

District 2-S2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2019
Cy-Fair Lions Clubhouse, Bane Park, 9440 West Little York

Attendees

DG Tony Austin	PDG Charles “Chuck” Martin
PCC Pat Brennan	Lion Heather McConnell
Lion Nancy Chesbro	Lion Paul McConnell
Lion Stedman Douglas	Lion Duane Meyer
PDG Arthur Drouin	Lion Paul Moore
Lion Lucy Gonzales	PDG Chris Moorman
Lion Mike Hallbach	Lion Rebecca Noone
Lion Jane Johnson	PDG Jim Noone
IPDG Karl Johnson	PDG Rick Reynolds
Lion Neil Lander	Lion Marla Reynolds
Lion Donald Landers	PDG Mark Roth
PDG Ron Landers	Lion Syd Waldman
Lion Barbara Leboff	

Call to Order - DG Tony Austin called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

Pledges and Invocation -

The group stood for the pledges to the US and Texas flags.
PDG Mark Roth led the Invocation.

Remarks by District Governor –

IPDG Karl introduced DG Tony and remarked that Tony is the best District Governor we’ve had in a long time.

DG Tony has enjoyed visiting the various clubs and seeing how different they are. There have been many surprises, most notably the smaller clubs raising big funds. For example, the Hobby club recently raised \$17,000 for Texas Lions Camp. The Houston Lady Lions club does amazing things throughout the year. DG Tony suggested everyone check out the Lady Lions Club’s Facebook page. DG Tony was happy to see Lions out in their communities making a difference. Things are happening today because of Lions. We are blessed with people in our organization.

Overall our District membership is down one member this year. We have brought in 55 new members but lost 56. This quarter’s goal for the district will be improving communication. DG Tony wants to see the clubs communicate with members they don’t often see to try to get them reconnected.

DG Tony showed the group two videos featuring International Lions President Dr. Jung-Yul Choi. Dr. Choi’s motto is “think, then I do”. Dr. Choi is heavily focused on education and service to his country. Dr. Choi’s business exports shoes worldwide and he serves his community in Lions Club. Dr. Choi retired at age 50 and has dedicated his life to Lions. Dr. Choi works on various service projects such as feeding 600 people a warm meal every week, repairing houses for lower income people, and helping to construct two

Lions parks. Dr. Choi is focused on servant leadership and how he can help others. He also works to help prepare the next generation for service and feels our diversity is our strength.

Dr. Choi's view on growing membership is a little different and raises interesting ideas. DG Tony showed a second video about bridging the gap between generations. The video stresses the importance and difficulty in maintaining members in Lions clubs. Membership is the most critical factor in our association. Dr. Choi suggests that clubs market membership to the early retirees in the community because they are the ones who have the time to serve. The early retirees also have expertise in many areas they can share with younger generations. Younger members have more difficulty financially supporting their own clubs. Dr. Choi suggests having them collaborate and pair them with the early retirees. DG Tony said we might be able to do this in retirement facilities.

DG Tony thanked everyone for attending the Cabinet meeting this morning.

Establishment of Quorum –

A quorum was established by Cabinet Secretary Lion Heather McConnell.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes –

DG Tony asked the group to approve the minutes of 1st Cabinet meeting of this year. The minutes had been previously posted on the 2S2 website. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Financial Update -

In the minutes from the previous cabinet meeting, there is an error in the financial update section. In the last paragraph, 100% contributions not part of administrative fund. The Administrative fund is only made up of dues. Rick Reynolds moved to approve as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Tomball Club received matching funds from LCIF in April 2017 to buy a Plus Optix vision screening machine. This LCIF grant was never closed out and must be closed out by November 15, 2019. The Tomball Club has all the required paperwork so DG Tony can close out the grant. All that is needed is a copy of the cabinet meeting minutes showing that we closed out the grant. The motion to close out the LCIF grant was approved unanimously.

Financials –

The financials were approved as of September 30, 2019. District Treasurer Donald Landers asked why there was nothing on this year's budget for the annual audit. Treasurer Landers let us know that per the constitution, we are required to have the annual audit done. DG Tony suggested we discuss this at the next Cabinet meeting to see what we're going to do in the future. We'll have to see what can be done for this year. There was no discussion of this at last meeting, but Treasurer Landers was not present. DG Tony suggested we may have the audit done after this year's tax return is completed. The financials were unanimously approved.

PDG Chuck Martin has the corporate 501c3 financials that were not posted to the website. The 501(c)3 was started in February 2019. The 501(c)3 took in a total of \$5,050.00. The bulk of the funds were spent on Goal Ball. Other expenses include a medical grant and administrative expenses. By the end of this fiscal year, the 501c3 spent approximately \$2,000.00 more what it earned. The District 501(c)4 loaned

the 501(c)3 \$2,000.00 to make up the shortage. This loan was repaid in July/August 2019. The checking account currently has a balance of \$3,374 which came from donations from several clubs.

Zone Chair Updates

Zone T1 Chair Lucy Gonzales (Houston Aldine, Houston Fil-Am, Houston Founder, Houston Greenspoint, Houston Heights, Houston Ladies, Houston Midwest, Houston Millenium, Houston Royal Oaks, Houston Sports, Houston Spring Branch and Houston Veterans)

Lucy has reached out to all the clubs in her zone. She did not have much to report but she did hold a meeting with all her clubs at Royal Oaks. They had a good turnout, but most attendees were from Houston Lady Lions and Royal Oaks. She is sending out a letter in hopes of getting a better response. She does not have phone numbers for all the club members in her zone. Lucy also went to two club meetings, but those clubs didn't have their meetings as scheduled.

DG Tony said how much fun the Zone 1 meeting was and how much they learned about each other.

Zone E2 Chair Marla Reynolds (Alief, Conroe Noon, Cut and Shoot, Houston Cy-Fair, Huntsville, Klein, Klein Phoenix, Magnolia, Montgomery, Montgomery Lake Conroe, Panorama, South Montgomery County, Tomball, Willis, The Woodlands)

At the end of August, Cut & Shoot held a joint new member orientation. They invited members from all clubs in zone. 65 members attended the meeting. Marla is considering possibly doing another joint new member orientation in January. Marla originally wanted to have a zone meeting in September but due to clubs being busy, they had to postpone it. The meeting has been rescheduled for November 16th. On the first of each month, Marla sends out "getting connected" Zone 2 newsletter to all her club Presidents and Secretaries. The newsletter lists what each club has going on that month. Marla is also encouraging clubs to go and support the other clubs, especially if they need help. She currently has one club that has membership in red. She has visited that club and offered to help do a membership drive.

PDG Chuck Martin mentioned that he spoke to Treasurer for Klein Phoenix Scouting club. He reported that they are having issues getting into MyLion to enter new members. He has offered to go out and help but they have not taken him up on it. The club also has not cashed the \$500 check they received from state.

Zone X3 Chair Dr. Anthony Price (Anahuac, Barbers Hill, Baytown, Deer Park, Houston Hobby, Houston Southwest, Nassau Bay, Pasadena)– not present, no report

Zone A4 Chair Nancy Chesbro (Brookshire-Pattison, Cinco Ranch, Hempstead, Houston Memorial, Houston Northwest, Katy, Prairie View A&M, Houston Westbury, Waller)

Lion Nancy reported that five clubs in her zone stayed consisted in membership. Prairie View is struggling and is down to 7 members. The Waller club has sold their building and has only 6 members. 1/3 of the proceeds of the building sale went to Texas Lions Camp, 1/3 went into a bank account for eyeglasses and exams. They now go to the Hempstead club when they get together. The Waller club's members are older so there may need to be a discussion about their membership at some point. Nancy mentioned she did not get a response from her other 6 clubs. Brookshire-Pattison has been sending in activities and has

an upcoming fundraiser. The Katy Club is having toy drive starting November 1st and a list of drop-off places will be presented at the November P&S meeting. Katy's Leo club up to 29 members. The Leos will be doing one last book drive through November 9th for Great Minds Library. They currently have 56 boxes of books to ship. As of the end of August, the zone had 181 members.

Zone S5 Chair Neil Lander (Ames, Cleveland, Crosby, Dayton Noon, Hardin, Huffman, Humble, Humble Noon, Kingwood, Liberty, Twin City)

Lion Neil reported that membership in his zone is at 236, up 3 since July 1st. He mentioned that his clubs are not reporting membership month by month. He has not had a zone meeting yet as it is very difficult to get them together. Lion Neil's zone was primarily impacted by Imelda flooding. Also, 5 of the 11 clubs not meeting routinely and 2 have lost meeting place. Aimes Almighty wasn't given credit for \$35 per member, they were \$1000 in arrears in July. PDG Chuck Martin worked with them to fix the issue. The club has a Treasurer now and they seem to be getting on track.

DG Tony applied for an emergency grant of \$10,000 for those who were affected by Imelda. The Cut & Shoot and Humble Noon clubs have used the funds. The funds must be spent within 30 days (next Saturday). If any clubs need funds, they need to turn in their receipts. The funds can be used food, cleaning supplies, clothing, etc. but absolutely no construction material. Lion Marla asked if they could purchase mattresses. DG Tony was able to get a \$2000 grant for a local women's shelter so they could finish reconstruction. The Alief club is still on books with two members. Those members have moved to Bryan, TX but the club still owes for the dues. They now show as being dropped by LCI online, but they were on the books as of July 1, 2019. DG Tony says we will have to write those off.

Global Action Team –

PDG Chris Moorman – Leadership

There will be another Faculty Development Institute on January 18-20, 2020. The location will be determined later. If anyone is interested in attending, let PDG Chris know before November 4, 2019. It takes 2 signatures to be approved to take the Faculty Development Institute. The courses will teach attendees how to teach in classroom environment. PDG Chris and PDG Mark are the only two currently certified from our district. We have had two more people apply from our district.

The Guiding Lion webinar was held about a month ago and attendance was low. We will try to hold another webinar in the coming weeks.

The Texas Lions Leadership Forum March 7-8, 2020. Registration can be done either online or by paper application. Hotel reservations at the Crowne Plaza are a separate cost. The Leadership Forum is being transitioned and PDG Chris is taking it over. The hotel expense is covered for the first 100 people to register for the Forum.

PDG Jim Noone – Membership

PDG Jim has requested updates from zone chairs monthly but has not heard from them. He also hasn't been able to find some contact information in Lions computer system. There are several small clubs in desperate need of guidance. For example, PDG Jim pointed out that our Founders Lions Club only has 17 members. PDG Jim wants to start calling the smaller clubs and showing up to their meetings. PDG Jim also suggested recruiting new members from constables, fire departments, police departments, sheriff

departments, etc. They are known in the communities and can help attract new members. Lion Syd Waldman says some of the smaller clubs in Metro Houston need a lot of this help to grow. Lion Lucy Gonzalez says she will work with Lion Syd's club and other clubs in her zone to help them expand their membership.

Lion Becky Noone – Service

Lion Becky has been visiting other clubs and asking about their activities. The clubs have a lot of good ideas on service projects. Lion Becky encourages all the clubs to network and connect with people in the community. She suggested inviting people from the general area to your meetings (Chamber of Commerce, church, friends, etc.). The Magnolia Lions Club has been doing a lot of vision screenings. Over 120 people have been screened and 18 were referred to be tested further. Lion Becky has also been working with other clubs on their service projects. Her club will be also be working with veteran programs that helps vets with PTSD. Lion Becky would like to try to get club presidents and secretaries to respond to her emails. She told us about a motorcycle club that just gave \$50,000 to the Texas Lions Camp and there aren't that many people in their club. They won't be wearing a Lions vest, but they will come and work and help your club with projects.

PDG Mark Roth – Join Together Program

PDG Mark suggested we find other organizations that do small service projects, approach them and tell them how they can multiply their impact by doing these projects as a Lions Club. Lions Clubs are insured for their activities. Lion Lucy Gonzalez was just appointed as the New Voices Liaison for our multi-district. As part of her new position, she has been asked to help open ten new clubs around the state. Both PDG Mark and Lion Lucy are available to come speak to your club about the Join Together program.

Texas Lions Camp Update -

PDG Rick Reynolds

The best way to increase our membership is through service. What better service is there than Texas Lions Camp! You're truly a Texas Lion once you go to Lions camp and watch one of their graduation ceremonies. This past summer, the camp had 1512 campers. 379 of those campers came from other organizations, the rest came from Lions Club. District 2s2 sent 150 campers. The camp also has 160 counseling staff and 76 medical staff. The camp is now 70 years old and the buildings and bunk houses are ready to be replaced. They also want to expand the camp to allow for even more campers and staff. The camp has 512 acres available and they want to add four camps that can be going on simultaneously. Phase 1 & 2 of the renovation cost \$28M. Texas Lions Camp was started in 1949 and cost \$2M. Summer volunteer opportunities are open. Those interested should register by October 15th and the volunteer slots are assigned by lottery. Registration can be done at www.lionscamp.com.

Volunteers can also register for Spring workdays. The workdays are the first weekends in March, April and May. PDG Rick also suggested clubs take their Leo Clubs to workday. Camper recruitment opens January 2, 2020.

IPDG Karl Johnson

There were 222 tickets sold for the Bob Dowden dinner. IPDG Karl is still waiting for a final count of the amounts raised but will be over \$30k raised this year. Rick & Karl would like to make club presentations

before Jan 1st. PDG Chuck asked who was going to work on camper transportation. DG Tony said they are looking for a volunteer to take it over from Lion Melissa.

Lighthouse –

The Lighthouse has sold their operations building and they are building new residences and new recreation area. They are having a Halloween party on Thursday 10/31 and they are looking for volunteers. The party is usually held from 9:00am until noon. PDG Mark Roth asked if anyone went to the employee party. Lion Elaine attended the employee party. Last year the largest donation came from District 2S2. This year the award went to a company that had donated \$11k to Lighthouse.

Lions Eye Bank of TX –

PDG Ron Landers says the annual Bowl-a-Thon will be held sometime in February 2020.

Texas Lions Foundation –

PDG Ron Landers

The Texas Lions Foundation awarded 13 \$2,000 emergency grants to help victims of the September 19, 2019 flooding. 11 of those grants went to District 2S1. The Cut and Shoot Family Lions Club and Humble Noon Lions Club also received funds. PDG Ron reminded all clubs to please pay their 100% contribution to the Texas Lions Foundation.

HRT – no report

Lions Museum – no report

PDG Honorary Committee – no report

LCIF –

PCC 100 Pat Brennan

In the early 1990s, District 2S2 has always been a premier donator from state of Texas. We are usually first or second in donations. Since beginning of this campaign, our district has contributed just under \$50,000. We are only second to District 2S4 who has donated \$100,000.

We are currently in year 3 of the 4-year campaign. 60% of the clubs in 2S2 have committed to the campaign. We are on track to make the \$300M goal. The funds are not currently targeted for a specific event or incident.

Marketing & Communications –

DG Tony reported Aaron is busy with the newsletter this weekend and thanked everyone for submitting information for the newsletter. We are currently up to 38% viewing on emails and we are getting more hits on the 2S2 Facebook page as well. We are posting new material on Facebook 3-4 times a week.

Conferences –

The Hilton Hotel has been reserved for the Mid-Winter Conference in January 2020.

The State convention will be held in Longview TX on May 14-16, 2020.

PDG Chuck attended the USA/Canada Forum in Spokane, WA. The sessions were well done except one where the speaker didn't show up. There was a service event held on Saturday where they packaged supplies, toiletries for local women's shelter. Over 2000 bags were made. Items were contributed by local area Lions. The graduation ceremony was great and a few District 2S2 Lions received degrees. Lion Lucy really enjoyed the classes. The decrease in membership session was very disheartening for her. The session gave her inspiration to go out and make a difference in membership. The next forum will be held in Louisville, KY.

IT –

The new District 2S2 website is in and Randy did a great job. Randy has been very busy and has been traveling a lot lately.

Constitutional Bylaws – hope to have report for approval at the next meeting

Opportunities for Youth –

Lion Sara Coots

Sara's report is attached to these minutes. PDG Rick Reynolds asked about the deadline for the essay and speech contest. Lion Sara told PDG Rick she had to have winners in at the club level by November 24th. PDG Rick pointed out that having that deadline is pushing the kids and asked if the deadline could be pushed back. Otherwise they will have fewer participants. Some of the contestants lost time due to the flooding from Imelda.

Peace Poster –

Lion Barbara Leboff

Lion Barbara's report is attached to these minutes. The judging for the peace poster contest will be held at next P&S meeting on November 6th. Barbara needs the district's tax ID number so she can buy the prizes. She will ask the participants to come to the meeting so they can get their prizes there. All posters must be in by 5:00pm on November 6th. Lion Barbara also needs people to help judge.

ALERT –

DG Tony is currently looking for someone to chair this committee

Hearing & Speech Work for the Deaf –

There is currently no chair for this committee

Leader dogs – no report

Diabetes awareness – no report

DG Tony reminded everyone that November 14th is Diabetes awareness day.

Vision –

Lion Paul Moore

Lion Paul's report is attached to these minutes. Lion Paul is trying to work on series of goals. Education classes are going well. Lion Paul has held 3 certification classes. We have added 17 more certified screeners. Clubs in our district have also had 4 vision screenings so far, Magnolia twice, Royal Oaks and Conroe Noon. Lion Paul explained the eyeglass recycle and program to a group of Leos. He is also planning to upgrade district Plus Optix machine.

Pres & Sec Council –

Lion Lucy Gonzales

The next PSC meeting is November 6th. Lion Lucy reminded everyone that attire for the meeting is jeans and team jerseys or shirts. She also reminded everyone to bring canned goods to support Houston Food Pantry. Everyone is invited to bring new members to be inducted by Gov Tony. Lion Lucy will also offer a prize to the club that has the most members in attendance that night. She is always open to suggestions. Angel Tree will be there if people want to sponsor a child for Christmas.

Hall of Fame Committee – no report

Historian – no report

Tail Twister/Lion Tamer –

IPDG Karl made a motion to fine tail twisters \$5 each for not being present at the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

There were no resolutions.

There has been no announcement for the 2nd VDG yet for next year.

There is no old business.

There is no new business.

Cy Fair Lion Bud Casey update.

Lion Bud's wife passed away 2 weeks ago. The Cy-Fair club has their building because of Bud's late wife Dorothy. She passed away from cancer and didn't know she had it. Lion Bud is trying to continue with his real estate business. His health is failing, children trying to find him a place to live. Their children are not available to come live with him. Bud is working on selling his house and moving into assisted living.

DG Tony showed the group two videos. The first one was on Texas Lions Camp and the impact it can have on a camper's life. The second video was discussed Lionism in the Digital Age.

DG Tony adjourned the meeting at 11:45am.