



**MD5 Council Business Meeting Minutes
Zoom – November 18, 2023**

COG Attendance: CC Jeanette Bean, Secretary Lion Lois Reiersen, Treasurer PCC John Emmett, 5SKN DG Bernie Kramchynsky, 5SKS SK Rep Alvin Matechuk, 5SE DG LeeAnn Haisch, 5NE DG Rick Stark, 5SW SD Rep Richard Waits, 5SW DG James Treloar, 5SW 1st VDG Frances Waits, 5NE VCC Scott Hildre, 5SKS 1st VDG Heather Vermeersch, 5NE 1st VDG Kirk Tingum, 5NW 2nd VDG Karen DaSilva, 5SKS 2nd VDG Page Newton, 5SKN 2nd VDG Brian Starkell, ND State Rep Kevin Bean, 5SW 2nd VDG Darryl Moll, 5NW DG Lynn Grabow, 5SKN 1st VDG Ray Tatro, 5SKS DG Lane Johnson, 5SE 1st VDG Dennis Bohmont, and 5SE 2nd VDG Darlis Labahn

COG Absent: 5NE 2nd VDG Paula Western Swanson, 5NW 1st VDG Lynn Helms

PID's Attendance: IPID Pat Vannett, PID Robert Littlefield and PID Bruce Schwartz

GAT Attendance: GMT Chair PDG Mark Koller and GST Chair Karen daSilva

GAT Absent:

Others in Attendance: Lion Crystal Dueker, PDG Gail Haight, PDG Jay Norby and IPCC Marianne Kramchynsky

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM by CC Jeanette Bean.

Adopt Agenda

Recommendations from MD5 Senior Leaders added as new business. Motion by DG Bernie Kramchynsky and seconded by PDG Alvin Matechuk to adopt the agenda with the addition. Motion carried.

Protocol – PIDs in attendance and Area Leaders PDG Jay Norby and PDG Gail Haight were introduced.

Correspondence - none

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes from the August 19, 2023 meeting were emailed and posted on the MD5 Council of Governors One Drive by Lion Lois Reiersen. Motion by DG Lane Johnson and seconded by DG Rick Stark to approve the August 19, 2023 meeting minutes as posted. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Financial Review – PCC John Emmett

Budget vs. Actual - PCC John Emmett reported there are two years left on the commitment for the calendars. The bank account balance differs on the Designated Fund Balance Sheet and the balance sheet because of the accrued interest. \$264,214.76 is the correct balance. \$500 Other Income on the Budget vs Actual is for youth camp from the ND State Convention Parade of Green. Misc. Administration is bank charges for printed statements and \$96 under Other is for memorial flowers for Duane Zwinger. There was an additional charge of \$83.23 for jackets and crests.

Discussion was held on the large bank balance. The balance grew the year the council didn't meet in person. The Finance Committee met and came up with ideas on how to utilize the funds. Possible suggestions would be to underwrite the cost of RLLI with a modest registration with other costs covered, provide support to send leaders to USA/Canada Forum and other trainings, and engage in extension work to start new clubs. It was suggested to not stop charging dues. The funds can't be used to support projects. A suggestion to assist new clubs to cover the \$35 new member fee could be part of the long-range plan so all districts have an opportunity to take part. It was suggested that the LCI membership grant be utilized also. It's important to put together a plan. GMT and Long-Range Planning should both be involved to develop a proposal to present to the Council of Governors.

Compilation – Completed at the August meeting. No further action needed.

Motion by DG Rick Stark and seconded by DG James Treloar to approve the Treasurer's Report.
Motion carried.

REPORTS

Mission 1.5/Global Membership Approach (GMA) – PDG Gail Haight and PDG Jay Norby submitted reports.

PDG Gail reported there are no new clubs in Saskatchewan and they are plus four members. She has identified clubs on financial suspension and working on getting those clubs to pay their dues.

PDG Jay reported they are plus forty-three members as of the meeting date. 5NW started a new club in Hettinger with twenty-two members. 5NE is working on a new club in Steele and are at seventeen members. 5NW has revived the Flasher Club. As of July 1st, the club was at one member and they currently have nine members. He will have a new club development meeting via Zoom in December.

He is sending out a note to Council Chairs regarding the \$6,000 allocated for GAT Summit. Three of the four districts are meeting goals in recruitment and a couple are meeting goals in retention.

If a club's dues are over 120 days overdue, they are dropped and it is a long process to get them reinstated. PDG Mark Koller is willing to train District Governors on how to find club information on MyLCI so we don't have clubs in jeopardy of financial suspension. Clubs can complete a form to have funds debited automatically from the bank account or auto payment via credit card. Treasurer training at spring rallies regarding dues payment is important.

Call Gail or Jay for assistance.

State and Provincial Reps

PCC Kevin Bean – IT, Marketing and PR

PCC Kevin is working on IT. The MD equipment is working well and there is no need to buy any other equipment. The website needs to be revamped because it is hard to edit. He is in the process of talking with Bismarck State College about building a new website. PID Robert will forward a contact person that has a website business. It's important to have a website that is easy to navigate it is worth paying a fee to have a functioning website. It was suggested that a committee be formed with one person identified from each district to develop a strategy. These names should be forwarded to PCC Kevin in the next two weeks.

PDG Alvin Matechuk – Convention

PDG Alvin confirmed that PID Robert will chair protocol. A resolution committee chair needs to be appointed.

PDG Richard Waits – Finance, Constitution and By-Laws – Dues Holiday and Subsidizing New Member Fees

PDG Richard reported that the committee met and is not in favor of the dues holiday, subsidizing new member fees or making a donation with the savings from having a zoom meeting vs. an in-person meeting. The committee is recommending increases in mileage from \$.40 to \$.50 per mile and \$.32 per kilometer and hotel reimbursement from \$75 to \$100. They are recommending that meals remain at \$50 reimbursement per day. The total cost to the district for this change was included in the submitted report.

Long Range Planning

No report

Personnel – Scorecard results

CC Jeanette Bean has no report at this time. She will meet with DGs in the next four to six weeks, do a scorecard on each position as required and identify what they need to work on in the 2nd half of the year.

GLT Report

CC Jeanette read a resignation letter from PDG Geraldine Ray. Recommendations from the MD5 Senior Leaders were presented by Lion Lois Reiersen which will be considered for adoption under new business.

1. Recommendation: That the COG empower a select committee to organize a training program for VDGS that will be delivered between January and March, culminating in an in-person training in March.
2. Recommendation: With Council approval, PID Robert Littlefield will lead the team, in collaboration with IPID Pat Vannett and other certified trainers from our MD5 to deliver the training.
3. Recommendation: The Council accepts the resignation of PDG Geraldine Ray and extend a letter of appreciation and support for her service to the MD.
4. Recommendation The GLT position be advertised after the first of the year with applicants submitting letters of interest and Lion resumes by February 1. The COG will interview applicants and make a decision at the March COG meeting with the new leader taking responsibility for training in the 2024-2025 Lion Year.

GMT Report

Mark Koller reported on the Membership Development Grant and stated it is easy to fill out and doesn't require a grant writer. There is \$30,000 available for CA1 with a maximum \$9,000 available for MD5 which could be \$1,500 for each district. There is \$12,000 available for CA2 which is all of Canada. It was suggested to find membership development grants on the LCI website. PDG Mark will send this link out to the DG team. LCI will consider goals with this grant and an action plan is important. A budget is also required and the application must be made before the project is started. 5NW DG Lynn and 5NE DG Rick have both done a good job with a new club each. 5SE is engaging and doing great work. District Governors need a plan and PDG Mark will get the districts together to discuss a plan. 5NE applied for the \$1,500 grant and it has been approved. Districts don't have to apply for the entire \$1,500. A suggestion was made that MD5 possibly do a matching grant. PDG Mark will send the grant application to the District Governors.

PDG Mark noted the DGs receive a Club Health Assessment report. The number of club members shows up in red on the report for clubs with fifteen members or less. He suggested rebuilding those clubs with less than fifteen members. The membership development grant could possibly be used to grow clubs. This report also shows if clubs are 60 to 90 days behind in dues.

Let PDG Mark know if there is interest in participating in Area Leader Jay Norby's Zoom meetings, which are held the first Wednesday of the month, and he will ensure you receive an invite.

Guiding Lion Training Update

PDG Mark indicated there is a need for more Guiding Lions. He suggested that every zone chair be a Guiding Lion. PDG Rob Hill and PDG Mark will be doing a Zoom Guiding Lion training sometime in January. This could be part of leadership training outlined in the MD5 Senior Leadership Recommendations.

Hettinger new club – Lynn Grabow announced the new Hettinger Club charter night which will be held on November 29th at the Past Time Steakhouse with a social at 5:30 PM MT and meal at 6:00 PM MT. PID Pat and PID Bruce will be speakers.

GST

Karen daSilva submitted a report. Districts should be talking with clubs that aren't reporting. The GST didn't discuss the Haiti Eye Mission. It was noted this was brought up at the August meeting to get information to clubs that might want to donate funds. They need \$25,000 annually to support the optometrist. It is a great program but not appropriate through MD5. DGs can take this back to their districts and see how they may want to support this. VDGE Karen will report back on what the districts plan to do.

Gail Haight reported CA2 is meeting last Thursday of each month so put that on your schedules.

IPID Pat reported that 2nd VDGs are meeting online with 2nd Intl V.P. A.P. Singh on Monday, November 27th at 10:00 AM CT.

2024 LCI Melbourne Convention Update

The 106th LCI convention will be held in Melbourne, Australia on June 21 – 24, 2024. PID Robert Littlefield reported that LCI makes travel arrangements, etc. for DGEs. Others need to make their own reservations at any hotel. Go to the LCI website to access convention and hotel information. The early bird registration runs through January 12th. Registration Jan 13 through June 16 is \$265. Onsite registration is \$240. The parade of nations will be June 22nd at 9:00 AM. The DGEs make arrangements for the parade regarding banners and flags (American and Canadian) and decide who will carry the flags. The Council Chair Elect will be the parade chair. This year, they had umbrellas and hats as MD5 representatives. There will be plenary sessions during the convention. The club secretary needs to register Lions as a delegate for the convention.

Attendees will need a current passport and visa. The visa can be obtained @ Australia LCI Convention website.

Attendees this year arrived a day early to do some site seeing. They dressed alike so they could find each other easily.

PIDs have a designated hotel but there isn't a specified hotel for MD5 registrants.

It was suggested that CC Jeanette set up a meeting with VDGs so they can talk about what they want to do and make plans. CC Jeanette said they used a group app when she was VDG so they could communicate with each other.

Protocol and Intl Guests Reminder

PID Pat Vannett reported 3rd Intl VP Mark Lyons will be the guest for the MD5 Convention in Minot in May. Appropriate accommodations will be made for VP Mark Lyons. No decision has been made about the summit yet. Planning for the summit will come out of the December GLT planning. No districts have requested a speaker for their spring rally. If a speaker is needed, contact PID Pat ASAP. Club officer training is important at spring rallies to allow for questions and ensure fun at your rally. 3rd VP Mark Lyons requested to be part of a service project so he will be involved in the Dining in the Dark event. The MD5 convention committee is meeting on November 30th. State/Provincial convention speaker requests also need to be submitted to IPID Pat.

LCIF Report – PDG Dave Czywczynski and PDG Rob Hill submitted reports

Lions Day at UN – Lion Crystal Dueker reported the date is March 1, 2024 and registration is \$50.

Upcoming Conventions

MD5 Convention May 16-18, 2024 – Lions Kristin Michels/Kaylee Bourquin submitted their report. They are working to develop a budget. They currently have 43 registrants. Working on breakout sessions and possibly use Intl 3rd VP Mark Lyons for the Mission 1.5 session.

2024 State and Provincial Conventions –

North Dakota State Convention will be held in Fargo on October 18 – 19, 2024

South Dakota State Convention will be held at the Gulch in Deadwood on Sept 27 – 28, 2024 – Lion Sharon Martinisko is the chair.

Saskatchewan State Convention will be held in Moosejaw on Oct 25 - 26, 2024

Youth Camp

There was no report from PDG Judy Beaudry.

New Voices

Lion Crystal Dueker submitted a report.

OLD BUSINESS

SWOT

Agenda item moved to March agenda.

Ice Breaker Responsibility for March Meeting

SD is responsible for the ice breaker at the March council meeting.

Update Constitution and By-Laws

The committee needs to meet to update the Constitution and By-Laws with the changes from LCI including 2nd VDG job description change.

Follow-up on Committee Assignment List (Protocol & Resolutions assignments)

PDG Alvin Matechuk previously reported on this topic under reports.

NEW BUSINESS

Voting on Peace Posters and Essays

PCC Kevin Bean displayed the six peace posters on Zoom and created a poll to vote. The winning poster is #2 from 5SKN. The winning poster needs to be mailed to LCI. It requires CC Jeanette's signature so CC Jeanette will figure out the logistics of signing the poster so it is submitted timely. PCC John Emmett reported that prizes are: 1st place - \$200, 2nd place – \$100, and \$50 for the other four peace poster. PCC Kevin reported there was a tie for 2nd place between poster #1 and poster #4 which were from 5NE and 5SW. The \$100 for the 2nd place winner will be split and each will receive \$50

The two submitted essays were emailed to the council prior to the meeting. PCC Kevin Bean created a poll and the winning essay was # 1 – Lucas Dvorak. Lion Lois will explore what needs to happen with the essay.

Deadline for Notices of Intent

February 1, 2024 is the deadline for submissions for letters of intent for Council Chair, GMT, GLT, GST and State and Provincial Reps. for the 24/25 Lions year. Lion Lois will upload the responsibilities for these duties on the Council One Drive. GMT, GLT and GST are three-year terms but PDG Mark is filling an unexpired term and will need to be elected. The GST and GLT will both need to be elected because PDG Geraldine Ray and 1st VDGE Karen daSilva are both stepping down. The letter of intent should include a bio and they do not need a letter of support. Letters of intent should be submitted to Secretary Lion Lois Reiersen by February 1, 2024.

State and Provincial Reps are elected by their state/province. They receive affirmation from their state/province at the MD5 convention. It was noted that more than just the sitting governors qualify to apply. Secretary Lion Lois will send a personal letter to all those that qualify to apply.

Reminder for DG's

Annual Reports due May 1, 2024

March 2024 Meeting

The March, 2024 Council meeting will be held in person at the Grand Hotel in Minot on March 22-23, 2024.

Endorsement for PCC John Emmett

This agenda item is deferred to the May meeting to be voted on at the MD5 convention by the membership and not by the council.

Finance Report Recommendations

Motion by DG James Treloar to increase mileage reimbursement for council members from .40 to .50 and .32 per kilometer and increase room reimbursement from \$75 to \$100, seconded by DG Bernie Kramchynsky. Motion carried. PCC John will take care of updating the Rules of Audit to cover this change.

MD5 SENIOR LEADERSHIP RECOMMENDATIONS

GLT Recommendations

Lion Lois Reiersen moved and Lion Lane Johnson seconded to adopt the GLT MD5 Senior Leadership Recommendations that were presented under the GLT report. Motion carried.

Long Range Planning Committee Recommendations

CC Jeanette reported that PCC Marianne Kramchynsky has submitted her resignation as the Long-Range Planning Committee Chair due to health reasons. She was thanked for her work and involvement. Lion Lois Reiersen moved and PCC Kevin Bean seconded to adopt the following MD5 Senior Leaders recommendations:

1. Recommendation: That the COG accept the resignation of PCC Marianne Kramchynsky and extend a letter of appreciation for her efforts.
2. Recommendation: With council approval, PID Pat Vannett will chair the Long-Range Planning Committee for the remainder of this year.
3. Recommendation: That in subsequent years, the incoming District Governors will recommend at the May COG meeting, the appointment of a PID to serve as chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee for the following year.
4. Recommendation: The Constitution and Bylaws committee will draft the proposed changes to the Standard Operating Procedures to accommodate these recommendations.

Discussion was held that the current and past council chairs, secretary, and treasurer will be members of the committee. Having a chair that is not involved in the council structure will allow for long range planning to continue without putting additional stress on the Council of Governor team and provide long term continuity. This change is supported by the MD5 PIDs.

Motion carried.

501(c) 3 MD5 Senior Leadership Recommendations

1. Recommendation: that the MD5 begin the process to establish a 501 (c) 3 MD5 Foundation for the purpose of supporting MD philanthropic projects (for example, for the purpose of supporting a youth camp in MD)
2. Recommendation that the MD5 Treasurer lead this effort, in conjunction with the Finance Committee, to have a report in March of 2024

Lion Lois Reiersen moved and Lion Kevin Bean seconded to adopt the MD5 Senior Leadership 501(c)3 recommendations. PID Robert noted that the MD isn't able to solicit for donations without a 501(c)3 which is why a foundation was created in Florida. A 501(c)3 foundation would offer the opportunity to do fundraisers for projects. A receipt for tax purposes can be provided. There may be some things that need to be worked out with SK to make contributions. Some clubs in SD have their own foundation. PID Robert will provide treasurer John with contact information of the Lions in Florida that established their foundation. PCC treasurer John will begin the process and report in March. Motion carried.

Other Business

PDG Gail Haight reported there were three Lions from MDC at their SK Convention. They extended an invitation to their convention which will be held April 26 and 27, 2024 at Lethbridge, Alberta @ the Lodge. The convention chair is lionPauline@gmail.com. Intl President Dr. Patti Hill will be their guest speaker. They are hoping for 400 people at this convention.

CC Comments – CC Jeanette is happy with the productive meeting and is looking forward to what the future holds with training.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

March 22 & 23, 2024 – Grand Int’l – Minot, ND

May 16, 2024 – MD5 Convention – Sleep Inn – Minot, ND

Respectfully submitted
Lion Lois Reiersen
MD5 Council Secretary