

DISTRICT 11-B1 CABINET MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Sandstone Congregational Church, Jackson, Michigan

District 11-B1 Cabinet Members in Attendance: DG Annette Hemeryck, 1st VDG Louvenia Shack-Seals, 2nd VDG Bea Furman, IPDG Kelly Lubbe, CT Barry Allen, CS Nancy Hill, ZC Gregg Brindamour, ZC Debbie Chambers, ZC Michael Nowak, ZC Jim Phelan, ZC Teresa Gest, ZC Anita Hoyt

Non-Voting Cabinet Members in Attendance: GMT Cheryl Bradshaw, GLT Roger Bosse, PCC/GST Peggy Allen

Lions in Attendance: PDG Vicki Ruiz, Lion Jim Baum, Lion Dorothy Bosse, Lion Bert Furman, Lion Kaleen Green, Lion Diana Kern, Lion Cathy Koning, Lion Shawne Lige, Lion Stan Masters, Lion Dick Saxton, Lion Roger Yoder

CALL TO ORDER : The meeting was called to order by DG Annette Hemeryck at 1:00 pm.

- Words of Reflection: Chaplain Bert Furman
- Pledge of Allegiance: 1st VDG Louvenia Shack-Seals

Additions to the Agenda: There were no additions to the published agenda. ZC Jim Phelan moved that we accept the agenda as printed, and ZC Anita Hoyt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Introductions: DG Annette Hemeryck shared that PID Esther LaMothe could not be in attendance because she was not feeling well and wished her a speedy recovery. The District 11-B1 Cabinet and Past District Governors were introduced.

Old Business -

Owl Camera Update – Lion Diana Kern described the Owl camera and added that the price has gone down in the last year and a half. The tower comes with software that must be paired with one computer. Lion Diana can get us a nonprofit rate of approximately \$1000. IPDG Kelly Lubbe stated that since this expenditure was already approved, we should go ahead and ask Lion Diana to work with CT Barry Allen to purchase the Owl. The district computer can be used to pair with the Owl.

Peace Poster Update – Lion Shawne Lige reported that all the peace poster kits that were purchased by the District have been distributed. Lion Shawne will be sending out an email in the next few days with updates on deadlines and the process that will be followed from here. The District committee that has been designated to determine our District winner is DG Annette Hemeryck, Lion Shawne Lige, PDG Vicki Lautzenheiser, and PDG Craig Bishop. The winning entry from participating clubs should be sent to Lion Shawne Lige by November 15, 2023. Shortly after November 15, the committee will meet to determine a District winner. The winning District project is due to the Multiple District Chair by December 1, 2023. The State will select a winner by December 15, 2023. CT Barry Allen suggested that the prizes that will be given to the District winners be given in the form of cash since checks are sometimes difficult for people to cash and go uncashed. ZC Gregg Brindamour expressed a concern he saw about a class that had both 13 and 14 year olds resulting in some students who couldn't participate. Solutions were discussed.

Lions Portal Update – DG Annette Hemeryck gave an update on the new Lions Portal. She advised District Lions to make sure that their information in LCI is accurate. The new target date for rolling out the Portal is January 2024.

New Business -

Review of Fall Conference/Parade of Checks – CT Barry Allen stated that three fourths of our District clubs have donated to the Parade of Checks. He expects that some additional donations will be coming in. A few clubs typically do not participate. The state and service/district projects received good donations, and CT Barry was pleased that most clubs seemed to have reviewed their donations carefully by project. He noted that the Karl Sorrick award is now based on contributing at least \$250 overall and not by donating to each individual project. We have seen over \$41,000 donated with more expected to come in. CT Barry will make a more detailed report once all the donations have been received.

Treasurer's Report – CT Barry Allen sent out the Treasurer's report. We have over \$10,000 in our Administrative account with Comerica. CT Barry added \$10,000 to our Edward Jones' account with our investment making over \$300 in three months. Our Activity account is out of balance at this moment because some Parade of Checks have already been deposited. Our investment in Edward Jones from this account made approximately \$400. Once the Parade of Checks is completed, CT Barry will be looking at investing in other CD's staggering the maturity dates. Our net worth is \$95,198.97 which doesn't include the Parade of Checks.

Reminders about the IRS 990 have been sent out. The reminders stated that the due date was October 15. Some changes have been made, however, so the actual date is November 15. One club stated their CPA didn't know it was supposed to file this, so they are filing to get their status back. Another club missed filing for two years, but have got this year's in.

Seven clubs still owe District dues and a few more owe International dues.

CT Barry reminded us that the budget is a guide and can be readjusted. Since we now have a 1st and 2nd VDG who are attending the Council of Governors meetings, it has become apparent that more funding is needed beyond the \$250 each of them is allocated. The District Governor gets reimbursed for most of her expenses, but not the Vice District Governors. Per Executive Director Wendy Burns, the VDG gets reimbursed \$100 for her hotel room. ZC Anita Hoyt moved that we increase the 1st VDG's and 2nd VDG's allocation from \$250 to \$500 each. This was seconded by ZC Debbie Chambers. The motion carried.

CT Barry stated that the District can take checks, Paypal, and Venmo.

CT Barry has sent out reminders on club dues to the clubs and to the Zone Chairs. Zone Chairs are asked to follow up with their clubs.

2nd VDG Bea Furman moved to accept the records subject to audit. ZC Jim Phelan seconded. The motion carried.

USA/Canada Forum – DG Annette Hemeryck reported that the 2023 USA/Canada Forum was held on September 21-23, 2023. There were many good informative sessions. Of particular note was session on "Autopsy of a Lion's Club." Something similar to this may be presented at the Michigan Forum or the District Convention. The next USA/Canada Forum will be held in Louisville on September 5-7, 2024. Lions are encouraged to attend.

Higgins Lake Leadership Training – DG Annette Hemeryck stated that the Leadership Institute will be held November 3-6, 2023 at R. A. MacMullan Center in Roscommon, MI. The due date for registrations has passed. A Faculty Development Institute will be held at the same time.

New Board Policy – Voting/GT Team – This item was tabled until the January 2024 Cabinet meeting.

Cabinet Shirts – DG Annette Hemeryck has ordered the Cabinet shirts. These will be paid by the District. She will keep us apprised of when they will arrive.

GMT Report – GMT Cheryl Bradshaw reported the the Multiple District is planning a membership challenge. GMT Cheryl will send out more information on this in the newsletter. Three categories include the highest increase by percentage of membership, highest increase in membership, and most creative

project or event for recruiting new members. Prizes will be given out at the Multiple District Convention. DG Annette stated she has new member welcome packets if anyone needs one.

GMT Cheryl added that approximately half of our clubs do not have a club GMT reported in LCI. It is possible they have a GMT chairperson but haven't reported it. She asked the Zone Chairs to work on this with their clubs. She will also send out an email asking for this information.

GLT Report – GLT Roger Bosse reported that our Spring Leadership Training will be held on Thursday, April 25, 2024. We had done Zone Chair training the last two years, but there was no official training this year. For those who were new to being a Zone Chair, a recording of the previous training was sent out for them to review. Resources from LCI were also provided. A follow-up meeting was then held with the Zone Chairs and some previous Zone Chairs who offered advice. There was good participation. They discussed training they would like, navigation of the LCI website and indicated that they would like to stay in contact more often. They will be doing monthly Zoom meeting. The next meeting is November 6 with another one in early December. GLT Roger has also given the Zone Chairs links to helpful information on the LCI website.

GST Report – PCC/GST Peggy Allen is having a service project on Saturday, November 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Manchester Area Historical Society on 203 E. Main Street in Manchester. Lions will be able to make knotted blankets and bead necklaces for Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids and Camp Quality. Lunch will be provided. Those interested should RSVP by October 28 to PCC Peggy. Another service project will be planned for late winter or early spring. If enough blankets go to the children with cancer, the group will expand their giving to homeless shelters or hospitals. GST Peggy is available to speak to any clubs who would like her to visit. She reminded clubs to report their service regularly.

Zone Chair Reports

R1, Z1 – Open

R1, Z2 – ZC Gregg Brindamour reported that Clinton Lions have two new members!

R2, Z1 – ZC Debbie Chambers still plans to visit Clark Lake Lions and Grass Lake lions. She is up to date with Michigan Center and Michigan Center Lioness Lions.

R2, Z2 – ZC Michael Nowak visited four of his five clubs. Jackson Diabetes inducted three new members at their last meeting. He is enjoying seeing the different clubs and reports that they are all well organized and current with their dues. Parma/Spring Arbor will be turning in their charter; paperwork is needed for this to occur.

R2, Z3 – ZC Jim Phelan had nothing to add from his written report. He is working on a date with ZC Bea Furman to have a joint Zone meeting.

R2, Z4 – ZC Bea Furman shared that she and ZC Jim Phelan plan to do a Zone meeting focusing on Habitat for Humanity. She would also like to continue to focus on working with the blind and visually impaired. Despite the fact that we were charged by Helen Keller to be the Knights of the Blind, many of us have more to learn about how to do this. ZC Bea is having trouble communicating with Albion Lions. She is working with Clear Lake who is having some challenges regarding leadership.

R3, Z1 – ZC Teresa Gest has had one Zone meeting and a Zone project. All five clubs have participated. Each club is active and showing a good partnership among the clubs. Another Zone meeting is being planned to tie in with a Zone project of a day at a food bank. Their first Zone project was collecting, sorting, and boxing eyeglasses. Dr. Kowalski from Saginaw came to pick them up and was a guest speaker for Bedford Lions. An eyeglass mission is scheduled for February to South Africa. Teresa is willing to speak to clubs.

Additional information was shared regarding eye glasses. Blissfield will take scratched glasses and broken frames; they have a buyer for these. Jackson Host and Jackson County Professional Virtual Lions will take

eye glass cases for one of their projects. Sunglasses and readers can be donated with other eye glasses which go to Grand Rapids. Lions of Michigan Foundation will take used hearing aids.

R3, Z2 – ZC Anita Hoyt has worked with Homer who has now updated their officers in LCI, paid up their dues and added a new member who she inducted at her club visit. They don't meet in the summer.

Committee Reports

Quest Program – Lion Stan Masters, the MD and District 11-B1 Quest Chair is working hard to support this program. He shared that 11-B1 is the only District which has a Quest committee chair. He appreciated the good training that was provided for State chairpersons. He has given two reports to the Council of Governors. He is working to identify goals and acquire baseline data. He is asking each club to complete a survey that he has and received many surveys at the Fall Conference. He is finding support from most Districts and is planning to visit many of them to increase awareness. He estimates that he will spend approximately \$3000 in travel expenses, and there are no funds available at the State level. CT Barry Allen shared that we can only support expenses that pertain to our District. It was suggested that Lion Stan contact Executive Director Wendy Burns to get an expense form that he could prepare and present to the Council of Governors at the December meeting to see if they could help.

White Cane Scholarship – Lion Roger Bosse shared that White Cane Scholarship forms are available for any students in secondary school or who are graduating and are blind or visually impaired and going on in school. There are four scholarships at \$3000. Applications are available both in paper form and online as a fillable PDF. More information can be found in the Lions Pride. Applications are due December 30, 2023. Scholarships will be awarded at the Michigan Forum in February. Please let Lion Roger Bosse know if you are aware of someone who could be helped by this scholarship.

Sight Conservation – Lion Roger Bosse is also working on reimbursement to clubs for eye glasses from the Sight Conservation fund. Clubs will be able to apply for this reimbursement to use excess funds. More information will be coming on this.

Hall of Fame – PDG Vicki Ruiz recently attended the Lions of Michigan Foundation Fund Development Committee meeting. She reminded Lions that due dates for nominations for the Hall of Fame are very specific. They must be submitted by March 1, 2024. The Cabinet will need to vote at the Cabinet meeting in early December. Final recipients will then be determined in April. Nomination forms are available online. The Hall of Fame banquet is the first weekend of August.

Kidsight – IPDG Kelly Lubbe announced that the calendar for reserving the Kidsight trailer is already filling up and encouraged Lions to submit their request as early as possible. If there is a conflict on times, IPDG Kelly will do her best to accommodate. She has two cameras, and ZC Teresa Gest has another one. At the January meeting, she would like the Cabinet to determine if they would like to support doing Kidsight at the Jackson County Fair in 2024. The cost last year was \$300. We didn't get as much participation doing screenings as we have in the past. ZC Michael Nowak has volunteered to oversee the screening if we decide to do it. Kidsight training can be set up upon request. CT Barry Allen indicated the Foundation pays all expenses regarding the trailer. Funds are available in the budget for books, etc. that can be given away. Some fairs don't charge a fee for the Kidsight trailer.

Governor Overview/Goals Update/Closing

DG Annette Hemeryck reported that our goals are progressing well, although we are down 13 members thus far. She is interested in starting a club in Ypsilanti.

Money is coming in for the hunger project, so we should be looking at where best to allocate it. Lion Frank Ivy is available to speak on the hunger program. He has had requests to go to other districts and states.

Service is going well. Everyone should remember the importance of reporting their service so that we can reach our goal of 100% reporting service.

Adjournment - CT Barry Allen moved that we adjourn the meeting, and 2nd VDG Louvenia Shack-Seals seconded. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Next Cabinet Meeting – January 6, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. – Location TBA

Respectfully submitted,

CS Nancy Hill