

MINUTES  
MD 18 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS MEETING  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2021  
PERRY, GEORGIA

1. Lion Tammera Sears, PDG, Council Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed those present at the Meeting.

- A. Lion Steve Williams, PDG, 18-I, gave the Invocation since DG Ken Fuller had not yet arrived.
- B. Lion Pamela Williams, DG 18-L, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Lion Pamela Williams, Council Secretary and DG 18-L, called the Roll, showing the following Lions present:

District Governors	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice District Governors	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governors
18-L Pamela Williams	18-L Al Hernandez	18-L Dennis Chapman
18-I Dr. Thomson Varghese	18-I Steve Helwig	18-I Chris Sullivan
18-O Ken Fuller	18-O Tommy Powell	18-O Shannon Kingston (Absent)
18-N Kenneth Gordon	18-N Shellie Smith (Absent)	18-N Jim Mock

CC Sears welcomed members of the International Family present today, Past International President Jim Ervin and Past International Director Kembra Smith.

3. Purpose of Meeting:

CC Sears stated that the purpose of the meeting was to adopt the Proposed Agenda with flexibility, approve Minutes of the June 4, 2021 Council of Governors Minutes, June 6, 2021 Council Organizational Meeting, and Minutes of the July 27, 2021 DG Meeting. Council will complete all old or pending business and consider any new Business properly brought before the Council.

- A. DG Gordon, 18-N, made a motion to approve the agenda with exclusion of item 14. DG Williams, 18-L, Seconded the motion and motion carried. DG Williams, 18-L, made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the June 4<sup>th</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, and July 7<sup>th</sup> Council Meetings. DG Fuller, 18-O, seconded the motion and motion carried.

4. Ratification of Business handled electronically or Virtually between meetings:

- A. DG Williams, 18-L, stated that Council approved the speaker for the State Convention, Dr. Jung-Yul Choi.

B. Virtual Meetings:

- i. Public Relations Grant submittal was approved by the Council.
- ii. The MD-GLT submittal of the MD training grant was approved.
- iii. Council approved having the State Awards Committee seek volunteer sponsorships from various Lions Clubs for the Awards.

Secretary Williams made a motion to accept ratification of the actions taken above. DG Gordon, 18-N, seconded the motion and motion carried.

5. DG Williams, Council Secretary, reviewed a list of accomplishments from the State Office since the last meeting.

Lion Williams discussed the State Office Lease which is to be renewed at the first Council Meeting of each year. Rent is \$150.00 per month, with half that amount being used to rent a storage unit for items not being used currently, while

mobile home is being renovated. Council Chair Sears stated that a copy of the rental contract is available at this meeting. Motion by DG Ken Gordon, seconded by DG Williams, to approve the lease agreement. Motion carried. DG Williams made a motion to approve the Office Secretary's Report; motion seconded by DG Ken Gordon, and motion carried.

6. Council Treasurer, DG Ken Gordon, presented two Treasurer's Reports, one for the period ending June 30 and one for the period ending July 31. Totals shown below:

Checkbook balance 5-31-2021	105,017.39 + 8.87 interest not shown on May report
Total Deposits through 6-30-2021	+ 1,367.22
Less Checks issued through 6-30-2021	- 21,976.74
Balance on Hand in Checking 6-30-2021	84,407.87
Investment Accounts	47,902.38
Grand Total	\$132,310.25

Checkbook Balance 6-30-021	84,407.87
Total Deposits through 7-31-2021	+ 4,263.30
Less Checks issued through 7-31-2021	- 9,371.40
Balance on hand in Checking 7-31-2021	79,299.77
Investment Accounts	47,902.38
Grand Total	\$127,202.15

DG Gordon made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports as presented. DG Fuller seconded the motion and motion carried.

- A. A Proposed Budget for 2021-2022 was presented by DG Gordon. He made a motion that the deficit in the LT Fund be cleared using funds from the International Expense Fund since towels are gifts for the International Family and do promote Georgia at an International Convention. Motion to move \$1,778.49 from Account # 1 to Account # 6. DG Williams seconded the motion and motion carried. Motion made by DG Gordon to accept the Proposed Budget as submitted. DG Varghese, 18-I seconded the motion and motion carried.

7. State Convention Reports:

A. Chair Sears read an email from Garner Andrews, 2021 State Convention General Chair, who could not be present at this meeting. Lion Andrews stated in his note that given the Covid, the convention was successful. He stated that the Committee turned over \$4,597.43 to Council for future Convention Committee use.

B. Lion Len Cutuli, PDG, Convention General Chair for the 2022 Convention, stated that he has attended Districts L, I and N Cabinet Meetings so far to share information on the upcoming Convention in Dublin, and has had pretty good results. News will be distributed over Constant Contact. He commended Tom Jackson for his fund raising efforts, and suggested Council might want to work toward raising money.

PDG Cutuli suggested that at each table a survey be made available to the Lions for Leadership, Membership and Service to see where the Lions of Georgia are going. He pointed out that a table is set up outside the meeting room for anyone wanting to register for the convention. It is \$135.00 per person until the end of the month. The first Organizational Meeting for the Convention Committee will be Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Dates of the Convention May 12-15, 2022.

DG Fuller made a motion that Council allow PDG Cutuli to do the surveys at each of the meals at the Convention on Leadership, Membership and Service. DG Varghese seconded the motion and motion carried.

C. Motion made by DG Fuller, seconded by DG Gordon, that John Rudert be appointed to serve as Convention General Chair for the 2023 State Convention.

8. International Convention Report: Lion DG Ken Fuller, DG 18-O and Council International Convention Chair stated that he had no information for the Georgia Breakfast or the Georgia Jamboree. PIP Jim Ervin stated that if indeed the convention is held in Montreal, he felt sure Georgia would be the hosts for the Southeastern Breakfast.

9. Reports from GAT Chairs:

A. MD GLT Coordinator – PDG Mark Bradley: Lion Bradley called attention to a printed report in each file.

I would first like to thank the 2021-2022 Multiple District 18 Council of Governors for allowing me to serve as your Multiple District GLT Coordinator. I believe that we have much to accomplish as a team in growing leaders in our state. You have done an outstanding job of appointing Lions in your respective districts that have dedicated themselves to investing in others. I am meeting monthly with your district coordinators to discuss ideas, successes, challenges and plans. As a team, we have set the following goals for this Lions Year: ·

- Train at least one officer from 75 percent of our clubs ·
- 100 percent training of our Zone Chairs ·
- Provide at least one training session at each District Cabinet Meeting ·
- Report 100 percent of all training activities through LCI

While we celebrate with our District Governors the training that took place at all cabinet meetings held in July, some of these efforts were planned by someone other than the District GLT Coordinator. The following are numbers reported from the early training efforts at those Cabinet Meetings:

District L – 31 total attendees training with 4 instructors

District I – 34 total attendees training with 5 instructors

District O – 30 total attendees with 1 instructor

District N – 24 attendees with 3 instructors

As your MD GLT Coordinator, I would like to make the following observations and recommendations: ·

- We should communicate all goals, objectives, expectations and strategies with your entire District Governor team. Communication should be a strength, not a weakness. ·
- All training efforts should be coordinated through your appointed GLT Coordinators. Their responsibility in preparing for, implementing and reporting training events goes beyond what happens the day of the event. ·
- Encourage all Club Presidents to appoint a Club GLT Coordinator. ·
- There should be ongoing activity in our state with Member Orientations (new and experienced). This is an excellent opportunity to share some of the new programs from LCI, as well as helping our local leaders overcome challenges created by our current circumstances using resources provided by LCI. ·
- Communicate information early, and often, with the Lions in your districts about any training opportunities being offered. ·
- When making appointments to important responsibilities such as Zone and Region Chairs, we must stress the need for all leadership roles to receive updated training and orientation. Even our Past District

Governors who are serving in these roles could benefit from hearing about new initiatives as well as being informed as to the goals of their District Governor Teams.

PDG Bradley has applied for the MD GLT Training Grant; we do have the initial retreat set up for September 15-19<sup>th</sup> in Perry. He stated that he has been asked to provide training at the State Convention and asked the Council to reach out to him with ideas off what type of training should be offered to the Lions of Georgia.

PDG Bradley stated that he is planning for a Grace Clower Georgia Lions Leadership Institute like that held at the Camp in Waycross two or three years ago. He would like to bring this Institute back in January of 2022. They will try to keep the cost minimal but the curriculum purposeful.

I believe that through a measured approach to leadership development we can make great things happen in Georgia Lionism. Your MD18 GLT Team counts on your support and encouragement as we continue to grow more leaders through effective educational opportunities for our Lions.

PIP Jim Ervin stated that the Zone Chair Training done at LCI throughout the United States was extremely successful. Each meeting the Presidents and both Vice Presidents were present. He asked Lion Len Cutuli to share his views. Lion Cutuli stated that a result of inviting Presidents and Vice Presidents to the ZC Training is that some wanted to serve as Zone Chairs.

DG Fuller, 18-O, made a motion that the Leadership Institute be named the Grace Clower Georgia Lions Leadership Institute, and that the date be set for January, 2022. DG Gordon, 18-N, seconded the motion and motion carried.

B. MD GMT Coordinator – PDG Steve Williams: Lion Williams went over his printed report with the Council:

On July 1st, MD18 started with 4397 Lions Club members. As of 8:00 AM today, MD18 has 4358 members... a net decrease of 39.

**DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP STATS:**

DISTRICT #	MBRS 7/1	ADDS	DROPS	# MBRS YTD	NET INC/DEC
I	1079	23	18	1084	5
L	1148	16	20	1144	-4
N	1157	13	21	1149	-8
O	1013	10	42	981	-32

In terms of gender, MD18 is currently 65% male and 35% female. However, over the last 2 Lions fiscal years, more females have been joining Lions Clubs as you can see in the stats below...

**NEW MEMBER GENDER STATS:**

LIONS YEAR	GENDER	GENDER %
2019-2020	Female	51.4
	Male	48.6
2020-2021	Female	55.31
	Male	44.29
	Prefer not to answer	0.41
2021-2022	Female	42.86
	Male	57.14

## FAMILY UNIT STATS:

DISTRICT #	MBRS YTD	# FAMILY UNITS	# FAMILY UNIT MBRS	% OF MBRSHIP
I	1084	125	136	12.5
L	1144	93	99	8.7
N	1149	89	92	8
O	981	59	61	6.2

As you can see in the above table, District 18-I has the highest percentage of family unit members. Whenever a family unit joins your club (e.g., married couples), the secretary needs to report one (1) as "Head of Household" and the other(s) as a "Family Unit Member". To qualify as a "family unit", the individuals must live together in the same household and otherwise meet LCI membership requirements as per LCI club constitution and by-laws. For more info on family membership...

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/family-membership>

Based on conversations I have had with each DG, here is my understanding regarding club extension efforts...

- District 18-I is working on two (2) new clubs, one in Gwinnett County spearheaded by DG Dr. Thomson and the other being a DeKalb County Caribbean community club spearheaded by GST coordinator Lion Dr. Angela Williams.
- IPDG Marty Myers is working on at least 2-3 new club leads in District 18-O. Given the loss of the Edison Lions Club, we hope to see at least 2 new District 18-O clubs to offset the significant district-wide net loss in membership.
- District 18-L is working on a Latino community club in Griffin.
- District 18-N is working on at least one (1) new club (PDG Len, please advise.)

NOTE: LCI is waiving both the new club charter and new member initiation fees through December 31st .

Here in District 18-I, we are working to rebuild the Gainesville Lions Club. DG Dr. Thomson has appointed me as their Guiding Lion and Past District Governor Sheila Casteel is also assisting me in rebuilding efforts.

Our Area GAT Coordinator Past Council Chairperson Garner Andrews has sent spreadsheets listing prospects who have contacted LCI in search of a local Lions Club. All DGs and GMTs should have received this info by now and I strongly urge each of them to refer each lead to the membership chairpersons of nearby clubs, copying the presidents and secretaries as well. As a result of the leads from LCI, District 18-I has gained four (4) new Lions Club members in three (3) Lions Clubs. What is the key to that success? Three things... follow-up, follow-up, and follow-up.

DGs: When you and your respective VDGs make club visits, please encourage each and every Lion to "Talk Up Lions" within their community and to use #TalkUpLions in any Lions-related social media post. I also ask you to challenge each Lions Club to add five (5) or more members between now and June 30, 2022.

Last, but not least, I need regular status reports from each GMT coordinator.

### C. MD 18 GST Coordinator – PDG Vicki Hubbard

CC Sears stated that Lion Hubbard was unable to attend the meeting, but wanted to update her report to show that the 4 GMT District Coordinators met with the MD Coordinator in a Zoom call on Thursday night; the Districts shared what they were doing in each District for Service: clothes drives, vision screenings, homeless kits made out of eyeglass cases, recycling, pj packs, and many more projects planned for the year. (Printed report follows)

First and foremost, THANK YOU, Council of Governors for allowing me to serve as the MD-18 GST Coordinator. We have started off the Lions year fantastic!! I have a scheduled GST meeting on the calendar the third Thursday of each month,  
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via Zoom with the District GST Coordinators. These leaders are Lion Amy Andrews – District L, Lion Angela Williams – District I, PDG Brenda Arnold – District O and PDG Philip Smith – District N.

They have each shared their goals with me and I have included them in this report. I also shared with them some ideas of service projects for each Cabinet meeting (and ongoing) thru out the year, and have included them here as well. LCI's numbers are also reporting that we are off to a great year also. The overall activity count for MD-18 is 271. It breaks down to Vision – 39, Hunger – 45, Environmental – 23, Diabetes – 3, Childhood cancer – 1 and Other – 160 for the fiscal year so far, with 48,328 people being served. Our overall volunteer hours for MD-18 are 6137. Although these numbers are good for the beginning of the Lions year, the number that is not so good is that only 21% of the clubs are reporting.

I have stressed to the District GST coordinators that it is imperative that they get with their clubs to ask if they need assistance in with their club reporting. We must bring this number up as soon as possible. As we look forward to increasing our club reporting, we also look forward to service projects that we can all serve together on. I have spoken with PDG Len Cutuli and we will have some great ideas for service projects lined up for the State Convention in Dublin Georgia coming up in May. I understand that it is many months until May rolls around, but it is always advantageous to plan ahead.

I have encouraged the District GST Coordinators that communication is the best quality that they can have when it comes to their clubs and service projects. I have urged them to set up visits with their Club President's to go and show them service projects that their clubs can participate in, no matter if it is a club of 5 or if it is a club of 75. Also, during their visit, they can sit down with the President and/or the Secretary of the club and assist them with the reporting of service activities as well. It is always good for a "hands on" demonstration for a learning opportunity.

#### D. NAMI/GMA Report – PDG David Crawford

PDG Crawford stated that the North American Membership Initiative is now called the Global Membership Approach.

The core framework for the GMA is still the same; we are going to rejuvenate the Districts with new Clubs; we want to motivate new members through service projects. Last year Marty Myers did a great job starting three new clubs in his district. In 18-I we had the Korean American Club, the Norcross Latino Club, and Len Cutuli and his team did a great job of rebuilding the Pembroke Club, so it can be done. We have to take the team approach. Zone Chairs are key and that is what we have learned; it's all about communication. The Zone Chairs are the link from the DG out to the Clubs. He congratulated DG Pam Williams for having 100% training of her Zone Chairs.

#### 10. International Family Comments:

A. Past International President Jim Ervin stated it was good to be in attendance, and that he felt the Council is doing an outstanding job, particularly under the conditions with Covid.

He pointed out that Lions Clubs International has been a part of the Peach Bowl Classic for the last five or six years and of course annually the Peach Bowl gives \$50,000.00 to the Lighthouse. We have two major events, the Kick-Off Classic, which will be played on Saturday, Labor Day weekend; Alabama is playing Miami, and Monday night is OI Miss and Louisville. We have a climbing wall; we have Lions come in and we need some volunteers. This year what they call tailgating town is free to the public. If any of you want to volunteer on Saturday from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM and what we do is LCI provides you with a handband, eyeglasses the colors of the teams playing, and we pass that out along with some information about Lions. This year, for the first time, KIA has a big location there, and they will have a big screen to watch the game, so if any of you want to come down and volunteer, he'd like to know. On Monday from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM is the game so keep that in mind. On October 28<sup>th</sup>, we will have another End Zone Party, and this year we are celebrating with Georgia Tech National Championship Team, along with Coach Kirby, and other celebrities will be there, and they are asking that Lions sponsor tables. Maybe Clubs or Zones could sponsor tables. It costs \$2,000.00 to

sponsor a table and that money goes to the Lighthouse. He wanted Council to realize how valuable the Peach Bowl is to the Lions of Georgia and the Lighthouse. Individual Tickets are \$350.00, but if you sponsor a table it's \$200.00 a ticket.

PIP Ervin stated that once we know whether or not there will be a Southeastern Breakfast, we will make arrangements for a hotel, have them send a breakfast menu, and that will determine how much is charged for the tickets.

He stated that he and Kembra Smith are meeting with LCI Staff to begin putting together arrangements for the 2026 International Convention in Atlanta. He pointed out that a lot of Lions and Leos will be needed as volunteers. They will also be working on fund raisers for MD 18 as they go through the process.

B. Past International Director Kembra Smith stated that she would like to give her Constitution and By-Laws report first. She asked Governors to make sure their clubs understand that the International C&BL did change some. She asked Governors to make sure that their GLT District Coordinators prepare to do training on that as well as the MD 18 C&BL. She offered to help explain the new documents if necessary.

BREAK

11. Partner Organization Reports

- A. LCIF – Lion PDG John Rudert could not be present for the meeting. He did submit a report.
- B. Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation – (Report shown)

The Board of Directors of the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation (GLLF) held training and orientation on August 7, 2021. The time was spent reviewing the Board's responsibilities and orienting all members to the mission and operations of GLLF. Jennifer Thomas, an external nonprofit consultant, led the training, and staff from GLLF led the orientation.

While the fiscal year has just begun, GLLF has experienced healthy progress towards its annual goals in mission and fundraising. Below are updates regarding progress as of the end of July.

Mission Metrics

	FY22 Annual Goal	FY22 Actuals End of July	FY22 Goal End of July	Variance
Eye Exams	750	107	63	+44
Eye Glasses	3,500	345	292	+53
Framekit	900	68	75	-7
Surgical Procedures	350	31	29	+2
Hearing	1,120	100	93	+7

Driving Influences for Progress

- The Grady Optical Clinic (Glasses only for patients in need) opened in July and served over 236 patients. The number of patients served weekly is projected to average at 65 but could be higher.
- Eye exams were higher than the goal for the month led by clinics in rural counties as part of the Sightseeing Through GA Campaign. A few communities positively impacted through these clinics include Statesboro, Jeffersonville, Brunswick, Ocilla, Dawsonville, Montezuma, Louisville, Sandersville, and Crawfordville.
- The hearing program experienced a higher patient count led by outreach to assisted living communities. Pediatric numbers are still low, but collaborations with the G.A. Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the G.A. Dept. of Education are helping spread the word about GLLF's unique program.

Looking Forward

- Service numbers for the month of August may be below goal. Two influences are at play – the pandemic is causing close to 25% of our clinic partners to cancel already scheduled clinics, and we are in the process of

recruiting and hiring new staff. Staffing should be completed in September, and it is believed the numbers will be made up in the future. The effects of the pandemic remain to be seen.

### Fundraising Metrics

	FY22 Annual Goal	FY22 Actuals End of July	FY22 Goal End of July	Variance
Contributed Rev	\$595,000	\$23,855	\$33,000	(\$9,145)
Lions/Club/White Cane/Bingham	\$188,000	\$5,730	\$7,200	(\$1,470)
Events	\$200,000	\$34,000	\$10,000	+\$24,100
TOTAL	\$980,000	\$63,685	\$50,200	+\$13,485

### Driving Influences for Progress

- Grants and the Evening in the Endzone event drove revenue generation to ensure a positive gain at the end of July. GLLF received new funding via a donor-advised fund to support clinics in rural counties, and sponsorships for the event are tracking higher than projected.
- Vic McCarty, the Chief Development Officer, has left the organization to take on a role with another organization. He will maintain part-time status through the end of August to help in the transition. An active search is being conducted to find a high-quality candidate. The E.D. is acting as the CDO for the time being. No material loss in contributed revenue is expected.
- The Brick Campaign officially launched. The campaign will raise \$71,500 in revenue but will take time as the campaign is socialized broadly with Lions, individuals, and corporate groups.

### Looking Forward

- Evening in the Endzone is shaping up to potentially blow past a goal of raising \$100,000. While not final, the numbers in August are trending well beyond the year-to-date goal, and the host committee is highly engaged.
- Currently GLLF has four grant requests totaling \$75,000 or potential near-term revenue. The confidence is high that up to 2/3rds of the asks will be accepted. Timing on when GLLF will hear back in response is uncertain, but it is estimated notifications will be sent either in August or September.

### Lions Engagement

- A Bi-monthly e-newsletter, Sight & Sound, is now going out to all Lions in the GLLF contact database! This communication will provide regular updates on current initiatives, mission metrics, GLLF staff, Lions Club spotlight, a clinic calendar, and ways to give, volunteer, and collaborate.
- GLLF staff in July participated in over 10 Lions Club meetings. As Clubs begin meeting face to face again, the team is excited to present on all of the great work being done.
- Clubs are invited to participate in the Brick Campaign, buy a table or tickets for the Evening in the Endzone event, and volunteer in the Eyeglass Recycling Center. Should any Club have questions, they can reach out to Melissa Fisher at [mfisher@lionslighthouse.org](mailto:mfisher@lionslighthouse.org) or 770-738-4675.

PDG Mark Bradley stated that the Lighthouse Logo is back, and they need the help of every Georgia Lions Club in order to ensure that their program continues to meet the needs of Georgians. CC Sears stated that the Lighthouse is making great strides in engaging with the Lions of Georgia, and recommended that every club have a staff member of the Lighthouse visit with the club. She pointed out that if someone is interested in an eye screening, they just had two webinars, part 1 and 2, so that you don't have to go all the way to Atlanta to learn more. Part 2 is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 8 PM.



### C. Georgia Lions Camp – Lion PCC Paul May, Board Chair:

The Georgia Lions Camp completed a very successful camping season in spite of the covid19. We had 30 campers; our number of campers attending were down mainly because of the virus. We had to cancel the 6-12 year old session because we only had 3 registered. Parents were not ready to let their child get out yet. Krista MacCallum was our Program Director. All safety precautions were taken to ensure the health of the campers and there were no instances of the covid-19. Christmas Camp is scheduled for December 10-12. Lions Day was held on July 17. I thank all of the Council of Governors that were in attendance. The Campers took part in the pledge, invocation, skit and word game. I am very sorry the District Governors and their team did not get a chance to play beeper ball against the campers. I thank 18-N for hosting the luncheon; it all went very smoothly thanks to PDG Mark Anners. I was proud to see that 18-N had the largest number of Lions in attendance. We also had about 20 new Lions that had never been to a Lions Day. On June 29 the Board approved a major revision to the Camp's Constitution and then the Lions of MD18 also approved the revised constitution. These revisions were mostly better clarifications along with some significant changes. There is more work that needs to be done on the constitution and this work is underway by the Constitution and Policy Committee.

The new Board of Directors had a short meeting during Lions Day. Our insurance agent Lion Greg Hicks and our CPA Lion Mark Talley were introduced to the Board. I am proud to announce that all five of the Standing Committees positions are filled with representatives from all four districts. Several are new to positions on the Camp and will be bringing some fresh ideas to the Board. All committees are actively working already. I have asked the Board Members for their suggestions that they want to set as our objective to accomplish this year.

The only major issue with the Camp at this time is the finance situation. Our cash on hand is very low with only one month of liquidation. I know most Lions Clubs have not been able to raise as much money as usual. I solicit the Council's help in getting the word out to the Clubs in MD18 to do what they can to support the Camp. I have asked each of the Camp's District Directors to organize their team of Camp representatives to contact every Club in their district and talk to them about the Camp and to find out why any Club is not supporting the Camp financially. If you are asked by your District Director to help in this task, I hope you will assist them.

I look forward to working with the Council of Governors this year.

CC Tammera stated that the Council has voted not to allow access to the Board Chair for the Camp, but they will have their Directories available shortly.

### D. Learning Ally Report:

Learning Ally and Lions Clubs: Building Books for Student Success Together Every year, Learning Ally launches the Building Books for Student Success Campaign to raise awareness and donations so we can continue to provide students with education tools that help them succeed in school and beyond. We are thrilled to have reached our goal of raising over \$100,000! Thank you to each and every Lion who supported this annual fundraiser. Your donations go a long way in improving education outcomes for thousands of students! Awards and Recognition We are thrilled to recognize the Georgia Lions for their outstanding support again this year! Lions clubs that supported the 2021 Building Books for Student Success Campaign will soon receive certificates of appreciation in the mail. Latest News from Learning Ally: Growing our Partnerships Learning Ally's Virtual Volunteer Events with corporate partners and foundations have been described as eye opening, transformational, rewarding, and one of the best volunteer opportunities employees have

attended. Over the past year, Learning Ally has engaged a total of 688 employee volunteers from corporations with over 1,463 hours donated. Some of our partners include CSAA, Dollar General, Sage Foundation, ESPN, Rocket Community Fund, just to name a few. We are incredibly grateful to our partners and their dedication to transforming the lives of students across the US. Learn more about our virtual volunteer events with this article published by the Rocket Community Fund. Doubling the Rate of Reading Growth Learning Ally partnered with a Denver, CO school district to measure the impact of the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution on their students' reading level performance. The results were significant! Learn more here. Summer Reading 2021 Take it from the kids! Here is what students are reading this summer! Special thanks to our friends at the Zarlengo Foundation for putting together this great video! Remember, you can keep your kids reading all summer long and give them a chance to win great prizes here. Hear from Our CEO, Andrew Friedman At Learning Ally, we believe in Literacy for All and changing the education system for the 30 million students who struggle with reading. We are consistently driving toward improving our current solutions, developing new solutions and providing professional learning services to support early and struggling readers, educators, and parents. Read more here.

E. Southeast Guide Dogs – PDG Georgia Taylor could not be present but sent a printed report.

Our students and alumni walk out the door to freedom, heads high, shoulders back ready to take on the world. What a difference a dog makes.

People with vision loss are young and old students an professional, parents, grandparents, husbands, wife's, sons an daughters. Some have been blind all of their life, others loss vision unexpectedly, suddenly, and the loss quickly magnify loss of vision creates loss driving, loss of job, too freedom. Their world can be a very dark place.

Veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are active duty, retired, men, women, young and old, from all walks of life. The unseen scares of the military trauma create losses that quickly magnify reclusiveness and depression, anxiety, flashbacks, Their world too can be a very dark place.

Then they meet our dogs, extraordinary guide dogs and service dogs that transforms their world with stunning skills and boundless affection.

Our graduates walk out the door to freedom, heads high, shoulders back, confidence soaring, possibilities and independent travel become the new normal, a new best friend offers a steady source of unconditional love. A dog never has a bad day, offering warm hugs, boundless positivity and skills on command that make a remarkable difference.

You can change a life when you help to provide a highly trained, elite guide or service dog. For a person who can't wait to know the joy of independence, our dogs provide increase mobility unconditional love and freedom.

If you need someone to speak at your club please give me a call  
229-220-5949.

Thank you for your Donations

## 12. New Business:

A. CC Sears discussed the status of the state webmaster. The website has not been updated. PDG Rick Mizell would like to continue as the webmaster, but he has had some vision problems which have made it difficult for him. Lion Kevin Walsh, 18-1, has been helping with this and has just now started to get some information up on the website. Please keep Rick in your prayers. Rick will remain as the Webmaster.

B. PID Kembra Smith pointed out that there is a new program through LCI, a webinar on Advocacy. Once a year Lions International does a day at the U.S. Capitol. PID Smith would love to see the Georgia Lions do a day at the Georgia Capitol. It would be a wonderful thing to do around Melvin Jones' birthday, if possible. The general plan is to sit down

with the delegation from wherever you are from and talking with them about Lions. She stated that she has had the opportunity to sit down with some of the delegates, and no one had ever heard of the Lighthouse or the Camp. Over the next few months she will try to get all the information out to Council Members and she would like for them to consider officially endorsing something like that.

C. CC Sears stated that the Blind Lions of Georgia had requested to use the Georgia Lions Tax ID number. This is a group of Lions in Georgia that are sight impaired. DG Gordon made a motion that Council not allow them to use the tax ID number and instead apply for their own. DG Williams seconded the motion and motion carried.

D. CC Sears discussed the Policy Manual. There are two items which must be updated, and that is the fees structure which was left out of the C&BL when adopted, and the allocation of Funds for International Candidate. The Policy Manual Committee needs to be appointed. DG Gordon made a motion that Council Vice Chair Varghese is Chair of the Committee, and will work with the Constitution and By-Laws Committee to see that these changes are made. DG Varghese seconded the motion and motion carried.

E. DG Williams made a motion that PIP Jim Ervin speak with the employee to discuss her plans so that there will be a smooth transition. DG Varghese seconded the motion and motion carried. Council and International Family want to ensure employee that they want her to continue in her position as long as possible and they are there to support her in her decision to stay or go.

F. PIP Jim Ervin reminded Governors that the Ethics Committee is there should any problems of that nature should arise. He also reminded Council that oftentimes people post things on social media which can be misunderstood or offense taken. All Lions should bear this in mind.

G. PCC Paul May brought to Council's attention the fact that J.C. Coefield needs to be remembered in prayer as well as PCC Ron Zeppieri who has pneumonia.

H. CC Sears reminded those present that the next Council Meeting will be held on November 13<sup>th</sup>; work session will be on Friday night, November 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be a joint meeting with the Camp and the Lighthouse, and there will be a lunch and learn so that elections for the Camp and Lighthouse will be discussed and procedures discussed by both organizations.

13. DG Ken Gordon, 18-N, gave the Benediction.

14. Council Chairperson Sears adjourned the Meeting.

PAMELA WILLIAMS  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR, 18-L  
COUNCIL SECRETARY  
LIONS OF GEORGIA, INC.

PW/ls