

FIRST CABINET MEETING MINUTES

20 August 2016

Homosassa Lions Club

The general session of the first cabinet meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Lion Joan Higbea of the Homosassa Lions Club with 141 Lions from District 35-O present. An invocation was proffered by the district chaplain, Lion Ruth Levin of Crystal River Kings Bay Lions Club. The Pledge to the Flag followed, led by Lion Wayne Geary of the Homosassa Lions. Lion Dan Fox, also of Homosassa, led the Lions' Toast. Next those attending were led in "God Bless America" by Lion Sue Marchetti of Homosassa.

Lion Joan welcomed everyone to the Homosassa Lions Club and then introduced 2nd VDG Lion Helene Thompson. Lion Helene in turn introduced 1st VDG Lion Tito Navarro. District Governor Lion Steve Hilaire was then introduced by Lion Tito.

Governor Hilaire introduced the head table: Lion Harry Williams (cabinet secretary), Lion Gini Black (cabinet treasurer), 1st VDG Lion Tito Navarro, 2nd VDG Lion Helene Thompson, PID Lion Neil Spencer, and guest speaker Lion Susie Cohen (who was speaking on behalf of Lion's Quest, taking the place of Lion Dean Hess who was not able to make the meeting).

The Governor had a number of items to enumerate:

- 1) The International President's theme is "New Mountains to Climb." Lion Hilaire challenges Lions to accept new challenges, to climb mountains. When you reach the top you have a 360° view of your surroundings.
- 2) Every club must focus on membership. Through the last two months our district has lost a number of members through death, moving away, and non-payment of dues. If each club will add one new member, then we can end the year on a positive note. Also work with existing members who might be having an issue with their dues, especially since a number of our members are retired.
- 3) Next year is our Centennial Year. We are 25,000,000 strong. Make sure to work your projects: hearing, youth, environmental, vision.
- 4) The new PID is Robert Littlefield.
- 5) The Governor wants to grow by three clubs: new, branch, and campus. So far a new club has been started by PCC Lion Rocky Siracusa and Zone Chair Lion Wendy Wilson.
- 6) This year's convention is in Chicago. We should all try to make it – GET TO CHICAGO!

- 7) The Governor asks that secretaries check the MyLCI website to see if the information for club members is correct.
- 8) ASK ONE. When members are absent, contact them. Keep track of members.

Lion Tito Navarro made the motion that the minutes from the Organizational Meeting be approved as presented. Motion passed.

Lion Gini Black asked if there were any questions concerning the budget for the year. After several questions were asked, Lion Harry Williams moved to accept; motion passed.

In the absence of PDG Lion Dean Hess, Lion Susie Cohen spoke to the group about Lions Quest. The program was designed to promote good citizenship skills, core character values, and social-emotional skills and discourage the use of drugs, alcohol, and violence. The program includes a classroom curriculum, school wide practices to create a positive school climate, parent and family involvement, and community involvement. The curriculum may vary in scope and intensity, lasting from nine weeks to three years. The lessons use cooperative group learning exercises and classroom management techniques to improve classroom climate.

TAIL TWISTER FUN

Lion Dot Morley, district tail twister, asked for Lions who were resident Floridians. From those who raised their hands she chose 6. These volunteers received buckets in which they collected monies. Lions Tito and Governor Hilaire were fined for not introducing their partners in service.

Lion Greg Evan, district GLT, stated that the purpose of guiding lions was to bring ideas and mentoring to clubs in need. A number of zones have scheduled meetings; however, Lion Greg has not been able to reach the Zone 4 chairman. Lion Greg also mentioned the Leadership Institutes which are being offered: Advanced Lions Institute (for Lions who have served as club presidents and above), deadline August 29; and American Lion Institute in Chicago. There will be a Council of Governors meeting in Orlando in November. There will be officers training in July and at convention. "Part of our job is to help at the club level."

GMT PDG Lion Al Becker noted that the LCI webpage listed 1375 members in district 35-O. Twenty new members were added; however, 41 members have been dropped: 7 deaths, 6 dropped for on-payment of due, 7 moved away, 15 resigned, 6 others leaving the district with a total of 1354 members. Lion Al commented that the "other"

designation is inappropriate. Lion Al also mentioned the new club in Daytona with 21 members so far. Possible name for the club will be Daytona Halifax Lions Club. Lions have been working on this club since April. On September 26 Lion Al will be going to the New Smyrna Beach Club to talk about membership.

IPDG Lion David Skillin next spoke about the MD Lions Magazine which has been posted online and is helping to share projects across the state. When posting an article please make sure all information is correct. Send articles in a capable format to David Skillin. Any pictures should be in a JPEG format. The deadline for articles is mid-month; however, they can be accepted as late as the end of the month with no guarantees.

2nd VDG Lion Helene Thompson discussed the possibility of a float in Chicago representing Florida Lions. If interested in helping or have ideas that you wish to discuss, there will be a meeting at the MD office in Orlando next Saturday at 9:00.

1st VGD Lion Tito Navarro mentioned his article in the Governor's Newsletter concerning "Feed the Hungry" and urged clubs to continue to serve their communities. October 1-16 focus will be sight projects.

Lion Rita Fawcett of Lake Alfred Lions Club spoke as the nominations chair. Lion Helene Thompson has filed her requested and has been accepted.

Lion Fred Holden urged everyone to attend the fall conference on International Drive in Orlando. He also reported that the directories are in. Extras can be purchased for \$5.00 each.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Lion Rita Fawcett newsletter editor asked that items of information be sent. She spoke about Lake Alfred Lions going to Camp Wynona and the project used to gather items for the camp. Finally, she informed everyone that Zone 5 meeting will be at Lake Alfred Lions Club on September 15.

Lion Sue Sirois reported that she had received a letter from Mary Summers, instructor at Tarviss and that some clubs need to make sure that they make payment for the services used.

Lion Lynn Hawkins roared "Sell Your Lions Clubs!"

It was reported that Lion Norma Callahan did not have surgery. It was also reported that the grant for the diabetes camp has been extended to January 2017. On September 2 from 12:00-4:00 there will be training session at Homosassa. Contact Lion Jackie McGriff.

The Inglis Yankeetown Lions Club challenged all clubs to provide the schools with dictionaries. It was discussed that there are some schools that do not have internet access and that dictionaries would be a positive donation. View dictionaryproject.gov. It was also pointed out that projects such as this keep new members active and that we should all find projects in which new members can participate.

The Homosassa Lions go into the school and do eye exams.

It was reported that Lion P. C. Wyler has had a stroke and is in the hospital.

Zone 8 has scheduled its first zone meeting for September 26 at New Smyrna Beach Lions Club.

TRAVELING TROPHY

The Homosassa Lions Club had 20 members present; however PID Lion Neil said that it would be unfair for the hosting club to receive the trophy since, technically, they did not "travel." Therefore, the traveling trophy went to the Kissimmee Lions Club with 12 members present. Lake Sumter Lions, with 11 members present, was the runner up.

Marking the 100 anniversary of Lionism, a coin is being minted and should be available on April 20.

PARADE OF CHECKS

A total of \$8100 was collected: Florida Lions Foundation \$1550, SEGD \$1225, Conklin Center \$1650, Lions Eye Institute \$100, Eye Bank \$100, Diabetes Camp \$700, Hearing \$700, Right to Sight \$500, NFL Foundation \$400, Florida Guide Dogs \$275, and LCIF \$900. The tail twister also collected \$151.

Closing remarks were made by District Governor Hilaire with benediction given by Lion Ruth Levins. Lion Joan Higbea adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Lunch followed provided by the Homosassa Lions.

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Harry Williams,
Cabinet Secretary,
District 35-O