



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 2-S2

1ST Cabinet Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2023

Houston Cy-Fair Lions Den



IN ATTENDANCE:

DG Lion Neil Lander

Lion Jo George

Lion Minette Chiu

Lion Kevin Smith

Lion Valerie James

Lion Shelia Thomas

Lion Robert Jerome Teichmiller

PDG Lisa Free-Martin

PDG Mark Roth

Lion Leslie Taylor

Lion Nancy Chesbro

Lion John Peterson

FVDG Lion Bill Simpson

IPDG Lion Paul Moore

Lion Rafael Perez

Lion Bill Hogan

Lion Carol Barnett

Lion Erin Applegate

Lion Paul Yackley

Lion Patti Dugan

PDG Chuck Martin

Lion John Taylor

Lion John Binnig

Bob Applegate

SVDG Mike George

Lion Karen Moore

Lion Heather McConnell

Lion Suzie Vestal

Lion Kari McMurray

Lion Mazher Poonwala

Lion Jennifer Applegate

Lion Phyllis Thomas

PDG Chris Moorman

PDG Tony Austin

Lion Brian Kelley

I Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 9:37 am.

The invocation was led by District Chaplain Lion Bill Hogan.

The Pledge to the Flags was led by SVDG Lion Mike George.

II Quorum There was a quorum.

III DG Neil asked the following cabinet officers who are present to stand for the Constitutional Cabinet Oath:

FVDG Lion Bill Simpson

Lion Minette Chiu

Lion Bill Hogan

Lion Carol Barnett

Lion Erin Applegate

Lion Robert Jerome Teichmiller

SVDG Lion Mike George

IPDG Lion Paul Moore

Lion Suzie Vestal

Lion Kari McMurray

Lion Mazher Poonwala

Lion Jennifer Applegate

Lion Rafael Perez

Lion Kevin Smith

Lion Valerie James

Lion Shelia Thomas

Lion Paul Yackley

III DISTRICT GOVERNOR (DG) COMMENTS:

DG Neil welcomed all the cabinet officers and expressed his appreciation for attending the meeting. There are clubs in Texas who do not realize the benefits of having women in their clubs. He explained the meaning behind his governor's pin. He gave a brief overview on the LCI International Convention held in Boston, MA. Our International President, Dr. Patti Hill, was installed. Texas came in 1st in Division 2 of the parade. DG Neil introduced LCI President's theme and her priorities: environment, social media, service, and LCIF, in that order. DG Neill will send a copy of Dr. Patti Hill's theme in PDF format to everyone. DG Neil also stated that he still does not have an environmental chairperson and he would like to have an environmental project.

DG Neil briefly discussed the issue regarding Katy Lions Club. He said that our main priority is to rebuild the club. Lion Tank will be the zone chairperson for the Katy Lions Club. He stated that the Legal Department is handling this matter.

DG Neil stated that our district is down to 1422 members. There were members who were dropped in July due to nonpayment of dues. The district gained five (5) new members. He presented his goals for the district. He stated that our district needs to enhance our club-district cabinet relations. In the years since being a Lion, he had been to clubs with no knowledge about the district and has never seen a district governor but that has changed in our district. He plans to visit more clubs during his term. He appreciated everyone's leadership and for joining the cabinet. One of his goals is to improve service reporting. We need to encourage the clubs to report on their services and the path to go is through the zone chairpersons.

DG Neil distributed the official pins to the district officers.

IV FINANCIAL REPORT

Lion Heather reported on the following items:

1. Financial Report. The financial report is posted on the website. There is still \$7200 in unpaid dues that she is working on and has asked for the assistance of the zone chairpersons. DG Neil, Lion Ralph, FVDG Bill, SVDG Mike, and herself had been working on the budget, which is also posted on the website. PDG Chuck made a motion to approve the financial statement report for the LY 2022-2023 as posted on the district website. Lion Kevin seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor. **The Motion was carried unanimously.** PDG Chuck moved to approve the budget for LY 2023-2024 as posted on the district website. PDG Lisa seconded. There was no discussion. All were in favor. **The Motion was carried unanimously.** PDG Chuck moved for the acceptance of the Banking Resolution for all the various bank accounts for the LY 2023-2024 as posted on the district website. FVDG Bill seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor. **The Motion was carried unanimously.**
2. District Directory. There was some controversy about this in the past on whether we need it or not. The amount is \$2000. A discussion followed. DG Neil asked all those in favor of digital directory to raise their hands. All were in favor.
3. Surety Bond. As stated in our constitution Section 3 Par 1, it requires that we need to have a \$50,000 Surety Bond, which is usually around \$250. We have not done this in the last few years. Lion Heather asked if the cabinet needs to vote to waive this requirement. PDG Chris stated that the cabinet cannot vote at a cabinet meeting to void the constitutional requirement. DG Neil explained further what Surety Bond is. There was some discussion. DG Neil stated that this is a constitutional requirement. This will be tabled later.

V. DISTRICT GOALS REVIEW

DG Neil distributed copies of the district goals and discussed them. One of his goals is to have 2 new LEO Clubs. We have a very good LEO chair and LEO club advisor from Huffman, Lion Christine Jordan. Our LCI President, Patti Hill, also gives emphasis on the LEO Clubs.

Part of the budget (as posted on the website) shows that we will try to obtain an LCI grant for membership which will include membership events. For service projects, DG Neil would like to have an environmental project. On service reporting, 60% of the clubs are reporting their service events. On leadership training,

there will be four (4) officer training events. He hopes to visit 30 clubs and he would like to participate in 15 club service events. He stated that a SWOT analysis was done in March for the current and future cabinet officers. There were about 18 different things of opportunities that resulted from that, but the main thing is communication. We tried to publish the website last year, but it did not materialize. PDG Tony is now handling the district website with a lot of information and district calendar posted. We are going to have a digital directory, which we just voted on. DG Neil asked all the officers to understand their roles and they will be provided with the training that they need, especially those who are new to the cabinet.

2-S 2 District Governor Goals		Goal
Goal 1 - Extension - New Lions Clubs		
Regular Lions Clubs		2
Specialty Lions Clubs		0
Campus Lions Clubs		0
Leos Clubs		2
Goal 2 - Membership Goal		
New Members		250
Re-Instated or Transferred		30
Charter Lions		40
Total Added Members		320
Drops		270
Net Members		50
Membership Growth Events		2
Goal 3 - Service Projects		
District Service Projects		3
Club Service Projects		750
People Served		50,000
Volunteer Hours		30,000
Clubs Reporting First Service Project		32 (60%)
Goal 4 - Leadership Trainings		
Officer Training Events		4
Club Pres, Sec, and Treas. Trained		120
MidWinter Lions Leadership Institute		1
Lions Attend a Lions Leadership		20
Other Goals		
# of Club Visited		30
Participate in Club Service Activities		15
LCIF Participation		\$ 50,000
Confirm and Distribute Communication Plan		By 1st Cab. Mtg
Publish District Calendar		By 1st Cab. Mtg
District Directory (new platform)		By August 1st
Launch New District Website		By 1st Cab. Mtg
Cabinet Members Understand Roles		By 1st Cab. Mtg
Membership June 30, 2023		1,423
		(June 1st, 2023)

VI NEW DISTRICT WEBSITE

PDG Tony announced that the website has been launched. Our district website is lions2s2.org. There is a section that is password protected because it contains confidential information of district officers, which he also shared with the cabinet. If there are broken links, contact webmaster@lions2s2.org. DG Neil complimented PDG Tony for an excellent job on the website. He also complimented Lion Leslie for doing a great job on posting club events on Facebook.

Lion Valerie asked about the procedure on how to merge clubs. She wants to know the pros and cons. DG Neil is trying to get the Founders Lions Club reestablished.

IPDG Paul also asked if the district has another platform for communication such as WhatsApp, Telegram, text messaging, or any other app we can use. DG Neil stated that they have a Leo member who has communication skills for the younger generation, and he hopes to get some information from her soon.

VII GAT-D FORWARD THOUGHTS – PLANS

- a. GLT-D – PDG Lisa submitted her report (attached). It will be posted on the website.
- b. GET-D – PDG Mark submitted his report (attached). It is also posted on the website. His focus is on extension. His goal is to charter two (2) new Lions Clubs with 40 charter members by April 2024.
- c. GST-D – Lion Patti shared her thoughts on service activities and on ensuring that those services are reported. She wants the clubs to know that the district supports them. What she has envisioned is for clubs to collaborate with other clubs on big events, i.e., if a club is planning a big event, which they cannot handle by themselves, let her know so that she can ask other local clubs to get involved and probably present it as a district project. She plans to do a service project on a larger scale. She is open to suggestions and plans to visit many clubs. She also said that Lion Marla agreed to assist her since she has done this before.
- d. GMT-D – Lion Emee was traveling out of the country. No report submitted.
- e. GMT-D Coordinator (Club Enhancement) – DG Neil introduced and welcomed Lion Phyllis Thomas from Houston Sports Lions Club. She has a passion for working towards the growth of the club and clubs who are in trouble and need help. She will be working with Lion Emee.

DG Neil commented that almost 30% of our clubs have less than 15 members and probably around 20% with less than 10. His thoughts are not to go after those clubs because we do not have resources to do that. What he wants to achieve is to find out more details about those clubs and prioritize the top five (5).

- f. GMA-C – FVDG Bill is the Global Membership Approach Champion. He stated that he will take the turnover from PDG Mark. He will interact with all the Global Action Team to ensure that the goals of the district are accomplished. He stated that communication plays a big part in achieving these goals. He will reach out to the zone chairs and help them with their clubs. Lion Kevin asked if there will be a membership orientation as a zone. DG Neil stated that Lion Emee has a proposal that she has not brought forward yet.

----- BREAK -----
Meeting resumed at 11:07 am

VIII ZONE CHAIRS – THE MASTERS - FORWARD PLANNING THOUGHTS

ZONE M-1 Lion Kevin submitted his report (attached). It is also posted on the website. He stated that we need to be consistent in our approach so that the people know what to expect. He said that he had a meeting with Tomball. The best tool that he has is the Club Health Assessment that he receives every month. He plans to make a community assessment, make more scheduled calls, and more zone activities. Three clubs in his zone are qualified for the Club Excellence Award.

DG Neil asked Lion Kevin to share his experience as zone chair. The guiding lions need to understand that there are LCI guidelines to follow.

- ZONE A-1 Lion Bill stated that we must keep up with the clubs gaining and losing members. Conroe Noon LC – he does not worry about this club but there are two (2) clubs in his zone that are below the level where they are supposed to be. He will talk to FVDG Bill and visit those clubs and to see how to help them. Magnolia Tri-Country – The guiding lion could not help them because of her health. He stated that he met with the presidents of three (3) clubs and went to the clubs to see what they are doing. As a zone chair, he will get involved and get to know the clubs. His goal is to charter a prospective Lions Club in the Woodforest area.
- ZONE S-1 Lion Suzie reported that the club in her zone needs a lot of help. She will reach out to all the clubs in her zone. She plans to send a letter via email to all the presidents of the clubs.
- ZONE T-1 Lion Dr. Anthony was out of town. No report submitted.
- ZONE E-1 Lion Valerie stated that she will reach out to the Houston Founders LC. They have not met for two (2) or three (3) years. She found out about it from one of the members who told her that when he joined their club, he was the youngest member at 62 years old. She said that she plans to bring in new members and implement Zooming with the zone chairs on a semi-monthly basis just to be connected. She also thought of club merging and asked for assistance and input regarding its pros and cons.
- ZONE R-1 Lion Tank was out of town. No report submitted. DG Neil stated that he re-zoned Cinco Ranch. Lion Tank will help reorganize the Katy Lions Club and oversee the clubs in his zone.
- ZONE S-2 Lion Carol reported that all her clubs are in existence. Three (3) clubs are very active. Waller LC has eight (8) family members. They provide food to the needy families in their area and provide scholarships to the needy students. She said that she always has contests and prizes for the active clubs. She will work with PDG Mark to charter new clubs in the area.
- IX CONSTITUTIONAL UPDATE PLANNING – PDG Chuck submitted his report (attached). It is also posted on the website. He will revise the current District Constitution to reflect the recent changes to the LCI District Constitution.
- X MID-WINTER CONFERENCE & DISTRICT CONVENTION – PDG Tony reported on behalf of PDG Rick,
The Mid-Winter Conference will be held on January 28, 2024, from 8:30 am to 3 pm. The venue is TBD. Registration is \$35. This year will be focused on the contest for Opportunities for Youth.
- The District Convention will be held on April 27-29, 2024, at Hilton Houston North. They have included Sunday where they plan to do a local tour. We will have a golf-themed convention, The Masters. The competition will start at the August P&SC Meeting and the final competition will be held on Friday night at the District Convention. PDG Tony explained further the process for this competition. They need committee members.
- See attached for more info.
- XI STATE CONVENTION 2028 PLANNING – FVDG Bill reported that our district will be the host for the state convention in 2028. The districts rotate every year. With the funds that we have right now

at \$14,914, we will need to procure more funding. He has been asked to make a motion to allow us to allocate some funds from our fund balances, if necessary, to make some commitments this year. After a brief discussion, a MOTION was made by SVDG Mike to approve the district to take the state convention fund negative between now thru 2028 as necessary to make commitments for the 2028 state convention with the condition that the funds will be returned dollar for dollar. Lion Bill Hogan seconded. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. **The motion was carried unanimously.**

XII OTHER REPORTS

LCIF Coordinator – IPDG Paul stated that the district's goal is \$50,000 this year and he will work on achieving that goal. Lion Valerie asked what the LCIF does. IPDG Paul briefly explained how LCIF works. Last year, LCIF provided worldwide over \$39M in grants i.e., \$4.5M to Ukrainian refugees, another big grant went to support the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. After Hurricane Harvey, LCIF provided over \$2M to the Texas Gulf Coast. This year, IPDG Paul will try to find out how to apply for a matching grant to purchase vision screening machines. There are some clubs who are ready to purchase the machines but will need the matching grants. He is asking the zone chairs to encourage the clubs to make 100% contributions. He also encourages individual contributions. Last year, there were only 14 Melvin Jones Fellowship awarded in our district. There are 17 clubs with enough money to LCIF to get a MJF award. His goal this year is to double the district's MJF awards. IPDG Paul presented a Progressive MJF to Lion Heather.

TX Lions Hall of Fame – PDG Chuck submitted his report (attached) and posted on the website. The deadline to nominate a candidate is November 30th.

TX Lions Foundation – PDG Chuck submitted his report (attached) and posted on the website. He will try to visit more clubs this year. In order for DG Neil to receive the Ed Flood Award, he is asking that the 100% contribution be increased to \$2.00 per member to make this happen.

XIII RESOLUTIONS

- PDG Chris Moorman presented the Resolution for his candidacy for 2027-2028 Council Chairperson.
- PDG Tony Austin presented the Resolution for Lion Mark Roth's candidacy for 2027-2028 Council Chairperson.

XIV ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the cabinet, DG Neil Lander adjourned the meeting at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Minette Chiu

Lion Minette S. Chiu
Cabinet Secretary

Date: 08/10/2023

NOTE: All electronically submitted reports are posted on the district's website.