

Lions International

Multiple District 11

(Lower Michigan)



"We Serve"

**2nd Council of Governors Meeting
Friday-Saturday, October 2-3, 2020
TreeTops Resort - Gaylord, MI**

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The second meeting of the 2020-2021 Council of Governors was called to order by Council Chair Jeff Mayuiers at 7:00 p.m. in the Birch Room of TreeTops Resort, Gaylord. Those in attendance were: **District Governors:** Joe Maki, District 10; David Wilbert, A1; Leo Schaefer, A2; David Anderson, B1; Julie Mayuiers, B2; Bob Hohendorf, C1; Kurt Stromlund, C2; Harold DeMott, D1; Sami Makhoul, D2; Bill Koch, E1; Rod Leathers, E2. **First Vice District Governors:** Jim Svinicki, District 10; Roshni Patel, A1; Jim Leach, Jr., A2; Terri Huffman, B1; Karol Chopp, B2; Ron Riebschleger; Tracy Temple, C2; Duane Wilcox, D1; Brian Betzold, D2; Bill Bradfield, E1; Bill Gaines, E2. **2nd Vice District Governors:** Matthew Collins, A1; Traci Tribley, C2; Jack Frost D1. Others in attendance: Council Chair Jeff Mayuiers, State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, PID Esther LaMothe, PID Jenny Ware, Lion Ed Weessies, IPDG Mike Scott, PDG Brent Beracy, Lion Marie Leathers and Lion Wendy Burns. Members calling in with reports via ZOOM: PDG Evelyn Cooper, PDG David Wineman, Lion Becky Borka, PDG Connie Shelton, PID Gary Anderson.

The meeting opened with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: Schaefer, Wilbert, to approve the proposed October agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MOTION: Wilbert, DeMott, to approve the August 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

MOTION: Hohendorf, Stromlund, to approve the Written Reports. Motion carried.

Global Membership Team Report –PDG Brent Beracy

There are currently 9,680 members, which is down 75 members in our first quarter. There are several districts tagged with a “T” for transition, meaning there are less than 1,250 members.

Monthly club health reports can be found at [Lionsclubs.org](https://lionsclubs.org) and search “Membership Reports Toolbox”. If you want to see a comparison to other districts, select the “District Health report”. A question was asked at the August meeting about member retention reports. Check the “Insights” button in the new Lions Member Portal. When you click the “detailed view” a bar graph showing your districts 3- year member retention percentage. Lion Brent has asked for but not yet received what algorithm is used to come to those percentages. “Club Achievements” is also available in MyLCI/My Lions Clubs/Reports/Club Achievements and you may find this helpful as well.

Covid-19 has had a dramatic effect on our clubs and districts. Many clubs are still in dormancy and some have claimed that they won’t be meeting or serving until a vaccine has become available. The entire district GMT’s are doing everything they can to continue to promote membership and new club development, but it is definitely an uphill battle. As Lion Beracy speaks with district leaders he always insists they look at

innovative ways to improve membership retention. One important area to keep in mind is our club dues and perhaps offering to lower them if the meals are included. Just that small action could make the difference in keeping a member during this trying time.

For our clubs who remain in dormancy, it is essential that the other legs of the GAT team are working double-time. If club members can't "Serve", at least they should be encouraged to "Plan" for future service (GST) and "Learn" about new ways to meet, fundraise, and serve (GLT). Lion Brent continues to be available to all DGs as a resource.

Global Service Team –PDG Evelyn Cooper

PDG Cooper reported overall, districts are doing what they can to remain active. The District GST suggested the idea of making masks- a project many club members could do from their home or during club meetings. Many have participated in this ongoing project. District 11 B2 has made over 2,000 masks to date. Other activities include collecting pill bottles. This has created a storage challenge. Bottles are collected and dropped off at an organization in Ohio.

Other reported service projects have included food pantries; back-packs filled with food; drive-in dinners and ramp construction. This month there is a Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk that some districts and/or clubs will participate in.

The committee will be discussing service projects to be held during the MI Forum and MD 11 Lions Convention. With President Choi slated to be the guest at the convention, they will look into ways to honor his visit which may include a tree planting ceremony on the evening of the picnic.

Global Leadership Team –PDG Michael Scott

VDG training was held during the day with in-person and Zoom participants. Guest presenters included PDG Brent Beracy, Lion Ed Weessies, Council Chair Jeff Mayuiers, DG David Anderson and Lion Matt Tetloff. Discussions were held on goals, teamwork, building your council and more.

A Vice District Governor's team-building day will be held at the Lions State Office November 1. This will offer an in-person meeting and provide the opportunity to get to know each other even better.

Defense Against Diabetes Report –VDG Bill Bradfield, Project Chair

A full report was provided to the council which outlined distributions of funds to each district. There has been great success throughout the state with online training with both MSU PATH classes and the National Kidney Foundation of MI. LCIF is very interested in this training and will be involved to see how it is working.

VDG Bradfield assured the council that the districts with remaining funds or those who are struggling to continue programs that may have slowed due to Covid-19 will be

provided suggestions on how to utilize the funds. LCIF does not want us to send grant money back!

Governor Anderson and Governor Makhoul asked if money can be transferred, district to district. No it cannot.

Endorsement of PID Fabricio Oliviera, Candidate for LCI 3rd VP-PID Esther LaMothe

PID Oliviera is the endorsed candidate by the LCI Leadership. PID LaMothe asked the Governors to endorse him as the 3rd Vice President. His nomination will be voted upon at the LCI Convention in Montreal.

MOTION: Anderson, Hohendorf, to support the nomination of PID Fabricio Oliviera as the LCI 3rd Vice President. Motion carried.

International Convention Chair Policy Manual –DG David Anderson

The Policy Manual review committee reviewed the current policy on the position of State Chairperson for the International Convention Committee. It is their recommendation that the Convention Chairperson position be eliminated. If there are over 75 attendees –not including DGEs and spouses-that the Executive Director act as chairperson and attend the convention. When there are less than 75 attendees, the Executive Director will conduct all business and correspondences via email or other communication means. A committee made up of district representatives will still remain active in the planning.

North American Membership Initiative –PDG David Wineman

Due to a conflict of using the acronym “NAMI”, the program will be called by its full name, North American Membership Initiative.

All of the districts in MD 11 are on-board with the program and should be providing details of success to LCI. PDG Wineman and PDG Beracy will try to attend district meetings and will soon begin a ‘road show’ which will offer 2-3 ½ hour sessions with both Lions Wineman and Beracy. Watch for details.

The Lions Virtual seminar on November 7 will address the North American Membership Initiative and so much more. All are encouraged to register and participate in this free event.

Council Chair Mayuiers suggested Lion Wineman work together with Lion Mike Scott and the 1st VDGs for training prior to their training scheduled in St. Charles, as LCI is hoping to have all 1st VDGs onboard with the North American Membership Initiative before next year.

Kindness Award –PDG Evelyn Cooper

At the August meeting the Governors voted to submit a nominee for President Choi’s Kindness Award. The council approved the Fremont Lions Club, 11 E1 application.

Lion Cooper stated she has since received more applications for submission. A review was tabled until Saturday.

OPEN FORUM

Council Chair Mayuiers opened the floor to discussion on how we are keeping engaged with our members and clubs.

C2: About 50% of clubs are meeting; 50% are not yet holding meetings.

C1: Zone Chairs are being asked to reach out to clubs and encourage them to remain active.

B1: Per the Infectious Disease Council, this virus will not be going away anytime soon. We need to place a strong focus on retention under the current circumstances. We still need the membership initiative, but we also must retain the members we have. If there is data on the actual percentage of clubs meeting in person or virtual, DG Anderson would like to see a report.

Council Chair Mayuiers agreed that we need to encourage clubs to do what they can to remain or become active. We will work through this together to get the lights back on in Michigan. PDG Wineman noted that with Diabetes Awareness month in October, this may be a way to engage members.

DG Anderson brought up the topic of a co-chair for the GLT position. PDG Mike Scott does not anticipate another work emergency that will take him away from the VDG training, but feels it is a good back up plan to have in place. He recommended PDG Steve VanTol, D1, as the chairperson. Discussion to be held during Saturday's meeting.

Tail Twister DG Harold DeMott collected fines.

Meeting recessed at 8:45 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning.

SATURDAY, October 3, 2020 2nd Council of Governors Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Jeff Mayuiers at 9:00 a.m. in the Birch Room of TreeTops Resort, Gaylord. Those in attendance were: **District Governors:** Joe Maki, District 10; David Wilbert, A1; Leo Schaefer, A2; David Anderson, B1; Julie Mayuiers, B2; Bob Hohendorf, C1; Kurt Stromlund, C2; Harold DeMott, D1; Sami Makhoul, D2; Bill Koch, E1; Rod Leathers, E2. **First Vice District Governors:** Jim Svinicki, District 10; Roshni Patel, A1; Jim Leach, Jr., A2; Terri Huffman, B1; Karol Chopp, B2; Ron Riebschleger; Tracy Temple, C2; Duane Wilcox, D1; Brian Betzold, D2; Bill Bradfield, E1; Bill Gaines, E2. **2nd Vice District Governors:** Matthew Collins, A1; Traci Tribley, C2; Jack Frost D1. Others in attendance: Council Chair Jeff Mayuiers, State Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, PID Esther LaMothe, PID Jenny Ware, Lion Ed Weessies, IPDG Mike Scott, PDG Brent Beracy, Lion Marie Leathers and Lion Wendy

Burns. Members calling in with reports via ZOOM: PDG Evelyn Cooper, PDG David Wineman, Lion Becky Borka, PDG Connie Shelton, PID Gary Anderson.

The meeting opened with the Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and introductions of those present.

Hearing Committee Report –Lion Becky Borka, Chair

The committee has been meeting via Zoom to discuss how each district is collecting hearing aid donations. One issue has been that not all clubs want to participate in the affordable hearing program or sponsor an applicant. Chad McCann explained that if a club does not sponsor an applicant, then the Foundation will charge for the co-pay and assist in the application process and securing the hearing aids.

Packets were provided to the council with a full report and information on the ADA policy on service animals and their handler rights. Organizations and businesses that serve the public must allow service animals to accompany people with disabilities in all areas of the facility where the public is allowed to go.

Lion Borka asked the Governors to consider Lion Peggy Frank to serve on the committee as co-chair.

MOTION: Koch, Hohendorf, to approve the nomination of Lion Peggy Frank, 11 E1, to the position of Co-Chair on the MD 11 Hearing Committee. Motion carried.

MD 11 Policy Manual Updates–DGs Hohendorf, Mayuiers

The review committee has made approximately forty changes, additions and edits to the Policy Manual. Items to discuss further and come back to in December are Social Media use; Parliamentarian stipend for meetings/travel. An edited copy of the Policy Manual will be emailed to the Governors for review, with a final vote to take place at the December Council meeting.

Financial Report –Treasurer Paul Hemeryck, PCC

The Lions of Michigan investment account saw impressive growth the past quarter: \$25,636.37 was earned in interest. We are showing more revenue than expenses right now, mainly due to lack of payroll and operating expenses. All accounts are within normal operating costs. Lion Pride saw no change. Dues structure was reviewed and the amount of dues billed is deferred for July1-December 31. A monthly transfer is applied to the appropriate accounts for the \$5/member collected during this 6-month timeframe.

CC Mayuiers questioned whether or not allocated amounts can be adjusted by the council. For example, if they council agreed to reallocate the International and MD 11 Convention funds, would this need to be a vote of the membership? Treasurer Hemeryck stated no, it would not need to be voted upon by the membership.

GAT Budget: IPDG Michael Scott submitted a budget for the GAT in the amount of \$6,250.00. It was included in the 2020-2021 budget proposal. DG Mayuiers asked where LCI money would be applied –back in the GAT account- if there were any reimbursements, and the answer was yes, it would go back into that same account.

MOTION: Wilbert, Shaefer, to receive the Financial Report as presented. Motion carried.

Leadership Institute –PCC Paul Hemeryck

The site of the annual Leadership Institute is owned and operated by the DNR and located in Higgins Lake. The facility was recently reopened and they are saving the date of November 5-7, 2021 for the Institute.

PID Jenny Ware provided an update on the November 7 Virtual Lions Leadership Forum. This is a learning opportunity provided free of charge to all Lions. A welcome message will be given by LCI VP Brian Sheehan as well as a presentation by PIP Joe Preston. Topics to be covered include meetings, service, fundraising, membership and leadership. The planning committee consists of PDG Michael Scott, PID Gary Anderson, PDG David and Lion Lindy Wineman and PID Ware. Registration will be open soon and a link will be sent to all DGs to email out to their district members.

DG Wilbert asked if there is a limitation to the attendees, and Lion Ware stated they are prepared for 300 at this time. If registration exceeds this amount, they will look at upgrading to a platform that allows for 1,000.

PCC Hemeryck pointed out this event should appeal to younger members, and is open to all Leo members as well as Lioness members.

PID asked the Governors for a vote of support of the Virtual Lions Leadership Forum.

MOTION: Hohendorf, Stromlund, to support the 2020 Virtual Lions Leadership Forum. Motion carried.

Budget Request –A budget request from August was to be addressed during the financial report. The budget request of \$600.00 from the Cancer Committee was tabled in order to gather budget information from Treasurer Hemeryck. After review of the accounts, PCC Hemeryck suggested using money from the DG Special Project Fund to support Childhood Cancer. It was also suggested the amount be increased to \$700.00 to cover current expenses incurred and future expenses.

MOTION: Stromlund, Shaefer, to financially support the Childhood Cancer program, transferring funds from the DG Special Project account.

Motion amended to include amount.

MOTION: Stromlund, Shaefer, to support the Childhood Cancer committee budget request of up to \$700.00, transferring funds from the DG Special Project account. Motion carried.

LCIF Report –PDG Connie Shelton, Chair

LCIF grants provided to MD 11 from 2017- September, 2020 total \$608,911.00. MD 11 and District 10 donations from 2014-current date total \$536,533.00. The state currently has six (6) Model Clubs. The deadline to become a Model Club has been extended through 2022.

LCIF has granted five (5) districts with \$10,000.00 Covid-19 Relief Grants. Three districts were granted flood disaster grants of \$10,000.00 each.

District & Club Community Grants are available now. LCIF will give back 15% of your donation if: \$5,000.00 or more is donated by a club; \$10,000.00 or more is donated by a district. The money can be used for a Community Grand with NO matching funds. I will stay in your LCIF account for 15 years for you to request. It is accruable each year. The District Cabinet or Club Officers must approve the use of the funds for the community project and then present the application forms to LCIF to receive money.

Ways in which districts have already used the Community Grand funds:

A2: Covid face masks for elementary schools. \$2,000.00

D2: Clothes for Veterans and feed the hungry program. \$1,800.00

E2: Upgrade to recreational walking trail. \$1,933.00

Awards Review –PID Esther LaMothe

In December Governors will be asked to vote on LCI Leadership and Presidential awards, as well as the S. A. Dodge Award. President Choi has sent out the criteria for the Leadership/Presidential awards and Lion Wendy will send the information on the S.A. Dodge. Governors were reminded that spouses/family members are discouraged from being nominated. While they may be qualified, it is best to let another year's Governor nominate.

2019-2020 S.A. Dodge recipients PDG Jack Becher and CC Jeff Mayuiers will be honored at the convention in Holland next May. Two new recipients will be selected at the meeting in December.

Nominations will be sent in to the state office in November and packets will be mailed out to the Governors. ID Justin Faber will hand off the LCI awards to President Choi.

Governor Sami Makhoul presented personal recognition awards to all Governors and others who have served this year.

Past International Directors Report –PID Gary Anderson

In August the Liaison team formed a pilot leadership project consisting of PIDs Ware, LaMothe, Hansen, Cobler, Anderson, and ID Faber. They are working with the GAT

leaders to assist and serve as leaders of our state. Our leaders are here to serve the organization, with members as our customers who serve the public. The group holds monthly meetings and takes a teamwork approach. The plan for this pilot program is to work towards creating a model to put in place that districts can follow. There are reference books that PID Anderson will share with the council that may be helpful for our leaders.

A short video presentation produced by LCI and titled “We Serve the World” was viewed.

Kindness Awards:

PDG Evelyn Cooper recognized Livonia Lions Club, A1; Portage Lions Club, B2; Boyne Valley Lions Club E2. These three (3) clubs have been nominated for the Kindness Award through LCI. PDG Cooper contacted LCI to ensure these additional nominations could be considered and the response was yes, they can.

MOTION: Hohendorf, Mayuiers, to approve Livonia Lions Club, A1; Portage Lions Club, B2; Boyne Valley Lions Club E2 for the LCI Kindness Award. Motion Carried.

Executive Director Report –Lion Wendy Burns

Peace Poster/Essay Contest nominations will be brought to the December Council meeting for voting on the state winner. Lion Burns asked the Governors to again consider a cash award to the winners.

MOTION: Koch, Shaefer, to approve presentation of a \$300.00 award to recipients of the 2020-2021 Peace Poster/Essay contest winners. Motion carried.

A letter was reviewed regarding support of the LMASB and written by Lion Noreen Boes, reinforcing the need to provide financial assistance to students and donations to the Administrative Fund. Students expressing interest in the 2021 LCI-Convention in Montreal requested funds to be rolled over into next year’s trip.

The process for selecting the S.A. Dodge and LCI awards was reviewed. The selection takes place at the December meeting. The 1st VDGs will be interviewing candidates for the position of Council Chair, 2021-2022. Information will be in the upcoming Lion Pride.

The Michigan Forum report was included in your packets. The committee will plan both a virtual and live experience for next February.

President Choi will be the guest speaker at the MD 11 Lions Convention. Under the direction of our new chairs, PDG David Hacker and Lion Brenda Hacker, the committee will discuss ways to honor his visit. One thought is to have a tree planted in his honor at Paws with a Cause, the site of our Thursday night picnic. There would be additional costs involved with hosting an International President, and the committee will present a budget for the council to approve at the December meeting.

Lion Burns reported on a recent meeting she spearheaded with Executive Directors from around the country. The group traditionally has met the past four years at the USA/Canada Forum to exchange ideas. Everyone seems to be in the same state, with some clubs remaining extremely active, some clubs slowing down or not meeting at all; virtual conventions replacing live events, etc. We are truly all in this together!

The state office has been working since March without an administrative assistant, as Amber Ebright went on furlough during this period. She returned in August and announced she was returning to her massage therapy work. Her last day was August 20. There are no plans at this time to hire a new assistant.

Global Leadership Team Co-Chair

As discussed during Friday's meeting, GLT Chair Michael Scott requested that IPDG Steve VanTol be appointed as Co-Chair to the GLT. Lion Ed Weessies stated the MD 11 Policy Manual states a vice chair must be named to all committees. Due to the fact that the final say in the chairperson position comes from LCI, this may not be a vote among the Governors for approval.

The first step would be Governor approval, then submission to LCI for approval.

IPDG Scott rephrased the request to ask that IPDG Steve VanTol act as facilitator in the event that he is unable to attend a training, not a co-chair position. DG DeMott spoke to the experience and qualifications that IPDG VanTol has. With so many responsibilities he holds in the district, this may not be the time for him to take on another position. IPDG Scott has already inquired as to IPDG VanTol's interest and availability, and he has agreed to assist in any way necessary.

OLD BUSINESS

MD 11 Investment Account –DG David Anderson

DG Anderson was tasked with following up on questions that arose from the August meeting regarding the investment accounts. He has tried on numerous occasions to talk with PCC Brian Shephard, Financial Technology with no response. He will continue to try and make contact and report in December on the findings.

Proposed Amendments:

The 2019-2020 ballot proposal to create Ad-Hoc committees was dropped last year when the convention was cancelled. In order to place this on the ballot for 2020-2021, a new proposal must be presented at the December meeting for approval.

MOTION: Anderson, Hohendorf, to add the proposed amendment on Ad-Hoc committees to the ballot.

After discussion on what was included in the proposal, the motion was withdrawn. Lion Burns will send out last year's proposal for review by the Governors and Lion Ed Weessies, Constitution and Bylaws Chair.

Miscellaneous Items:

VDG Karol Chopp requested a copy from VDG Bill Bradfield of the original D.A.D. grant. He will provide her with a copy.

DG Rod Leathers reported on his fundraising efforts for the childhood cancer fund. To date he has raised over \$4,000.00. He will shave it off on October 10, 10:00 a.m. It was agreed the council would donate Tail Twister funds to DG Leathers for his fund.

DG Julie Mayuiers thanked DG Anderson for continuing to follow up with our investment manager, stating it was unprofessional of him not to return calls.

A big thanks went to Lion Marie Leathers for coordinating Zoom hosting efforts over the weekend.

Tail Twister fines were collected and \$95 was donated to DG Leathers' childhood cancer fundraiser.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lion Wendy Burns