



**District 27-B1 Cabinet MINUTES**  
**Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Van Dyne Lions Park**  
700 Lone Elm Rd, Van Dyne, WI 54979

**“LIONS LEAD the FIGHT”**

**Questions? Reply to this email:** dajach@yahoo.com or call 920-684-0115  
Cell: 920-860-6162

1. **Call to order @ 1:00 pm** by DG Tom Wendt
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by IPDG Michael De Baere
3. **Song & Prayer** led by Song Leader & Chaplain Lion Barb Leichtfuss – “GOD BLESS AMERICA”
4. **Welcome** by DG Tom Wendt. Time has gone along quickly. The TIME has ARRIVED ! Clubs remember to setup our club visits. DG Tom introduced all the PDGs present. DG Tom commented “We have all agreed to take on another year. Thank you for stepping up!”
5. **Installation of Cabinet Members** by PID Wayne Heiman was delayed until his arrival.
6. **Roll Call** conducted by Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer Lion Dave Holschbach. There are 33 cabinet members, 24 in attendance. Other guests were PDGs Merle Strelow & Marv Henke, Diane Henke, Roxanne Wendt, Monica De Baere, Deanna Korth and Vince Teague-President Neenah Lions.
7. **Virtual Cabinet Minutes** from June 28, 2020 emailed. Lion Dave H noted one change to the minutes sent out, it should read Winnebago East Shore Lions and NOT Winnebago Lakeshore Lions. Motion to accept the corrected minutes by 1st Vice DG BJ Blahnik, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDG Ken Rohde.

**MOTION CARRIED**

8. **August 9, 2020 Agenda** – PDG Fred Gebhart asked to have “District Bean Bag” added to Old Business on the agenda. DG Tom approved the addition. PDG Fred also asked to have his Vision report extended to 5 minutes and IPDG Michael De Baere asked for an additional 10 minutes at the end of the agenda. So approved by DG Tom. Motion by Lion Dick Karl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDG Ken Rohde to accept the agenda with the additional approvals. **MOTION CARRIED.**

9. **2019-2020 Financial Statement** e-mailed to cabinet members by Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer Lion Dave Holschbach. DG Tom discussed the highlights. The year was cut short due to COVID 19 which did affect our financials. Tail Twister Lion Helen had a short fall due to the cancellation of the state convention and our district cabinet meeting. The district did purchase 2 Birch Sturm Fellowships. We are showing an excess funds of approximately \$3,800. PDG Merle asked if there was any way to use the excess to reduce convention costs and improve attendance. 2020 convention pricing has been set. There is plenty of training funds available. Lion Dave H did mention that PDG Gary Colton has agreed to do a final audit on the books for the year 2019-2020 and will have a report at the next cabinet

meeting. DG Tom mentioned approval of the financial statement will be done at the next cabinet meeting.

**10. 2020-2021 Budget** e-mailed by Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer Lion Dave Holschbach. Lion Dave H mentioned the district currently has a membership of 1850, which is the basis for the 2020-2021 budget. Discussion by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice BJ about the funds set aside for USA/CANADA forum, which has been cancelled. Asked for any suggestions to use the funds Recommendation by Lion BJ to relabel the funds as TBD. So noted by Lion Dave H. Lion BJ made a motion to accept the budget with the change mentioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDG Ken. **MOTION CARRIED**

**11. Tail Twister** – Lion Helen Mork explained the 3-minute rule for reports and fines to be accessed. The 1<sup>st</sup> click is the 2-minute warning, 2 clicks, your 3 minutes are up. The fine is \$ 1.00 per minute of overtime unless approval by DG Tom. 3-minute time allowed per report.

**12. Communications:** DG Tom Wendt received information about the Wisconsin LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE training to be held on October 24<sup>th</sup>&25<sup>th</sup> in Stevens Point. He has signup forms, limit 40 people. Training funds are available to be used. Also THANK YOU letter received from WI Lions Missions for our donation last year.

### **13. Old Business:**

**A. Birch Sturm candidates** update by IPDG Michael DeBaere. He has received 5 nominations so far, due date is September 30<sup>th</sup>, notice is posted on the district website. \$2000 was set aside from last year's convention proceeds. Qualification are a 5-year minimum Lion member, club president at least 1 year, must attend the district convention and not a previous recipient. Committee will meet in October for their selection.

### **14. New Business:**

**A. 2020-21 Cabinet Meeting Dates** – they will be held Friday November 13-District Conv-Blue Harbor Resort, Sunday January 3<sup>rd</sup>-Van Dyne Lions Park & Sunday March 7<sup>th</sup> Van Dyne Lions Park

**B. Audit Financial Books** for 2019-2020 will be conducted by PDG Gary Colton, report at next cabinet meeting.

**C. Operating Excess funds** for the yearend 6/30/20 are in excess of \$10,000. Lion Dave H asked if there were any recommendations for the district to use these funds. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice BJ commented that with the current COVID 19 pandemic, we need to be frugal with the money. The cancellation clauses in the convention contract could cost the district in excess of this amount. Motion by PDG Ken Rohde, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lion Dick Karl, that we hold funds until after the convention. **MOTION CARRIED**

**D. LCI COVID-19 Grant** of \$10,000 was received by IPDG Michael De Baere. 6 Districts through the help of PDG Clarence Harris have received the grant. IPDG Michael explained the rules are very specific on who can receive this money. First Responders. Clubs can not get reimbursed for their donations. Lion Dale Counihan explained there are nursing homes who directly need help. IPDG Michael will work with his committee on approvals.

**E. 990 N** online report-clubs link via District web site was explained by Lion Dave H. He reminded zone chairs to get all clubs to file the report by November.

**F. Training and funds** available. Lion Mary Jo Abler questioned if Lions are using the online training, does anyone know? DG Tom: "Everyone Needs Training" and asked if anyone is willing to step forward and conduct onsite remote training? Plenty of funds available. He would love to see more training. PDG Merle & Lion Bonnie & PDG Tom and Lion Rose did an excellent job 2 years ago and may consider doing it again on the west side of the lake. DG Tom also commented the problem is

there are so many repeat officers in clubs that do not go through any additional training, they've done it once and nothing changes !!! Is it possible to do some officer or other training at the convention? The timing may be too late. DG Tom will work with Lion Rose and GLT Lion Ken Rivers and try to coordinate something in the future.

**15. Committee Reports** (Written reports for distribution or 3 minutes or less verbal per report))

A. **1st Vice District Governor** Lion BJ Blahnik reported that this year's Leader Dog training tour has been cancelled. They do plan to have a virtual summer visit to Leader Dog. Council meetings will start his Wisconsin training. He is working on developing his cabinet for 2021-2022. He is also working on developing the 2021 district convention in Sheboygan. **TEAMWORK** will be his theme.

B. **2nd Vice District Governor** Lion Dave Brinkman has been having monthly ZOOM meetings. Currently working on Forms training and Partner in Service training.

C. **GLT** chair Lion Ken Rivers did not have a lot going on !

**GMT** chair PDG Fred Gebhart reported that both the State and District have goals for membership. LCI will not be charging a \$25 enrollment fee until 2021. So, get your enrollments in before yearend. Due to COVID 19, Lions seem to be losing connection with their communities. GMT is working on Lioness conversions.

**GST** DG Tom mentioned it is IMPORTANT NOW to serve the community. Lion Ellen Cheney sent the following information. She has focused her time on updating her email list and forwarding information about service and training opportunities to clubs. She has also attended MD GST monthly meetings online.

**NAMI (North American Membership Institute) "Its all about MEMBERSHIP"** per DG Tom. PGD Fred Gebhart MD27 uses NAMI to help promote membership. Use your Club Administrators. Zone chairs work with secretaries to stay up to date. Retention is what it is all about. PDG Merle mentioned clubs should get their EX Presidents and Secretaries to be Club Administrators, they know the system and can access MYLCI and reports.

D. **WLF** – PDG Fred Gebhart reported WLF operations are week to week due to the virus. Events have been cancelled. There has been a change in maintenance. WLF hopes everything will be back to normal next year. Smores and Kids raffle will still continue this year. Remember to donate, expenses still continue.

E **Constitution and Bylaws** chair PDG Jerry Post had nothing to report at this time. Maybe some updates after convention.

F. **LCIF** chair Lion Mary Jo Abler reported our \$40,000 donation mark has been surpassed. 49 of 66 clubs donated. Our district did receive a \$10,000 COVID 19 grant from LCI, it does show our donations do come back to us. Please use the online donation link, International office is still not working in their building. Online donations are processed much quicker.

G. **Lions Pride** chair Lion Myra Schneider reported the clay shoot was cancelled along with other events. There has been a decrease in donations, however they still plan to reach their \$10M goal by state convention. Encourage individuals to donate, they account for 70% of the donations.

H. **LEO** chair Lion Gary Roehrig reported the New Holstein Leos are currently at 20 members. COVID 19 like everything else has caused a Wait and See attitude. They are still collecting plastic bags for benches. Consider giving a bench "IN HONOR of LEN QUINN." Reedsville Leos are still functioning under the guidance of the schools teachers. Lion Gary has been trying to get in contact with

someone from Reedsville. Festival Foods are now collecting plastic bags, it takes approximately 6 months to collect enough for a bench.

**I. Leader Dog** update by PDG Jerry Post, Mid-March saw the shutdown of Leader Dog operations, staff worked at home and inhouse dogs were taken care of by staff. May 24<sup>th</sup> operations resumed and July 31<sup>st</sup> first class of 8 graduated. Leader Dog is using ZOOM for virtual meetings with Leader Dog chairs, club meetings and all 1<sup>st</sup> VDG. Leader Dog is currently not recommending in-person speaking, so we may not have a speaker at our convention.

PDG Len Quinn update given by Lion Helen. He had a heart attack and diabetes flair-up. He currently has hospice care. PDG Len and Lion Kay were given a "Repurpose" Career Change dog by Leader Dog for their dedication. He currently can go home 1 day a week. They are planning on coming to the convention.

**J. Pin Chairman** Lion Laurie Sasada has placed the order for district pins. They will be available at the district convention. Next year's theme is "TEAMWORK", plan your pin design.

**K. Peace Poster** kits are available online per Lion Laurie Sasada. It will be an interesting year with the schools and whether we will get any posters. This year's theme is "PEACE through SERVICE".

**L. Diabetes Awareness & Action** IPDG Michael De Baere reported like other diseases, they are hoping for a cure. Plans are for a STRIDES walk during our convention to benefit diabetes. Information is in the convention packet given to zone chairs.

**M. Youth Cancer** chair PDG Dave Lee reported there are 3 child cancer centers, Milwaukee Medical College, Madison Carbone Cancer Center and Marshfield Clinic. Both Milwaukee and Madison have a flow cyclometer due to donations and matching grants. PDG Sri Vasudevan is asking for the Council of Governors to support his grant request to LCI for \$30,000 to purchase equipment, update and renovate the "Solarium" in the inpatient unit for children at Marshfield Clinic. "Lions Healing Space"

**N Youth Exchange /Youth Outreach** representative Lion Bonnie Strelow reported all camps were cancelled this year. Hopes are to restart in January. The district did not send in their annual camp donation, everything is being handled virtually. They need donations to support the camp.

**O. Special Olympics** April vision screening was cancelled. See what next year brings per Lion Samantha Rivers

**P. Environment** chair Lion Rose Berendes reminds everyone to plant trees to help the environment.

**Q MY LCI** Chair Lion Rose Berendes passed the word on to all clubs to "Keep up the GOOD Work" on reporting membership and activities.

**R. Hearing Preservation Awareness & Action** chair Lion Wendy Hartmann had no report.

**S. Eyeglass Recycling** chair Lion Wendy Hartmann had no report. They continue to collect a lot of eyeglasses at WLF.

**T. Lions Eye Bank of WI** rep Lion Chuck Keifenheim reported COVID 19 has delayed a lot of eye transporting activities. In June they started case by case transport. They are planning a new schedule and rules. WI Eye Bank office remains closed for visitors, go online to get any information. They continue to import from other states. Need donations.

**U. Vision Screening** has reached 100,000 per PDG Fred Gebhart. Schools currently are struggling with whether to be open or not. Lions vision screening will work with the schools to keep everyone SAFE and use proper protocol and guidelines. Lions are flexible and will work when needed. He currently has 2 schools requesting vision screening. We have insurance on the cameras to cover loss and damage.

**V. Missions of Wisconsin** Chair Lion Pat Knier sent the following: All Wisconsin Lions missions are temporarily in a holding pattern pending COVID 19 development. PID Bill Taubman is still planning to take donated goods and money to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. However tribal officials are restricting entry due to the virus.

**W. District Convention** chairs PDG Jerry & PDG Meg Post have been working hard with DG Tom to put together a fun filled weekend. Things may change by November, but they will be ready. They are working with the hotel for virus safety and will provide face masks and sanitizer. Possible entertainment for Saturday banquet. Convention packets were distributed to the zone chairman to give to their clubs. DG Tom mentioned Friday's hospitality theme will be "SAFARI" - dress appropriately. PDG Meg & Jerry are doing a fantastic job.

**District Raffle** chair Lion Dave Brinkman has the club raffle tickets in the convention packets given to the zone chairman. Sell to LIONS only. Tickets based on club membership and prior sales history.

**District Bucket Raffle** Lion Dave Brinkman needs prizes and help to run the raffle.

**District and State Bowling** – The state bowling committee plans to run the tournament as always in January & February. Lion BJ report our district Beanbag tournament which replaced the district bowling was cancelled and any money was refunded. We are looking for a club to volunteer for February or March. PDG Fred reported we have the equipment and would like a central location. The interest is there. There will be an informational table at the convention. Also, the voting will have a ballot for site selection. The district did replace Bowling with Bean Bag as a district tournament.

**X. Elections & Nominations** Lion Irv Korth asked Zone chairs to push for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor, there currently are no nominations. We need someone to step up !! Also open for voting is a convention site for November 2022 and Bean bag site. Nominations need to be in by mid-October.

**Y. State Lions Convention** for 2021 will be held in Green Bay and will be WI Lions 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There will be NO parade per PDG Ken Rhode.

**Z. Newspaper Editor** PDG Jerry Post thanked everyone for their articles. This month's edition will be dedicated to the district convention. There are only 6 issues a year.

**AA. IT & Publicity** PDG Tom Clausen has added the new officers to the district mailing list. There are still a lot of Lions emails addresses not updated in MYLCI, therefore they and their clubs are not getting any Lions correspondence. Zone chairs be sure to get club secretaries to update their information. 25 of 64 clubs do not have a website, it s FREE !! 17 clubs do not have a Facebook account. No website or Facebook is doing your community a DISSERVICE by not communicating. We need to keep our name out in the community so we can flourish. In January the website moved from Godaddy to WIX. This will allow anyone to continue Tom's work on the website. He would like to have the district be billed directly for all expenses which should be around \$ 200 annually.

**BB. Historian** PDG Tom Clausen is working on getting fellows names posted on the district website. Birch Sturm and Melvin Jones are up to date through December 2019. He is currently working on Eye Bank and Ray Hampel fellows.

## **16. Zone Chairmen Reports:**

1. Zone 1 PDG Fred Gebhart introduced Lion Greg Kubichka who will be taking over as Zone Chairman for PDG Fred. The zone is in limbo due to the virus. Some clubs have had a slow start and others are waiting to start.

2. Zone 2 Lion Al Kanaugh will have a zone meeting September 28<sup>th</sup> hosted by Maribel Lions. His zone lost 2 clubs, the Two Rivers Lions and Two Rivers Lioness. Some of the

members have transferred to other clubs. Manitowoc Lions had 11 new members. The Manitowoc County Fair was cancelled, the zone would sell tickets as their major fundraiser. Some of the clubs have been having fundraisers. Lion Al is looking for a replacement.

3. Zone 3 & 4 Lion Dick Karl has taken over for 1st Vice DG BJ as zone chairman, he is a member of the Sheboygan Noon club. He is still getting organized. September 21<sup>st</sup> will be his first meeting. He extended an open invite for all to attend. His main concentration will be membership.

4. Zone 5 Lion Don Mitchell reported that with the COVID 19 all his clubs are revamping their schedules and programs.

5. Zone 6 Lion Dale Counihan clubs have been shutdown due to the virus. Not a lot of activity. Larson Winchester is still doing ramps but there are some limitations.

6. Zone 7 & 8 Lion Barb Leichtfuss is a member of the Van Dyne Lions and this is her first year as zone chairman, she is an ex Van Dyne Lioness. Her first meeting will be October 1<sup>st</sup> and should be a 'RIPPIN GOOD" meeting. She has some ideas for the upcoming meeting. Thank you to the cabinet for their support. Van Dyne has an increase of 26 members (new and former Lioness).

7. Zone 9 Lion Dave Brinkman reported a lot of cancelled events and fundraisers in the zone. Some clubs have been doing curbside services. No date set for his next zone meeting, most clubs do not want in person meetings. Activities are limited to park and roadside cleanup.

8. Zone 10 Lion Carl Rasmussen's clubs are struggling with the virus situation and rules. All the clubs have been challenged by the virus not only for meetings but the summer fundraisers of which most have been cancelled. Conversations have been about raffles and what is the future for fall and winter activities.

9. Zone 11 OPEN – Need a Lions to step forward for zone chairman.

**17. Other Business** - DG Tom Wendt asked to be sure to be invited to zone and club meetings. USA/CANADA forum has gone virtual this year.

IPDG Michael gave a wrap up for his year since there was no physical meeting. He gave out his cabinet appreciation gift. Van Dyne Lions received a Club Excellence Award for the 2018-2019 year. He also present PDG Dave Lee with a special recognition award from WLF for his year of service.

PDG Fred received a 2020 convention pin event though it was not held.

DG Tom also gave special appreciation to PDG Tom and Lion Rose and PDG Merle for being Guiding Lions for the district. He thanked IPDG Michael for his guidance during last year and future help. DG Tom presented all the cabinet members with a welcome gift. Next cabinet meeting will be on Friday November 13<sup>th</sup> at the District Convention.

“THANK YOU for being PATIENT with him for his 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting” Thank you to the Van Dyne Lions and Lioness for their assistance.

Lion Helen collected \$ 90 as Tail Twister. WEAR SANDALS to the next cabinet meeting.

Motion to Adjourn at 4:12 pm by PDG Ken Rohde, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lion Mary Jo Abler.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted: Lion Dave Holschbach, 27B1 Secretary/Treasurer