

Cabinet Meeting Minutes November 2, 2024 Fort William-Henry Resort 48 Canada Street Lake George, NY

10:00 AM – Meeting called to order:

District Governor Holly McConchie

Prayer - Lion Megan Guilmette (Ballston Spa Lions Club Environmental Committee Chair)

Toast – Lion Diane Latimer ()

Welcome:

Lion Scott Rager (Glens Falls Lions Club Membership Chair)

Lion Scott Rager welcomed attendees to the area and talked of the Adirondack State Park and Lake George. He mentioned that the Glens Falls Lions Club is celebrating it's 85th year of service. The club has golf tournaments and takes part in the Lake George Balloon Festival as an example of a few of there fundraisers. The club uses the money to support the Glens Falls Region as well as nearby clubs to support Lioninsm and service.

GMT Talk:

PDG Ed Stano (Town of Greenfield Lions Club, GMT Chair District 20W)

PDG Ed talked briefly to attendees on the importance of having a membership chair and how it is important to Lionism that each club has a membership chair. Membership is the key to longevity and member retention is key to sustainability.

PDG Ed encouraged everyone to report your club's membership to allow LCI and the district to know when they need to help support a club. We are dispersed throughout our district and the only way clubs know about other clubs is to look at what is reported. If things aren't reported they are not known about.

Attendees were encouraged to take into account busy lives and families. Members who help but have trouble attending meetings are still excellent Lions. "We can't be our fathers Lions Club anymore".

GST Talk:

<u>PDG Milledge Smith</u> (Gouverneur Lions Club, District 20W GST Coordinator, Brandel Murphy Lions Youth Foundation 20W District Coordinator)

PDG Milledge spoke to attendees of the importance of reporting and how that impacts our District in the eyes of LCI. We do a lot of service in a lot of different areas, reporting it only benefits us. The reported service helps us with grants and LCI partnerships. Non Lion organizations also use our reported statistics to determine whether they help us or partner with us.

"Don't make Lions the best kept secret in your community. Promote, Grow, Serve! Be your own advocate and show the community what Lions do. People do not see everything Lions do in a community but reporting lets people know what Lions have done. "

GLT Talk:

<u>PCC Mark Whitney</u> (Town of Schroon Lions Club, 20W GET Coordinator, Lions See, Inc 20W Board Member, District Governor's Advisory Council Member)

PCC Mark Whitney talked of the importance of education in Lions leadership. The more education we have the better we are equipped are to deal with situations which may arise within our district and clubs. This in turn, leads to longevity.

PCC Mark congratulated the newest graduate of LLI Lion Margo Walrath. Congratulations Lion Margo!

PCC Mark congratulated the Chazy Lions Club for their work with Lions eye screening in their community. Congratulations Chazy Lions Club!

Attendees were informed of our district changes to encompass a district where no one steps up to de a district governor. This is not because the Lions in our district do not want to be a district governor. Our district has Lions who aren't able to be district governor now and can be in the future. This is not a problem but a part of life in the new age of the world.

Ideas to help future district governors included the use of AI and responsibility delegation among the board of directors.

GAT Talk + GMT Talk:

PDG Michele-Puleo O'Hare (Bethlehem Lions Club, Greater Ravina Lions Club President, 20W GET Coordinator, Region O Chair, DG Advisory Council Member, Brandel Murphy Lions Youth Foundation Legacy & Endowment Committee Chair, Lions Hearing Conservation Society, Lions Eye Institute at Albany Inc. – Lions Foundation at Albany Inc 20W Board Member, Lions See, Inc. Board Member, New York State & Bermuda Lions Foundation Inc. Trustee, St Catherine's Center For Children Executive Director of the Foundation, District Governors Advisory Council Member)

PDG Michele talked of new club workshops and how informative they were. Specialty clubs and satellite clubs were mentioned as was to increase membership. Adapt to our member's needs.

Attendees were told of the support system of the district governor. Besides the direct district cabinet, the governor has access to the entire board of directors; PDG Association and GAT Team. This leadership team is supported by Guiding Lions and individual clubs.

Attendees were also told how important membership is to LCI voting. We as a state have made it a goal to bring in 15,000 members, currently we have 12,189 members. We are well on our way but this trend needs to continue. Membership is important to the amount of votes we receive in LCI matters. So, gaining members is important but so is retaining them. Attendees were encouraged to talk to their clubs to see what likes and dislikes members have with the way their club is being run.

PDG Michele informed attendees of LCIF and how it has been being changed to more of a foundation. There will be two members to the board per district which will be approved by the current board. The ad-hock committee which was created to edit the foundation and improve it has been working hard to see other ways to improve the foundation.

One of the ways discussed was endowments. The Lions Legacy Society is part of the LCIF and is a great way to leave something behind to help the foundation.

Lion Michele finished by offering tickets for a Elvis themed raffle to support St Catherines School For Girls.

For questions about any of the above topics, contact PDG Michele

Comments from the International Director:

International Director Bert Nelson (New York Mills Lions Club Minnesota, International Director LCI)

ID Bert talked of the importance of teams in leadership. Teams support each other and that is what helps them succeed. LCI looks at the service and membership of our district to see where they can help. Community service in the United States is not what it once was. Helping clubs that need support is one way to show that Lions are still strong here.

ID Bert applauded the GAT Team and our district for all that we do. He hopes this continues and wishes us well in the future. What the GAT team has mentioned is important because reporting affects the number of directors seats the United States occupies on the International Board of Directors.

Attendees

International Director Bert Nelson (New York Mills, Minnesota)

Lion Pamela Nelson (New York Mills, Minnesota)

District Governor Holly McConchie (Galway) – Galway Lions Club Co-Secretary

Lion Margo Walrath (Galway) – Galway Lions Club Co-Secretary

Lion Megan Guilmette (Ballston Spa)

District Treasurer Eric Unislawski (Greater Johnstown) – Greater Johnstown Lions Club Treasurer, Lions Hearing Society Treasurer

Lion Karen Rager (Glens Falls) – District Newsletter Editor

Lion Scott Rager (Glens Falls) – Glens Falls Lions Club Membership Chair

Jim Winkler (Clinton) - Clinton Lions Club Secretary, Region L Zone B Chair

Lion Bob Maxam (Clinton) – District Hunger Chair

Lion Bill O'Mara (Clinton) - Region L Zone A Chair

IPDG Priscilla Laurin (Chazy) – Organization of Past District Governors 20W Vice District Governor, New York State & Bermuda Lions Foundation Inc. 20W Trustee, Lions Hearing Conservation Society Board Member, District Governors Advisory Council Member

PDG Michele Puleo- O'Hare (Bethlehem Lions Club, Greater Ravena) – Greater Ravina Lions Club President, 20W GET Coordinator, Region O Chair, DG Advisory Council Member, Brandel Murphy Lions Youth Foundation Legacy & Endowment Committee Chair, Lions Hearing Conservation Society, Lions Eye Institute at Albany Inc. – Lions Foundation at Albany Inc 20W Board Member, Lions See, Inc. Board Member, New York State & Bermuda Lions Foundation Inc. Trustee, St Catherine's Center For Children Executive Director of the Foundation, District Governors Advisory Council Member

PDG Milledge Smith (Gouverneur) – 20W GST Coordinator, Brandel Murphy Lions Youth Foundation 20W District Coordinator,

PCC Mark Whitney (Town of Schroon) – 20W GET Coordinator, Lions See, Inc 20W Board Member, District Governor's Advisory Council Member

Lion Verna Plummer (Town of Greenfield) - Town of Greenfield Lions Club Media + Advertising Chair

PDG Ricky Laurin (Chazy) – Region S Chair, Region S Zone B Chair, LCIF Coordinator, Lions Eye institute at Albany Inc – Lions Foundation at Albany Inc, Board Chair, MD20 Organization of Past District Governors 20W Director, New York Bermuda Lions Foundation Inc 20W Trustee

PDG Loretta Saheim (Mechanicville - Stillwater) - Region N Chair, Lions Eye Bank Board Member

PDG Joan Scott (Hadley-Luzerne) – 20W Peace Poster Chair, Hadley Luzerne Lions Club LCI Coordinator

PDG Ed Stano (Town of Greenfield, District GMT)

Sue Beltran (Speculator Lions Club)

Pete Newell (Speculator Lions Club)

PDG Robert Nason (Glens Falls Lions Club)

Lion Mike O'Brien (Albany-Troy Lions Club)

PDG Loretta Sahiem (Mechanicville-Stillwater Lions Club)

Treasurers Report:

District Treasurer Eric Unislawski (Greater Johnstown Lions Club Treasurer)

DT Eric gave the following budget and treasurers report for the Lions year.

Lions District 20-W Treasurer's Report For the period 7/01/24 through 11/02/24

- Income and Expense details for the period from 7/01/24 through 11/02/24 are attached (last column), checking account balance \$16,802.76. Budget and actual totals for the prior two years are shown for comparison.
- Within our checking account balance, we still have \$2,849.13 remaining in the Lions Quest grant funds from several years ago and \$272.73 remaining in the MD-20 Centennial Service Program Grant Funds.
- 36 of 48 clubs have submitted their district dues, \$3,138.00 collected of \$3,810.00 expected. Report attached.

Respectfully Submitted, Lion Eric Unislawski Cabinet Treasurer

LIONS DISTRICT 20-W						
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Program Advertising - Conference/Testimonial	290.00			2.575.00	1,100.00	860.00
Damari Caloren Meetings	2,700.00	2,142.00	1,400.00			990.00
Pes Sold	490.00	1405.00	655.00	595.00	910.00	
16/50 & Other Refflets	880.00	405.00	100.00	682.00	750.00	138.00
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Lions Guest Grant - St. Catherine's R & E May School		1,592.00	13,408,00	12,408.00		
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Club	Membership as of: 7/1/24			2024/25 mt Paid	Ck Date	Ck #	Deposit Date
			-				
Albany & Troy	26	26	5	78.00	8-/20/24	543	8/29/2024
Ballston Spa	38	38	\$	114.00	8/19/2024	1777	9/20/2024
Bethishom	20	20	S	60.00	B/20/2024	107	8/29/2024
Broadalbin-Perth	30	30	5	90.00	8/23/2024	1239	8/29/2024
Cambridge	11	2.4	-				
Chazy	40	40	5	120.00	9/12/2024	1,37	9/20/2024
Clifton Fine	23	23	5	69.00	9/1/2024	2127	9/20/2024
Clinton	24	24	\$	72.00	B/23/2024	2239	8/29/2024
Deptield	5	5	5	15.00	8/19/2024	1096	8/29/2024
Duane	23	23	5	69.00	8/30/2024	1393	9/20/2024
Edwards	27	27	5	81.00	9/1/2024	2163	9/6/2024
Fonda & Fultonville	16		-				
Galway	61	61	5	183.00	9/2/2024	2624	9/6/2024
Giens Falti.	32	12		96.00	B/17/2024	4453	
Gouverneur	39	39	S.	117.00	9/8/2024	542	
Greater Herkimer	35	35		105.00	8/16/2024	1313	8/29/2024
Greater Johnstown	43	43	5	129.00	B/26/2024	2033	
Greater Ravena	12		-				
Generalith	34	34	5	102.00	8/17/2024	1841	8/29/2024
Hadley-Luzerne	15	15	5	45.00	8/26/2024	1961	9/5/2024
Heuvelton	91		-				
Holland Patent	17	17	5	\$1.00	8/17/2024	1295	8/29/2024
Lake Placid	33	1			C. C		1111001000
Lisbon	20	· · · ·					
Long Lake	20	20	5	60.00	8/19/2024	178	8/29/2024
Malone - 2 years 15+12	12	27	5	81.00	8/19/2024	6097	8/29/2024
Marcy Telephone	9	9	\$	27.00	8/15/2024	1107	
Mechanicylle-Stilwater	28		-	1000			
Newcomb	52	52	5	156.00	8/31/2024	1711	9/6/2024
New Hartford NY Mills Whitestown	12	12	5	36.00	8/16/2024	1036	8/29/2024
Ontersburg	38	38		114.00	9/2/2024	5624	
Peru	27	27	5	81.00	9/2/2024	104	9/20/2024
Plattsburgh	37	37	5	111.00	8/21/2024	2079	B/29/2024
Raquette River	23	.23	\$	69.00	8/22/2024	234	9/20/2024
Saranac Lake	4		-				
Saratoga Springs	27	77	5	231.00	8/16/2024	2316	8/29/2024
Sauguoit Valley	33	33	5	99.00	8/24/2024	900	R/29/2024
Schwylerville	17	17	5	51.00	8/21/2024	1130	8/29/2024
Scotla-Glerwille	22	14	-		and the state of the second		and the second
Speculator	14	14	S.	42.00	8/16/2024	2318	B/29/2024
SUNY UAbany Campus	27						
Town of Greenfield	32	32	\$	96.00	8/23/2024	1602	B/29/2024
Tawn of Hadvick	34	34	5	102.00	8/27/2024	1305	9/6/2024
Town of Schroon	41	41	\$:	123.00	8/16/2024	157	8/29/2024
Town of Wright/Schoharie Valley	10	10	\$	30.00	9/12/2024	1358	9/20/2024
Tupper Lake	40	1.00					
Utica	11	- 11	5	33.00	8/19/2024	5347	8/29/202
Waterford	17			0.000			10000
44	8 1.270	1,046		3,138.00			

Motion to Accept the Treasurers Report: Not Made

Seconded: Not Made

Pass?: No

Lions Eye Bank Talk:

PDG Loretta Sahiem (Mechanicville-Stillwater Lions Club)

PDG Loretta talked of the wonderful things which the Lions Eye Bank has done for over 70 years. The Eye bank has a successful transplant rate of 85% which is higher than most of the country. The eye bank has helped with 1,041 transplants this year.

They are offering a new transplant where they doctors cut the edges off the transplant in the facility which the originally had to do off-site. This saves travel times which keeps the transplants healthier. PDG Loretta talked of her Christmas raffle and August golf tournament. These are their only fundraisers and the Eye Bank appreciates all the help the Lions have and continue to give to the eye bank.

Lions Newsletter Announcement:

Lion Karen Rager (Glens Falls Lions Club)

Lion Karen would like to inform all that she is in the process of moving files to her new computer so any fliers she missed sending in the current newsletter will be in the next newsletter.

Break:

Attendees to a brief break and voted on the peace posters for this year.

IPDG Priscilla Update: Immediate Past District Governor Priscilla Laurin (Chazy Lions Club, Immediate Past District Governor)

IPDG Priscilla spoke to attendees about the Chazy Lions Club and their turkey raffle. She continued to talk about the Association of Past District Governors and how there are 5 awards for District Excellence for last year.

Mentor - PDG Michele-Puleo O'Hare (Bethlehem Lions Club + Greater Ravena Lions Club)

Mentor - PDG Ricky Laurin (Chazy Lions Club)

Recognition - PDG Lion Milledge Smith (Gouveneur Lions Club)

Recognition – PDG Lion Ed Stano (Town of Greenfield Lions Club)

Recognition - District Governor Holly McConchie (Galway Lions Club)

IPDG Pricilla thanked everyone who helped her during her year as district governor.

Brandel Murphey Youth Foundation (BMYF) Announcement:

<u>PDG John McDonald</u> (Saratoga Springs Lions Club, Brandel Murphy Youth Foundation Board Member, Lions Eye Institute Board Member, Camp Abilities Saratoga Board Member)

PDG John talked about BMYF and the upcoming super bowl fundraiser which is upcoming. This organization helps youth projects which are aligned with the Lions mission to serve the community. Recently, the Foundation was integral to the procurement of a new eye screening camera to screen children in the north country.

Lions Quest Announcement:

Lion John Griffin (Sauquoit Valley Lions Club, Lions Quest Chair)

Lion John spoke of training programs with teachers in schools, BOCES and St Catherines School for Girls. He mentioned that the program has been starting to become involved in programs for troubled youth.

PDG Michele was asked to update the district on the St Catherines School for Girls. She mentioned the impacts of training on staff in the education program and the foster program. The school impacts children from all around New York State. The children have needs which Lions Quest training helps the staff of St. Catherines provide. The training was so impactful, St Catherines will apply for another Lions Quest grant.

If you need any help with Lions Quest please contact Lion John

District Governor Holly's Announcements:

District Governor Holly McConchie shares some announcements with attendees

- The International Convention will be held in Orlando Florida and not in Mexico City Mexico Sunday July 13-Thursday the 17th of 2025
- 2. March 21st is Lions at the UN Day. This will be held in the United Nations Building and not in the Hotel this year
- 3. The State Convention is in Niagara Falls May 16-18th. DG Holly needs Lions to be on committees. The committees which need to be members are sergeant of arms, flag ceremony and voting.

PDG Ricky Laurin's Announcements:

- 1. Please remember to give to LCIF to the area of most need. This will allow the money given to be used on other projects in case the project you are giving money for is completed before the money donated for it is used up
- 2. 2026 is the 250th anniversary of our country, do not forget to do something to celebrate lions in our country.

Lion Verna Plummer's Announcement:

1. Don't forget diabetes awareness month. There is a diabetes support board within our district which can help you if you need it.

PDG John McDonald's Announcement:

 Saratoga Springs – Albany Troy Lions Club will celebrate their 100th anniversary at the Gideon Putnam October 28th 2025.

Lunch Break:

Attendees took a break for lunch

Lion Joe Latimer's Announcements:

1. Clifton Fine is having their annual chainsaw raffle. Tickets were sold during the conference

Lions Eye Institute Talk Lions Leadership Award:

PDG Ricky Laurin (Chazy Lions Club, Lions Eye Institute Board Member, LCIF Board Member)

PDG Ricky thanked all who have donated to the Lions Eye Institute and encouraged attendees to donate to the program.

PDG Ricky spoke on behalf of the PDG Association. He congratulated Lion Margo Walrath of Galway Lions Club on this years award. Congratulations Lion Margo.

Guest Speakers International Director Bert Nelson and Lion Pamela Nelson (New York Mills Lions Club, Minnesota)

Lion Pamela Nelson (New York Mills Lions Club, Minnesota)

Lion Pamela talked to attendees about the importance of donating to the Lions endeavors our district is involved in. Lions are able to help others with donations. The less donations received the less help Lions can do.

Lion Pamela also shared an informative lecture on what a pharmacist does to help Lions better understand that part of the medical industry.

International Director Bert Nelson (New York Mills Lions Club, Minnesota)

ID Bert Nelson thanked the district board for all the hard work they do.

ID Bert Nelson also gave the International Directors Certificate of Recognition to Lion Margo Walrath of Galway Lions Club. Congratulations Lion Margo!

Two other Lions receiving Certificates of Recognition are Lion James Griffith of the Camden Lions Club and Lion Diane Lange of the Ballston Spa Lions Club. Thank you for all you do Lions James and Diane!

ID Bert told attendees of his youth and how Superman comics inspired him. Lions were told "You only know how strong you are when you test your limits. You are much stronger than you think you are." Lions were asked "Do you want to be a Super Lion? Sometimes that takes a leap of faith." Attendees were told of the importance of doing the right thing, service towards others and spreading Lionism.

"How do you create a Super Lion? Face your fears, embrace your failures and improve tomorrow by learning from today. If you do nothing, nothing will change. Go out and ask about tasks or ways to serve. The worst that can happen is someone says no. If that happens, try again or figure out why it's a no. Improve, a little at a time. The only way to eat a whale is one bite at a time. "

Attendees were told of the importance of helping the district because helping the district is helping everyone. The International President has challenged districts with membership goals and service goals. The way to achieve these goals is to work together.

ID Bert shared ways to help Lionsim in ways like donations, service, club work and even just talking about Lions around our communities.

50/50 Raffle + Gift Basket Raffles

Congratulations to our winners!

Peace Poster Winner

PDG Joan Scott (Hadley- Luzerne Lions Club)

PDG Joan announced the winning peace poster. Congratulations to the winning student from Schuylerville New York!

Meeting adjouned: 2:00pm