, a district that has 1800 members and charges \$7 for district dues has more money to work with than a district that has 900 members and charges \$7 for dues. Having fewer districts also reduces administrative costs to the Lions organization (i.e. the cost of DG attendance at conventions, name badges, patches, etc.)

A frequent complaint about creating larger districts is increased demand on a Governor's time because there are more clubs to visit. It is not mandatory for the Governor to personally visit every club. LCI permits (and even encourages) the Governor to assign club visitations to the VDGs, Region Chairs and Zone Chairs. Some districts **expect** the Governor to visit each club, but this is not a constitutional

mandate. The role of the Vice Governor is enhanced when he/she assumes a greater leadership role in the district. Delegating visitations also saves LCI money for mileage reimbursements because an individual driving to a nearby club will log fewer miles than one District Governor who visits every club.

Some Lions are afraid of “losing friends” if clubs are relocated to other districts. Boundary lines are not walls. Lions can continue to have cross-club and cross-district collaborations.

Past District Governors seem to offer the greatest opposition to redistricting because they “identify” with their district designation more than the average club member. Many Lions don’t know what district they’re in because their focus is solely on community service. Although some do not care about district, state or international activities, being part of a district that has more than 1250 members is an enticement those for Lions who have leadership aspirations. A Lion might be more willing to run for District Governor if he/she knows that spousal travel to the International Convention will be paid; and an individual who is well qualified to run for International Director shouldn’t be prevented from pursuing that goal because they belong to a transitional district.

A Power Point presentation could be built, showing the pros and cons of redistricting. It could be posted on the state website, with answers to questions continuously posted as they are raised.

MOTION – Robins, Shepherd, to approve the following resolution: (1) that the Lions of Michigan MD 11 adopt a long range plan to educate MD 11 Lions on the need to redistrict to six districts (option 1 presented by the Strategic Planning Committee) during the 2011-2012 Lions year; (2) place the redistricting plan on the ballot in the 2012-2013 Lions year; and (3) during the 2013-2014 Lions year, work out the details for implementation which becomes effective at the start of the 2014-2015 Lions year. Motion carried (opposed by Frary, 11 C1, and Hartwick, 11 D1).

MOTION – Monahan, Oldenburg, to appoint a separate redistricting committee, with John Johnson as chair; and to give John the authority to recruit committee members from each district, with input from the District Governors. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.