



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL, MD-2, DISTRICT 2-S2

3rd Cabinet Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2025

Houston Cy-Fair Lions Den



IN ATTENDANCE:

(*) Quorum

DG Bill Simpson (*)	FVDG Mike George (*)	SVDG Kevin Smith (*)
IPDG Neil Lander (*)	Lion Minette Chiu (*)	Lion Paul McConnell (*)
Lion Heather McConnell	Lion Carol Barnett (*)	Lion Stedman Douglas (*)
Lion Bob Martin (*)	Lion Brian Kelley (*)	Lion Phyllis Thomas (*)
Lion Shelia Thomas (*)	Lion Karen Moore(*)	Lion Marla Reynolds (*)
Lion Steve Hand	Lion Paul Yackley(*)	Lion Robert Jerome Teichmiller (*)
Lion Jennifer Applegate (*)	Lion Patti Dugan (*)	PDG Lisa Free-Martin
PDG Chuck Martin	PDG Tony Austin	PDG Rick Reynolds
PDG Mark Roth	PDG Art Drouin	PDG Paul Moore
CC Chris Moorman	Lion Jo George	Leslie Taylor
Lion John Taylor	Lion Nancy Chesbro	

1. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by DG Bill Simpson at 9:00 am. PDG Chuck welcomed everyone to the Cy-Fair Lions Den.
2. INVOCATION - The invocation was led by FVDG Lion Mike George.
3. PLEDGES - The Pledge to the Flags was led by SVDG Kevin Smith.
4. QUORUM – Lion Minette A quorum was established.
5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY MEETING. PDG Chuck Martin made a motion to approve the Minutes of the 2nd Cabinet Meeting held on October 19, 2024. PDG Lisa Free-Martin seconded. There was no discussion. All were in favor. **The motion was passed.**
6. DISTRICT GOVERNOR (DG) COMMENTS AND DISTRICT GOALS REVIEW
DG Bill welcomed everyone and said that it is good to be back. He said that the tables are arranged in such a way that encourages a form of discussion.
 - A. Disaster Response – (ALERT Team: Lion Wes Carr, Lion Hollywood Martin, PDG Lisa Free-Martin, Lion Shelia Thomas, FVDG Mike George, SVDG Kevin Smith)
 - Plans for a command center – name and location to be determined, which will consist of, conference stations, phone charging stations, a place for sorting packages, TV screens for the children to watch, cooking station, cooling stations, First Aid station, basic supplies, etc. He stated that generators and other equipment were bought during Hurricane Beryl with the grant that the district received from LCIF. It is for people who need a place to stay during power outages or any disasters. There will also be a station for volunteers to help the families with their FEMA paperwork. PDG Lisa mentioned about having a mobile command center that will go from one neighborhood to the next where there is a need. This is an opportunity to impact

more people. DG Bill stated that they will develop a plan on how to sign up clubs and their responsibilities. A training program will also be developed. On the financial side, the district will apply for grants.

- PDG Chuck asked for a list of club contacts to call when disaster strikes so that Texas Lions Foundation can provide emergency grants. They can also contact him. PDG Lisa said the presidents of the club should be the first contact person. DG Bill stated that during Hurricane Beryl, he sent an email to the zone chairpersons to determine the needs of clubs in their zones. He suggested that the district governor should send an email to the club presidents. PDG Lisa stated that she will talk to the clubs to raise awareness about the ALERT program. A discussion followed concerning the first point of contact in case of emergency disaster situations.
 - DG Bill said that this will not be attained in one year. This is included in the five-year plan and we just started the groundwork. PDG Lisa stated that our district is very different from the other ALERT teams in the state. We all have different needs.
- B. Grants – DG Bill stated that he is finalizing the report on the grants that the district received from TLF and LCIF. On TLF grants, PDG Chuck said that there is a \$3,000 outstanding grant for the Houston Lady Lions on humanitarian. There were five (5) grant applications received for Hurricane Beryl. PDG Chuck stated that four (4) of those grants were approved, which were already closed. On HRF, there are two (2) outstanding grants that FVDG Mike needs to work on. On the district club grant funds, DG Bill stated that our district still has \$3,500 available and we need to match this. Conroe Noon has \$16,000 available with no matching required. Humble Noon has \$1000 available. Houston Fil-Am has \$1300. PDG Paul proposed to hold on to the \$3,500 for the district until next year. DG Bill announced that FVDG Mike wants to meet with the HRF committee after the meeting.
- C. University – DG Bill stated that he thinks the district university is a success. We need to plan for that as we move forward. PDG Paul proposed to expand the curriculum and offer to other lions, not just the officers. PDG Lisa recommended the university to be held earlier before July.
- D. Extension – DG Bill announced that a new club has been chartered. PDG Chuck stated that all the officers were reported to LCI on December 23, 2024, but they were missing the IRS EIN, which they received last Tuesday. DG Bill said that he checked online, and it was approved.
- E. Membership Drive – DG Bill said that this is moving forward. The district added 115 new members, dropped 82, with a total net membership of 33. Three (3) lions qualified for the membership drive.
- F. Dandelion Award - Lion Hollywood Martin and FVDG Mike George qualified for this award.
- G. Five-Year Plan – DG Bill discussed the district goals. We have six (6) months to work on it and finalize committees. PDG Lisa stated that six (6) people signed up for ELLI.
- H. Generational Focus Group – DG Bill stated that this has been launched. A plan to have a workshop has been discussed and will be revisited in the next six (6) months.
- I. Retention Analysis - DG Bill stated that this has also been launched. Phone calls were made to those who were dropped and who resigned in good standing.

- J. District Service Projects – The district's goal is to have three (3) service projects. We did five (5). The plan was to partner with other organizations. We have partnered with Sunshine Kids and Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Lion Patti Dugan talked about hopeful bags which is a hygiene-typed project (trial size bottles of shampoo, soaps, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc) for the homeless and for some local school districts with children whose families are in dire need. This was started as a 3-month project. It has been published on Facebook, and she will send an email to the clubs. At next month's PSC Meeting that we try to do Valentine's Day greetings to take to the seniors.
- K. Clubs Reporting Service Projects - Lion Patti welcomed everyone who needs help with the Lions portal.
- L. Zone Chairs Trained - DG Bill congratulated all the zone chairs and continued to encourage them.
- M. LCIF Participation – PDG Paul reported that there are 10 individuals from our district who made contributions to LCIF. His goal is \$100,000. He is going to start making visits to clubs who has not made any contributions. There was some discussion and suggestions on how to get members to make contributions. PDG Lisa appreciated everyone for finding ways to achieve this but as a district, we must be careful in asking for donations, especially for young members. We must keep in mind that we are looking for younger members and they do not have the same resources that we have. This might discourage them from joining as they might think making contributions is a requirement to become a Lion. DG Bill stated that we have not met our goals yet and we have six (6) months to work on that.

SVDG Kevin said that the number of people requesting our financial assistance. He strongly recommended that the individuals contribute to the cause that they support.

FVDG Mike mentioned CA-1 has 15,000 dropped members.

PDG Paul stated that LCIF is raising its maximum limits.

DG Bill stated that 8 out of 16 districts are negative in membership. Our district is still positive.

- 7. FINANCIAL REVIEW – Lion Paul McConnell reported that auditor Matthew Gerdin is still working on the 2023 audit. He had some medical issues after Thanksgiving that put him behind, but he's getting caught up and expects to have it done in two to three weeks. Lion Heather stated that she reached out to the IPDG to talk about the review for 2021-2022 but has not heard from him. The financial report was reviewed. All questions were answered by Lion Heather. PDG Tony suggested that we need to have a forecast. It doesn't matter where we are now, it would be a good idea to know where we would be in June.

DG Bill stated that we need to start focusing on the convention. Lion Bob sponsored a table for the convention. Lion Heather is keeping track of the registrants. A discussion followed regarding the convention and finding ways to make it a success.

8. GAT DISCUSSIONS:

- a. Global Extension Team (GET) – PDG Chuck Martin. – Report was submitted and posted on the website. He reported that we have one (1) new club (Houston Cypress Performing Lions Club) that was approved in January with 20 members sponsored by the Houston Royal Oaks Lions Club. FVDG Mike and himself are working very diligently in the Crosby area and there are 13 prospective Lions. They are meeting again in two weeks to sign up more members. The meeting with Houston Men in Action will be rescheduled. Launching of Texas Southern University was postponed until February 2025. They have 23 potential Lions. PDG Art Drouin has agreed to work on organizing the New Caney club. He is working to get a community leader to help in organizing this club. Dr. Lubega is currently in Africa. He will be back in February and he assured PDG Chuck that they will start the Houston Medical Center Lions Club with a couple of doctors. FVDG Mike is working with IPP Jimmy Ross to set up a schedule for his visit and work on forming two (2) clubs. DG Bill commended and thanked PDG Chuck for a great job.
- b. Global Service Team (GST)– Lion Patti Dugan reported that she has not checked the report on the Sunshine Kids service project. If it has not been entered into LCI, she needs all the information so she can enter the information on the LCI portal. FVDG Mike said that it will be done.
- c. Global Leadership Team (GLT)- PDG Lisa has already reported on the ELLI training earlier.
- d. Global Membership Team (GMT) – Lion Emee was not in attendance. No report. DG Bill did the drawing for the membership drive challenge. There were three (3) submissions received: PDG Chuck Martin, Lion Kimberly Collins, and Lion Emee Nisnisan. Membership drive contest winner for the 2nd quarter was Lion Kimberly Collins.

DG Bill stated that membership is the biggest goal of our district. Anyone who submits the card with three (3) or more new members will receive a Melvin Jones Fellowship award. He also stated that the district has \$39,000 for MJF.

9. CONSTITUTION & BY LAWS - PCC Chris Moorman stated that there is a proposed amendment for the District Constitution and By Laws. The recommended changes will be voted on at the district convention. The first recommended change was the removal of the director of Lighthouse of Houston due to their change in leadership. The second recommended change is student dues. They will be paying one-half (1/2) dues for the district and one-half (1/2) dues for the state. The Texas Lions Camp dues can come from fundraising. The third recommendation change is the format i.e. bullets and numbering. A discussion followed. PCC Chris stated that these changes will be effective in July. PCC Chris made a motion to accept the recommended changes. PDG Rick Reynolds seconded. There was no more discussion. All were in favor. **The motion passed unanimously.**

10. OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH (PDG Rick and Lion Marla Reynolds) - Lion Marla reported that their goal is to get more clubs to participate in this contest. This year, there were five (5) clubs who are interested: Cut & Shoot Family LC, Conroe Noon LC, Klein LC, Houston Royal Oaks LC, and Liberty LC. There are a couple of more who were interested but they were not able to meet the deadline. The contest will be held during the Mid-Winter Conference. There are seven (7) judges. Lion Marla asked if the district has a budget for the three (3) winners, their parents, and the judges for their lunch meals. DG Bill stated that it is included in the budget.

PDG Rick reported tail twisting collection total amount was \$200 to be allotted for the Opportunities for Youth Contest.

11. LEO CLUBS – Lion Nancy Chesbro submitted her report and posted on the website. They are still having trouble with reporting on the portal. She plans to do a mini training session on the portal. She stated that they are working with two (2) clubs to form Leo clubs. They are working with the Houston Founder's Lions Club and Houston Cypress Performing Lions Club. Both clubs will be specialty clubs. There is a Leo project to be held at the Mid-Winter Conference. The 3rd District Leo Forum will be held on February 17, 2025.

12. ZONE CHAIR UPDATES:

ZONE 1 - Lion Stedman Douglas submitted his report and posted on the website. He stated that he always views challenges as a form of opportunity. He visited two (2) clubs and also inducted two (2) new members of the Montgomery Lions Club. He also reminded them of our Governors Goal for the district. The membership growth in his zone has a net growth of 12.20%, bringing the total membership to 138. For the Houston Cy Fair Lions Club - he thanked Lion Becca for spearheading the Christmas basket project. They were able to distribute more than 100 baskets. Their clubs continue to pack and deliver kids meals for various schools. Montgomery Chili Cook-off was a great success. They introduced their club to the Jersey Village community by way of trunk or treat activity in October. Their clubs continue to perform vision screening and collect eyeglasses for recycling purposes. He is still trying to reach several clubs in the zone. He has not been successful with Cypress Centennial and Houston Spring Branch. These clubs need our help. He asked for suggestions on how to get them back in the safe zone. All suggestions are welcome.

ZONE 2 – Lion Bob Hollywood Martin submitted his report.

- Magnolia LC – They had a coat drive and donated 500 coats to school children who needs them. They also have two (2) vision screenings scheduled for Parkway Elementary and Smith Elementary schools. They created a scholarship for high school seniors who are not going to college but are going to a trade school. The scholarship is named Donald Free Memorial Scholarship. Their annual pancake supper will be held on March 29th.
- Panorama LC – has four (4) potential members
- Lake Conroe Centennial LC – purchasing a vision screener. They have three (3) new members.
- Conroe Noon LC – 35 Christmas baskets for the elderly, multiple vision screenings, provided glasses to mission trips, awarded scholarships to students for the youth essay contest, Lions under the Lone Star fundraiser for February 13th.
- The Woodlands LC – They had a very successful Wildflower Festival He visited the club on September 26th. Their next event is on March 22nd at the special Olympics to promote Texas Lions Camp and collect glasses. They also sponsored a child to the Texas Lions Camp.
- Cut & Shoot Family LC – Lion Bob congratulated PDG Rick and Lion Marla on the new grandbaby. Their Annual Hoedown will be held on March 8, 2025, at the North Montgomery County Community Center. They are hosting the next zone chair meeting on January 23rd.
- Lion Bob reported that he is still having challenges with Magnolia Tri Country LC and Willis LC. Lion Patti will try assist Lion Hollywood in contacting Willis LC.
- His zone is minus six (6) in membership.

ZONE 3 – Lion Gary Fritz – Not present. No report submitted

ZONE 4 – Lion Brian Kelly reported that his zone just lost Hardin Lions Club. Dayton Noon just purchased a vision screener and they will have training. Anahuac LC is still having their annual fish fry on SuperBowl Sunday. Nassau Bay is still not reporting. The following clubs are active and reporting:

Baytown Lions, Pasadena Lions, Liberty Lions, Dayton Noon Lions. FVDG Mike and himself are trying to work with Barber's Hill but they are having some conflict in their club and he is hoping that it will be resolved soon because they have good potential.

ZONE 5 - Lion Phyllis Thomas submitted her report and it is posted on the website. The first zone meeting on the topic regarding membership was held on December 7, 2024. The next meeting will be on February 1, 2025. The topic will be service. She has been trying to contact all the clubs. There are about 2-3 clubs with low membership. She plans to give awards to clubs who have made improvements.

ZONE 6 – Lion Thelma was absent. No report submitted.

ZONE 7 - Lion Kari McMurray was absent. No report submitted.

13. MID-WINTER CONFERENCE PLANS/CONVENTION COMMITTEE (Lion Shelia Thomas and Lion Mark Hofer) – DG Bill gave an update on the Mid-Winter Conference. The program will be like last year's. There will be three (3) motivational speakers from Rotary, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and Sunshine Kids. The Opportunities for Youth Contest will be held during lunch. There will be a Leo service project from 2-4 pm. Bob Dowden Dinner is at 5:30 pm. Lion Nancy suggested contacting the people who attended the Mid-Winter Conference and District Convention last year and encouraging them to sign up. Lion Shelia gave an update on the Bob Dowden Dinner. There will be games, drawing, silent/live auction. For those who cannot attend, contributions are welcome.

14. OTHER BUSINESS:

- DG Bill said that Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center is having problems and the district has discussed with them on how we can help.
- FVDG MIKE GEORGE shared his plans for next year. He stated that his plan is a continuation of the existing plan. He plans to anticipate what new clubs are going to be launched. He will schedule a SWOT analysis soon. District University will continue with the addition of an actual faculty meeting two (2) weeks prior to the sessions. Dandelion Award will continue. A zone chair meeting will be held prior to the start of the Lion year. Another year will be added to the Five-Year Plan. He will concentrate on the state convention planning with PCC Chris because we only have three (3) years left to prepare.
- Tomball Lions Club Car Show – Lion Robert Teichmiller announced that this event has been rescheduled to May 4th at the Tomball HS.
- Lion Patti recommended combining neighboring clubs for the governor's visit to save time.

15. RECOGNITIONS

DG Bill presented awards to Mission1.5 premier Lions clubs: Humble Noon, Katy Community, Liberty, Houston Indus.

16. DISTRICT HALL OF FAME – PDG Art Drouin announced that the requirement for application to the Hall of Fame has been changed. The applicant must be a member of the district for 12 years instead of five (5) years.

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further topics for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 am. The next cabinet meeting is scheduled on April 12, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lion Minette Chiu
District Secretary

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