



**MD5 Council Business Meeting Minutes
Minot, ND – Grand Hotel - March 25, 2023**

COG Attendance: CC Marianne Kramchynsky, Secretary Lion Lois Reierson, Treasurer PCC John Emmett, 5SKN DG Beryl Bauer, 5SKN DGE Bernie Kramchynsky, 5SKN 1st VDGE Ray Tatro, 5SKS DG Alvin Matechuck, 5SKS DGE Lane Johnson (Zoom), 5SE DG Robyn Tyler (Zoom), 5SE DGE LeeAnn Haisch (Zoom), 5SE 1st VDGE Dennis Bohmont (Zoom), 5SW DG Ron Bunnell, 5SW DGE James Treloar, 5SW 1st VDGE Frances Waits, 5NE DG Scott Hildre, 5NE DGE Rick Stark, 5NE 1st VDGE Kirk Tingum, 5NW DG Jeanette Bean, and 5NW DGE Lynn Grabow

COG Absent: 5SKS 1st VDGE Heather Vermeersch, 5NW 1st VDGE Lynn Helms

PID's Attendance: PID Pat Vannett, PID Robert Littlefield, PID Marvin Chambers, PID Bruce Schwartz

GAT Attendance: GLT Chair PDG Geraldine Ray, GMT Chair PCC Kevin Bean

GAT Absent: GST Chair Lion Tammie Richardson

Others in Attendance: PDG Grant Kalbaugh (Zoom AM), PCC Rick Pockett, Lion Crystal Dueker, Lion Terry McAleese, PDG Gail Haight, PDG Rob Hill, PDG Judy Beaudry (AM), and 5SKN 2nd VDGE Brian Starkell

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by CC Marianne Kramchynsky beginning with National Anthems.

Additional agenda items

1. Costume for Intl parade in Boston – will discuss with clothing agenda item
2. Addition at end after item H to vote for council chair – must be last agenda item
3. Item 3 on Treasurer's report – Patti Hill campaign

Motion by DG Beryl B. and seconded by DG Jeanette B. to adopt the agenda with the addition. Motion carried.

Protocol – All in attendance were introduced by CC Marianne Kramchynsky.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes from the November 19, 2022 meeting were emailed and posted on the MD5 Council of Governors One Drive by Lion Lois Reierson. Motion by DG Jeanette B. and seconded by DG Alvin M. to approve the November 19, 2022 meeting minutes as posted. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Financial Review

PCC John Emmett reported page 1 of the report is the budget status. All districts have paid their dues. All crests and name tags have been received and paid except for one 2nd VDGE. The MD5 calendars are pass through monies. The district currently doesn't have a surety bond due to difficulty finding an insurer. Spearfish didn't request any seed money for the convention but seed money was provided to Minot for the 2024 convention. DGs were asked to take their PP calendars.

The tax return has been completed, filed and rejected due to the incorrect EIN being used since 2008. The EIN belonged to 5SE and PCC John was told to file for new EIN. The tax return was filed with new EIN but the incorrect form was submitted. An extension was filed and the correct form has been submitted which should complete the filing. The DGs expenses come out of their LCI funds so they are not reimbursed by the MD. Credit cards were accepted for payment of meals for this meeting and it worked well. There was no additional charge for using a credit card but for future a \$1 charge will be added. The recommendation to the Finance Committee will be to keep the meal cost at \$20 and the district will pick up the balance. PCC John asked MD5 district treasurers to provide their EIN and proof that they filed their district tax return to him. A club that failed to send in their postcard was charged \$800 to have their tax status reinstated.

Motion by DG Ron B. and seconded by DG Scott H. to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding dues holiday in 2023 or subsidizing new member fees

The last dues holiday was for ½ year which was likely not passed down to the clubs/members. The MD has a large bank balance but training needs should be considered. Members should be informed what the surplus funds will be used for. In the past, programs and positions were cut because the MD couldn't afford to bring them to meetings. Referred to Long Range Planning Committee for consideration.

Financial contribution to president reception

A president reception will be held at the Intl Convention for Dr. Patti Hill from Saskatchewan. Canadian Lions raised \$63,000 for the reception. PID Robert suggested funds designed in the budget for campaign support for ID and higher office could be used for this reception. The fund currently has \$15,000 which is maximum balance in this fund. The MD sets aside \$3,000 yearly to support an Intl candidate and we have none at this time. The current policy states a district must have 1250 members to consider having an ID. The Intl board is reviewing this policy and the 1250 requirement may be removed. 5SKS is the only district with over 1250 members so the only district that could run an ID. Motion by DG Jeanette B. and seconded by DG Ron B. to donate \$3,000 to the Dr. Patti Hill President Reception. Motion carried.

REPORTS

2021-2022 DG Annual Reports

DG annual reports must be submitted to the Council Secretary by May 1st, 2023 for inclusion in the MD5 Convention booklet. The report contains news about the district and a color photo of the DG.

International Liaison Report

LCI Convention Updates – PID Pat Vannett reported club secretaries need to designate Lions attending the Intl Convention as a registered voter on LCI. The voting Lion will receive an ID number. All voting is done electronically. The parade will be held on Saturday the 8th and breakfast on the 9th. A breakfast flyer was distributed. PCC John will be the designated person at the table to take money for the breakfast. Lion Lois will upload the breakfast flyer on the One Drive.

Long Range planning

The PIDs recommend utilizing Provincial/State Reps on this committee so each district is represented, as well as PCC, CC, Secretary, Treasurer and a PID for continuity. DGs are not included because they should focus on the present and the committee focuses on the future. The committee makes recommendations to COG on topics to be voted on.

Pre planning day

PIDs recommend a preplanning day with the team to get organized before they take office, possibly in June, to include the CC, PCC, Secretary, Treasurer, and incoming DGs. It was recommended to get the date set.

Change of Meeting Venue

PIDs recommend looking at a new venue for COG meetings since MD5 is close to end of contract with the Grand. Suggestion was to have a committee to include the Council Secretary and consider what is needed for the long term over the next 2 – 3 years.

LCIF Report

PID Garnet submitted a report that was uploaded to the One Drive. The district did well and should be looking at MD5 Community Impact Grants because the funds are available. Suggestion to have each member contribute \$20 and the club make up the balance. \$1,113,983 was raised in the MD from 2017 – 2022 and \$97,836 raised so far in 2023. LCIF Coordinators should train zone chairs. PDG Rob Hill suggested DGs get LCIF information to clubs when they do their visits. Districts should apply for their portion of the grant. Recommend Lions designate their donation be used for the area of greatest need. PDG Dave Czywczyński is the ND and SD LCIF Coordinator.

Global Membership Approach

PID Pat Vannett spoke about Lions working together for common goal of getting new members. The Lions organization is the foundation and support with staff working together; the constitutional areas are working together to reach membership, leadership and service goals; the MD and district work together to collaborate on membership, leadership and service; and at the club level, Lions are empowered to fulfill skill and leadership. Utilize the GAT for the betterment of the association.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Youth Camp/Exchange

MD5 coordinator PDG Judy Beaudry explained banners and pins have been given to camp participants in the past and they are almost out of the supply. There is no budget for youth camp but it was suggested the reserve account could be utilized. The camp helps develop youth with world peace understanding as well as learning about Lions. Campers are needed so clubs need to promote in the schools. The camp will be held July 16th – 22nd in Medora ND. Lions are needed as chaperones but no host families are needed. No criminal background check for chaperones at this time but they will consider this for the future. Lions Ken and Donna Wetz are partners and handle the financial portion of the camp. They can have 50 campers but goal is 45. The cost is \$400 in US funds. In the past Saskatoon districts shared cost of a van to bring kids to camp.

Break for lunch at 12:00 PM and reconvened at 1:00 PM

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

Protocol and Convention

PDG Geraldine reported the MD5 Convention Facebook page has a draft program. The schedule for the convention was handed out and will be uploaded to the One Drive. Early registration has been extended to Apr 15th. Booth space is available in the lobby but must be reserved in advance. Friday will be an LCIF focus since LCIF Coordinator PIP Douglas Alexander will be in attendance and it is the 50th anniversary of the first disaster grant issued in Rapid City, SD. PID Jerry and Cheryl Anderson will travel with PIP Douglas to Rapid City for site seeing. Thursday is a media event at a park that was donated by a flood victim with both the 1973 and current mayors present. A MJ Fellowship will be presented to the 1973 mayor. Thursday evening will be a reception with dignitaries from MD5 at the convention hall in Spearfish. The meal is not included in convention registration. PIP Douglas Alexander and PID Garnet Davis will do a presentation on LCIF grants. There will be a MJ Fellowship supper Friday night and recipients of MJ Fellowships will be named even if not present. MJ Fellowship names should be sent to both PDG Rob Hill and PDG Dave Czywczyński by May 15th. PCC Rick Pockett is putting together deceased Lions names and DGs will read names as a flower is thrown in the creek in their memory. Credit cards are not being accepted for registration. There will be opportunities

for Lions to stop for breakfast Sunday as they leave town with a couple of clubs hosting pancake breakfast fundraisers. The Council of Governors meeting is scheduled for Thursday afternoon from 3:00 – 5:00.

IT

PCC Marianne received an email from PDG Grant Kalbaugh that he is resigning as IT chair at the end of this year so a replacement is needed for next year. He has equipment to turn over including microphone equipment. PCC Kevin Bean purchased a camera and recording device which was under \$300 for Friday training. Motion by DG Beryl B. and second by DG Scott H. to reimburse PCC Kevin for the camera and video equipment he purchased. Zoom was used to record the Friday VDG training. Discussion was held on possibly posting the training video on You Tube but caution was suggested to make it available to members only or seek permission from the attendees due to privacy issues before making it public.

Finance

The committee will be meeting when the IRS process is further along. They will be discussing meals and credit card. They will possibly meet in June to prepare budget.

Marketing

The committee discussed exploring if MD5 still wants to continue with the ROAR publication or other options for a newsletter. Questions have been posed to PDG Rob regarding if he intends to continue the ROAR in the upcoming year and what kind of submissions he is looking for. Consider if the publisher of the PRIDE would be an option to do a MD newsletter. The last ROAR publication was Jan. 8th and it is unclear who is receiving it. Some MD members are now receiving the SK newsletter but not the SD newsletters. SK has converted their newsletter to a format so it can be posted on social media. Lion Lois will forward the PRIDE newsletter to the COG since she is on the mailing list. There may be an opportunity for the IT chair in MD to work on this publication as well as updating the website. IT and marketing go hand in hand so possibly look for someone with the skill set to do both. It was recommended that the committee come up with options and bring back recommendations to the COG.

Flyers were created for RLLI and a new Lions club in 5NW.

Long Range Planning

CC Marianne noted the PIDs long range planning suggestions. The committee will be restructured with state/provincial reps and others suggested and will also include long range budget planning. PCC Marianne will call a meeting after the Spearfish convention.

Personnel Committee

DG Beryl B. reported there was no interest from others so the current secretary and treasurer will continue in their positions.

Constitution & Bylaws / State – Provincial Reps

DG Jeanette B. reported the committee tweaked how the reps are elected and what their responsibilities are. The committee met several times and the final documents have been uploaded to the One Drive. State/provincial reps will attend COG meetings and will sit on committees so DGs can focus on other things. A rep is needed from every state/province and implementation will happen after the MD5 convention.

CONSTITUTION CHANGE

PCC Rick Pockett addressed the one change being proposed to the constitution at the Spearfish Convention.

ARTICLE VII - COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Section 1. Composition.

The Council of Governors, hereinafter referred to as the Council, shall be:

- A) The Current District Governors.

B) **Three** immediate Past District Governors and/or Past District Governors from the previous two years, which number cannot exceed one-half of the number of District Governors **who shall have been elected by the voting delegates of their respective province or state at the Multiple District Convention meeting of the previous fiscal year.** There shall be at least one (1) immediate Past District Governor or Past District Governor from the previous two years each from Saskatchewan, North Dakota, and South Dakota. **The immediate Past District Governors or Past District Governors from the previous two years shall be their respective State or Provincial representatives. In the event no candidate from a given state or province intends to seek a seat on the Council as State or Provincial Representative, there shall be an “at large” election to fill said position from the remaining immediate Past District Governors and Past District Governors from the previous two years.** The State or Provincial Representatives shall serve for a one-year term only and cannot serve in that capacity again.

The proposed change to the constitution must be published 30 days prior to the convention. DG Scott H. moved and DG Alvin M. seconded to bring the constitutional change to the MD5 convention in Spearfish. Motion carried.

PDG Rob Hill addressed changes made to the policy manual. The description of the state/provincial reps is included as well as the rating cards. The committee suggests implementation of the performance rating cards next year. The rating cards are to provide feedback and give direction about job performance for the secretary and treasurer and it could also be used for the chair positions. DGs and the personnel committee will complete the performance rating cards and submit to the Council Chair for compilation.

The finance committee defined who is reimbursed for expenses in the Rules of Audit which is part of the Policy and Procedures handbook. DGs are reimbursed by LCI for expenses. DG Beryl B. moved and DG Ron B. seconded the motion to approve the policy and procedures amendments. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

MD5 items – clothing

DG Jeanette B. brought the MD5 polo shirts, vests and windbreakers that have been in stock for a few years. Red shirts, red vest and black pants will be worn for the Intl convention parade in Boston. PCC John Emmett will take charge of parade duties at the convention and DG Beryl B. will assist. PCC John is in charge of banners. Anyone that needs clothing items should contact DG Jeanette B. The clothing items will be available at the MD5 convention in Spearfish.

Dr. Patti Hill campaign

One Lion is needed to carry the flag with the international causes, one Lion is needed to wear a lion costume and two Lions are needed to carry the banner in the parade as well as Lions to hand out give aways. Lions can go to <https://www.pattisbostonvolunteers.ca/> to register as a volunteer at the International Convention. All volunteers should sign up ahead of time so they have your email address. There will be a rally for volunteers. Dr. Patti Hill has been campaigning for six years for the Intl Lions Presidency and they pay a lot of their own costs so additional funding is needed. Checks should be made out to the Dr Patti Hill Campaign. MD5 had a fundraiser several years ago and donated to her campaign. DG Jeanette B. moved and DG Beryl B. seconded to make a \$5,000 donation to Dr. Patti Hill's campaign. There would still be \$7,000 in the MD5 ID fund after this donation. Motion carried.

GST REPORT

No report from Lion Tammie Richardson. CC Marianne indicated service reporting is going better and encouraged clubs to do better when the platform changes.

Speak off contest / Essay Contest, Peace Poster contest, Leo Clubs, Contest & Awards

DG Robyn Tyler had no report as she is unclear about the contests. It was noted contests and awards are covered under Section VI in the Policy and Procedures Manual. The Peace Poster contest has done well.

Peace Poster Calendars

PCC John Emmett notified DGEs to take calendars home. The calendar cost is \$3.40 each. He recommends continuing this when the six-year commitment to LCI is up.

GLT REPORT

VDGE Training

PDG Geraldine Ray filed her report. Friday, March 24th training was held for VDGEs. This was the first time they have done a full day training and the presenters did a great job.

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Update

It will be held in Reno, NV on September 21 – 23, 2023.

Request for USA Canada Forum funding

There was a request for funding but MD5 has never funded this forum. Helping one individual may set a precedence. Some districts support Lions to attend. No action taken.

2022 – 2023 RLLI Grant Funds and status

It is scheduled May 5 – 7 in Bismarck, ND participants are needed. VDGEs are encouraged to attend. Registration is \$175 US dollars and everything is covered except transportation. Districts may have stipends available. The flyer has been uploaded to the MD5 One Drive to see available classes. A \$2500 grant was received from LCI.

MD5 GAT SUMMIT

The summit was held last year from 8:00 AM to 2:45 PM. In the past, the incoming GAT has been invited as well as zone chairs and VDGEs. The cost is minimal with breakfast, break and lunch costs. The consensus was that it is important to continue the summit. PDG Gail Haight, PDG Rob Hill, CC Marianne, and PDG Geraldine Ray volunteered to be on the committee and PDG Rob Hill will chair. Topics and speakers are needed. DGs should be noting Lions that have leadership skills in their clubs and pass names along for succession planning.

GMT REPORT

PCC Kevin Bean reported two Zoom meetings were held. Two districts are below the 1000 members. Lion Crystal Dueker went into a 5NW community to assist with getting members for a new club that was started. Membership and service go hand in hand. Are DGs following up with dropped members to find out why they left? Three districts have increased membership and three have decreased membership. Use a team approach to build membership. PCC Kevin will travel if assistance is requested.

New Voices

Lion Crystal Dueker's report was submitted. A successful International Women's Day event was held in Fargo.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR REPORTS

5SE DG Ron Bunnell reported they have a team of five working on membership with a goal to stop the decrease in membership numbers. Their goal is to have the same number of members at the end of the year that they started with. They are starting a new Leo club in Leed and they are working on two new clubs. He has visited 75% of clubs.

5NW DG Jeanette Bean reported a new club will be chartered in Tioga. She has a few club visits left to complete. She is talking to clubs about considering two membership chairs, one to retain and one to recruit. The district currently has 1134 members and it will be 1155 with the new club.

5NE DG Scott Hildre reported he has a weekly Zoom meeting with VDGs and district secretary to keep up on what is going on with clubs. He is ¾ of the way through his club visits. Two of his three goals are completed and his third to start a new club will likely not happen. He talks to clubs about

membership and having fun and asks Lions to replace themselves. Kudos to PDG Joe Sowokinos for the increase in reporting percentage from 34% to 94%.

5SE Robyn Tyler reported she has had weather challenges to get visits completed. She is working on a new club but is having difficulty getting leadership in the new club. She has had speakers talk about how Lions has touched their lives.

5SKS DG Alvin Matechuk reported that visitations are going well. Their district has the most members. He hopes to get a new club started yet this year. DGE Lane J. held a positive meeting with 18 Lions in attendance.

5SKN Beryl Bauer reported he has visited 54% of clubs. The district's membership was 997 but is now over 1000. They received a membership grant and a team of nine Lions are focused on starting new clubs. He went to one business that resulted in ten new members. He hopes to have a new club started by end of April/first of May. They had a free pancake breakfast and had some new members from that breakfast. Clubs in the district are using Community Impact grants. Thanks to PCC Rick Pockett for his help.

OLD BUSINESS

2023 MD5 Spearfish Convention & Budget Update – Previously reported by PDG Geraldine Ray.

MD5 Convention Notices & Rules Etc., Posting Contests, Credentials – No report

2024 MD5 Convention Minot, ND Report & Budget – They are looking at a Dining in the Dark event for Friday night.

Convention Bid Procedures – The convention will be held in SKN in 2025. The committee met in March and they are looking at obtaining bids. They will recommend a location at the Spearfish Convention. Aberdeen, SD will host in 2026.

SWOT – There were many strengths and three goals identified in the SWOT analysis. It was recommended that the SWOT analysis be completed again next year to update goals. The MD has done well with the goal of improving training. Congratulations to PDG Geraldine and team. MD marketing goal has been less successful but making progress. Congratulations to DG Jeanette B. and her team for their success with updating the governance goal.

NEW BUSINESS

2022 Red Jacket order

Incoming DGs are asked to stay after the meeting and try on their jacket.

Senior Councillor Awards

A luncheon is held on Friday at the MD5 Convention. Lion Lois will coordinate with CC Marianne to discuss the luncheon and an MC. Possibly have the DG or someone else speak about the recipient.

2023-24 Badges & Name tags

PCC John Emmett has jacket patches by district. The DGEs will receive the packet and they can distribute to their team. PDG stickers for vehicles will be distributed.

2024 MD5 pin for Melbourne LCI Convention

The projected designs were presented for the Melbourne pins. Choice D is possibly the best but the COGs will decide. This will be placed on the May agenda.

2023-2024 Provincial and State Reps

The process for nominating reps is outlined in the Policy and Procedures Manual. PDG Richard Waits from SD, PCC Kevin Bean and DG Alvin M. from SK have expressed interest. The caucus of the states and provinces will make their rep designation in May at the convention.

Evaluation forms

Not implemented until next year.

2023-2024 Council Chair

CC Marianne Kramchynsky reported that DG Jeanette Bean is the only DG that sent a letter of intent to run for 2023-2024 Council Chair. DGs and DGEs will vote by paper ballot even though she is the only candidate. A poll was created for those participating via Zoom. DG Alvin M. did a nominating speech for DG Jeanette B. for Council Chair and the nomination was seconded by DG Scott H. PID Pat Vannett reported results of secret ballot and DG Jeanette B. is the new council chair for 2023/2024. DG Beryl B. moved and DG Scott H. seconded to destroy the ballots. Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS – FOR THE GOOD OF THE MD

DG Scott H. reported he and others attended the Day at the UN and it was fantastic.

DG Beryl B. thanked CC Marianne for an excellent job as CC.

DG Jeanette B. did an acceptance speech and thanked her mentors and others for the support.

PID Marvin Chambers reported they will be moving to Medicine Hat, Alberta so will no longer be in MD5 and thanked everyone for a great 52 years.

DG Alvin M. moved and DG Jeanette B. seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Lion Lois Reiersen
MD5 Council Secretary