

**2<sup>nd</sup> Council of Governors Meeting  
Friday, October 7, 2022  
Tree Tops Resort, Gaylord, MI**

The second meeting of the 2022-2023 Council of Governors was called to order on Friday, October 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. by Council Chair Ron Gibson. Those in attendance were District Governors Gretchen Preston, D10; Matt Collins, A1; Shawn Blaszczyk, A2; Kelly Lubbe, B1; VCC Traci Tribley, C2; Jack Frost, D1; Jackie Glazier, E1; Rod Leathers, E2. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governors Lula Gardfrey, A1; Kelley Unruh, A2; Annette Hemeryck, B1; Michael O'Lonergan, C1; Ted Hamilton, C2; Bill Bauder, D1; Jim Patterson, E1; Steve Murch, E2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governors La Wanna Lofton-Coleman, A1; Rhonda Furby, A2; Bill Bauder, D1; Judy Keller, D2; Bob Roebuck, E1; Scott Kwarciany, D 10. Also present: IPID Justin Faber, PID Jenny Ware, PID Esther LaMothe, PCC Paul Hemeryck, PDG Dave Wineman, PDG Ray Robins, PDG Brent Beracy, IPDG Roshni Patel, Lion Ed Weessies and Executive Director Wendy Burns.

The meeting opened with the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and welcome.

A roundtable discussion was held with comments and feedback from those who attended the recent USA/Canada Forum. IPID Faber is heading the seminars division of the Forum for 2024 and input is welcomed. Next year's Forum will be held in Reno, NV. Registration is now open.

**Global Leadership Report -IPDG Roshni Patel, Chair**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG training session was held earlier in the day with many of the VDGs in attendance. LCI goals were a main topic, including how to write goals and how to achieve them; documentation of goals, submission to LCI. IPID Justin Faber discussed the process on the road to become an International Director, and what all the steps are to get there. Liability insurance was covered and where to find the forms on LCI's website. Installation of new officers was another topic that was reviewed.

**Global Membership Report -PDG Brent Beracy**

Membership numbers are doing well with 189 new members inducted so far this year. As is typical, we've lost member: 207 Lions have left the organization resulting in a net loss of -18 for the first three (3) months of the year. District 10 has shown excellent growth with a net gain of 21! Other Districts doing well are D1, +15; C2 +7; D2 +5.

PDG Beracy will be holding a meeting with the District GMT committee later this month to continue their work on membership recruitment, retention, and rebuilding.

**PDG Dave Wineman, Area Leader**

LCI is focused on achieving 100% service reporting and we all need to do our job in making Michigan #1. To accomplish this every club in each district needs to report at least one service project. Ohio is in the lead for reporting, but Michigan can take over.

Goals: Unless a goal is written down, it is rarely accomplished in a group setting.

Through the Build a Vision Campaign you need to form your team, write down goals, track the progress. This is different from the goal setting requirements for VDGs. This relates to goals set by the district.

Service helps to generate membership. Take “membership” out of the recruitment language and instead, focus on sharing the joy of being Lions. Share your success stories in the Lion Pride club column. Be on the alert for members who are the doers in your district and award them with GAT certificates and medals.

\$500 is available for each district with the submission of a GAT success story (limit one submission per district). Any district GAT member (district governor, GST coordinator, GMT coordinator, GLT coordinator) on record with Lions Clubs International or the cabinet secretary may apply for funding.

### **Global Service Team Report -IPDG Terri Huffman, Chair**

District Governors were asked to encourage district GST chairs to be enthusiastic about their positions this year and to be present at meetings. Attendance was low at the recent meeting, and another has been scheduled for October 16. At this meeting IPDG Huffman will be stressing the need to report service and why it is so valuable in helping LCI obtain funding for our service programs.

Ideas are currently being reviewed for the service projects at both the Michigan Forum in February and the convention in May. One idea is for a sock drive, and Lion Huffman asked the council to bring socks to the December meeting and she will collect them to be sent to a shelter.

Kindness Service Awards are being reviewed with one application from E2.

### **Michigan Lions Forum -IPDG Jim Leach, Chair**

The committee met this past week to begin planning for the 2023 Michigan Lions Forum. Last year’s committee had a great line up of session topics and speakers lined up. Many of the sessions will be used this year as they are still very relevant. Governors and Vice District Governors will be asked to assist as room monitors and to introduce session speakers. The search is on for a keynote speaker, and Executive Director Burns has reached out to Kid’s Food Basket, located in Grand Rapids, to see if they would be interested.

DG Traci Tribble shared news of a fundraiser to take place at Lions Bear Lake Camp. The “Sub-Zero Hero” Polar Plunge will take place on Saturday, February 18. All were challenged to join DG Tribble in taking the plunge.

**Tail Twister Blaszczyk** got all to reveal their favorite candy in exchange for a treat, collecting fines along the way.

**Motion:** Frost, Hemeryck, to recess the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Council of Governors Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 8, 2022**  
**Tree Tops Resort, Gaylord**

The Council of Governors was called to order on Saturday, October 8, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. by Council Chair Ron Gibson. Those in attendance were District Governors Gretchen Preston, D10; Matt Collins, A1; Shawn Blaszczyk, A2; Kelly Lubbe, B1; Julie Mayuiers, B2; VCC Traci Tribley, C2; Jack Frost, D1; Shawn Wightman, D2; Jackie Glazier, E1; Rod Leathers, E2. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governors Lula Gardfrey, A1; Kelley Unruh, A2; Annette Hemeryck, B1; Michael O’Lonegan, C1; Ted Hamilton, C2; Bill Bauder, D1; Jim Patterson, E1; Steve Murch, E2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governors La Wanna Lofton-Coleman, A1; Rhonda Furby, A2; Bill Bauder, D1; Judy Keller, D2; Bob Roebuck, E1; Scott Kwarciany, D 10. Also present: IPID Justin Faber, PID Jenny Ware, PID Esther LaMothe, PCC Paul Hemeryck, PDG Dave Wineman, PDG Ray Robins, PDG Brent Beracy, IPDG Roshni Patel, Lion Ed Weessies and Executive Director Wendy Burns.

The meeting opened with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

**Financial Report -PCC Paul Hemeryck, State Treasurer**

Detailed reports were provided to all for review. Treasurer Hemeryck highlights the accounts, making notations on several. The Diabetes Grant is nearly wrapped up with little funds remaining. The administration account is high due to payroll taxes, overtime for the 2020-2021 year and the Executive Director’s annual retirement package. Operating, designated and restricted accounts were all reviewed in detail and activity is normal for this time of year.

The Lion Pride account lost some money but there is a healthy reserve with assets of \$121,367.89 remaining in the account.

The District Governors Special Project fund had an ending balance of \$24,389.05 as of August 31, 2022. It was reported the Grace Lange Investment Fund account holds \$127,456.38 for the same time period.

The Lions of Michigan investment account earned \$2,835.00.

**MOTION:** Frost, Glazier, to receive the treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

Treasurer Hemeryck clarified the guidelines for clubs when holding fundraisers and what portion of the money goes to charity and what goes into the administrative account. If hosting a gaming event, 45% of the gaming money goes to the host location, 55% is deposited into the charity fund. LCI rules state clubs are expressly forbidden from using any part of the net earnings from a public fund raiser for administrative or non-public purposes. More on this can be found on LCI’s website.

A proposed budget was handed out to review before moving forward on a vote at the

December Council of Governors meeting. IPDG Roshni Patel, GLT Chairman, provided a budget for the Global Action Team which covers their training expenses for this fiscal year. A vote to approve will take place in December.

Lion Roger Bosse, Sight Conservation/White Cane Chair attended via Zoom to request and additional \$3,0000 from the Grace Lange account. The money would be used for an additional White Cane Scholarship, bring the total number awarded per year to four. \$500 is awarded as an additional scholarship and the money comes from the sight conservation account that clubs donate to. Lion Bosse asked for a motion to support the additional funds.

**MOTION:** Tribley, Glazier, to donate an additional \$3,000.00 from the Grace Lange Memorial Fund for an additional White Cane Scholarship, bringing the total number of scholarships awarded to four. (4). Motion carried.

### **Independent Audit Review -VDG Kelley Unruh**

Last February it was determined that a financial review/audit had not been properly completed. IPDG Ron Riebschleger, DG Jack Frost and VDG Kelley Unruh, M.A. were appointed to the task. On August 26, 2022, VDG Unruh met at the Lions State office to conduct a financial review to verify all bank statements, bank reconciliations and verify Quarterly and Annual payroll tax reports were completed and sent out. The review period covered Lion years 7/1/20-6/31/22.

VDG Unruh certified that on behalf of the committee, the tasks mentioned above were completed on 8/26/22 and all requested documents were provided and presented fairly.

**MOTION:** to receive the report as provided by VDG Kelley Unruh, M.A.. Motion carried.

### **LCI Updates –IPID Justin Faber**

LCI has already taken steps to endorse a candidate for 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, to be inducted at the 2023 convention in Boston. PID Mark Lyon is the candidate of choice, and IPID Faber asked for support of the council for their endorsement.

**MOTION:** Frost, Leathers, to endorse for LCI 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President PID Mark Lyon, to be elected at the 105<sup>th</sup> Lions International Convention in Boston, Massachusetts. Motion carried.

IPID Faber remains busy with LCI responsibilities with speaking engagements, travel and planning for the USA/Canada Forum in 2023 and serving on the leadership team.

### **MD 11 Convention Committee Report – Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director for PDG Dave and Lion Brenda Hacker, Co-Chairs**

The committee met briefly via Zoom on the 31st of August. It was to welcome new committee members and to invite the committee to meet in person on September 30th at the convention site in Muskegon Michigan for a city tour. C1 leaders DG Wehby, VDG O'Lonergan, PID Cobler, Lion Weessies and Council Chair Gibson were all invited

to attend. We met in Muskegon September 30 at the Convention and Visitors Bureau for our initial meeting, followed by a tour of the hotel and convention center and lunch was picked up by the Muskegon CVB. We wrapped up the day with a city tour and visited key points along the way. Lake Michigan was beautiful, and the committee is charged up about Muskegon 2023. There is a beach restaurant that has potential for hosting the picnic as well as possibly the LST (a former battleship) as an indoor venue. Lion Weessies contacted the Landing Ship Tank for a picnic and reported that it would cost \$550 to use the LST for our picnic and they would offer admission to museum for our group for \$6.50 for the rest of weekend. They allow for an outside caterer to handle the food. One proposal for a meal was provided by the Ravenna Lions Club, with assistance from the Muskegon Northside Club. They offered a menu with two meats and all the trimmings for \$15/person. DG Wehby requested a request for proposal with the picnic specs so that she could submit it to all clubs in C1 for them to equally have the opportunity to submit a proposal on food or turn it down. Executive Director Burns will provide the information to her. It has been customary the past ten years to ask the Lions Clubs that are local to the area if they wanted the opportunity to provide the meal. The committee will need a little guidance for future proposals for Thursday's pre-convention picnic.

Lion Burns had a great idea about possibly having a parade along with our state band and some floats. The city is working with us to try and make that happen. Committee member and GST Chair, IPDGT Terri Hoffman is working with the committee on a statewide for a service project to benefit those in the area. District C1 will be joining with the State convention to host their convention.

In closing we are once again asking District Governors to help sell the convention to your clubs we are also asking for potential future convention sites that you would like us to visit and or send proposal requests to PDG Hacker or Lion Burns.

### **Eversight Report -PDG Kurt Stromlund, Chair**

PDG Stromlund serves as the newest Eversight state chair. He reviewed the two (2) Fellowships available through Eversight, the Charles Weir Sight Conservation, \$500 donation, and Doc Barr Knights for Vision, \$1,000 donation.

The committee has met with all but one district represented. PDG Stromlund requested the Governors provide an updated District roster book, convention dates and locations, appreciation dinner dates and locations. Eversight takes pride in attending these events and recognizing leaders. Tours are always available at the new facility. An upcoming fundraiser November 10 will be held via Zoom from Zingerman's Deli in Ann Arbor.

### **Lions of Michigan All State Band – Lion Deb Davis, CEO**

The committee is actively recruiting band members and reaching out through social media and former alumni members. FaceBook, TicTok, Instagram and the launch of the LMASB YouTube video have all taken place. Work is being done now to create their own website. State Committee Chair Lion Tom MacNaughton is doing a fine job of keeping the committee and board informed and updated as to all the moving parts,

along with speaking to clubs about the band.

Band camp will be held at Lions Bear Lake Camp just prior to leaving for the convention in Boston. The first band rehearsal will take place in January, with other rehearsals in March and at the MD 11 Convention in May.

### **Leadership Institute Report –PCC Paul Hemeryck, PID Jenny Ware, Co-Chairs**

The date is set for November 3-6 at the MacMullen Center located in Higgins Lake. The registration deadline has been extended to October 26. FDI has been added to the schedule in place of the Master's course. Traditional Leadership Institute will cost \$250 and FDI will be \$300. Your district can still submit a \$300 donation and qualify to send one Lion to the Leadership Institute at no additional charge. 20 will be admitted to FDI; 50 for the Leadership Institute. New instructors this year include Lion James Boomer and PDG Rock Wood, PID Jamma Wahl and PCC Bermeister from Wisconsin.

The FDI is Lion Certified Instruction approved and sanctioned by LCI. IPDG Patel is assisting with the grant application for submission to LCI. This is very exciting for Michigan to be able to offer this training.

### **Communications Report –Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director**

The refund checks went to all district treasurers for their donation to the Unified Cup in the amount of \$150. This took place in August and included with the check was a letter of explanation.

Information on the 2023-2024 Council Chair position has been emailed to all club secretary's and qualifying Past, Immediate Past, and 1<sup>st</sup> VDGs. Copies are available if you did not receive this. 1<sup>st</sup> VDGs will vote on their new Council Chair at the December meeting in Grand Rapids.

December's meeting will be at the Downtown Grand Rapids Holiday Inn. Please send into me the included December RSVP meeting notice. I really need this info to guarantee meals. Cutoff for the \$109 room rate is November 14. No exceptions.

Award Nominations will be held on Saturday afternoon at the December Council meeting. I am finalizing the list of past recipients and will email it to the Governors. The S.A. Dodge awards need to be sent back to me without the nominee's name included in the information. Please send me a cover letter or some type of not identifying who your nominee is, and I will number the candidates when I send you the packet of all nominees for review. Would you prefer to notify the winners in advance or surprise them at the MD 11 Convention, where they will be the honored guest? It has worked well the past couple of years to let the winner know so they can invite family and friends to the banquet. I include their photo and bio in the Lion Pride, as well.

DGs were reminded of expense reimbursement. Three (3) CoG meetings are sent to LCI, one out of pocket, and the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting – MD Convention- the state office covers. Room up to three (3) nights, meals not provided at the convention.

July 7-11 International Convention: PDG Lloyd Kilbreath suggested a tour bus for transportation to Boston. I have contacted Bob Rogers Travel for information along with a boat tour for Michigan Night on Monday of the convention. Without the schedule of the convention, I am unable to get pricing yet, but will work on that. Pins are in from pin traders. Packages of 25 are available today for DGs and VDGs. Pin cost: \$2.00

An offer of employment has been extended to Lion Chrissy Andre. We discussed 24 hours/week, more as needed during busy seasons, \$15.00/hour.

IPID Faber took time to review in great detail the process of selecting award recipients at the December Council meeting. All have received the LCI criteria for the Presidential and Leadership awards, along with the S. A. Dodge award information.

### **Special Award Presentation –PCC Peggy Allen**

PCC Allen reviewed what is a Melvin Jones and the criteria to recognize a Lion with a Melvin Jones. There is a \$1,000 donation made to LCI for the award. PCC Allen recognized VDG Lula Gardfrey and honored her with a Melvin Jones Fellow for her dedication to Lions going back to when she was the GMT in 2017-2018 and her continued efforts in District A1 and the State.

### **Student Lion Dues –Council Chair Ron Gibson**

Student dues have been picked up the past six (6) years by the Governors and payment for dues taken from the DG Special Project fund. Last year's DGs covered January – June, 2022 dues billing, and will cover July-December, 2022. Due to the fact that the council cannot vote until elected, this schedule is off because the first council meeting takes place in August and dues must go out in July. CC Gibson asked the council to consider paying student dues for the next year, January 2023- December 2023. Estimated cost is approximately \$660-\$700 and there is \$24, 839.00 in the fund.

**MOTION:** Frost/Leathers, to pay the student dues amount of \$5/annually for one year from the District Governors Project Fund.

Discussion: The question was raised as to how this idea originally came about, and it was explained as a donation from the DGs six (6) years ago. Not every council has agreed to do this, but each council makes their own recommendation. DG Collins asked if the club then credits the fee to the student, or how do we know they are not charged by the club or the district for dues. PDG Robins is the Guiding Lion for the MSU Lions Club and the student pays their dues when they join.

The motion was voted on and by a show of hands, motion was defeated.

### **MD 11 Policy Manual Review –DG Julie Mayuiers**

DGs Mayuiers and Frost were tasked with reviewing and receiving input and edits for the MD 11 Policy Manual. A list of edits and updates to the PM were reviewed.

Page 7: remove "seated DG may not serve as a Council Chair  
Page 14: Remove list of Council meeting dates and locations  
Page 18: Include "annual review by seated DGs with recommendation and input from PIDs"  
Page 19: Add Hunger committee  
Page 28: Remove student dues reference  
Page 32: Equipment policy use and storage – update

At the request of Constitution and By Laws Chair PCC Dick DeLong, current LCI recommended language was provided to replace the current Council Chair duties:  
*"Each member of the Council of Governors, including the Council Chairperson, shall have one (1) vote on each question requiring action of the Council of Governors."*

**MOTION:** Leathers, Frost, to approve the recommended changes to the MD 11 Policy Manual as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Proposal to request parade change for LCI Convention

As discussed at the previous meeting the Council voted to submit a letter to LCI expressing desire to march in the LCI Convention Parade of Nations as the Lions of the US, instead of individual states. The following letter was drafted for approval to send to LCI:

We, the Lions of Michigan MD 11, request a change in the marching order for the International Parade at our International Conventions to allow Lions of the United States Constitutional Area 1, to march together in the international parade. We will march together in numerical order of our Multiple and Single Districts, from MD-1 to MD-50. We will each wear our Multiple or Single District uniforms and carry our own appropriate banners.

**MOTION:** Leathers, Frost, to adopt the language of the parade march to be forwarded onto LCI. Motion carried.

Tail Twister fines were collected and the total money will be held in the council and committee account until a decision is made on a donation or cause.

**Motion:** Tribley, Leathers, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.



