

**International Association of Lions Clubs
District 14B – Cabinet Meeting
Saturday, February 23, 2008 – 9:00 a.m.
Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children**

Call to Order and Opening

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by District Governor Jay Wells. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all and one verse of America. Invocation was by Lion Tom Hurrell.

PDG Jack Schimmel as Parliamentarian reminded the Cabinet that a quorum would be needed and that the meeting would follow Roberts Rules of Order.

Roll call determined that there was a quorum.

District Governor Jay introduced Lion guests who attended: Lion Lou Hoetzlein and Lion Rich King of Tarentum, and Lion Pat Donkin. Also attending was Sherri Crum, of the Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind.

Peace Poster Chair Mary Jane Keller introduced the special guest and her family - the Peace Poster winner, Sarah Ireland of Immaculate Conception School and her parents. The Bloomfield/Lawrenceville Lions Club sponsored Sarah. She was congratulated and told that \$100 United States Savings Bond would be in the mail.

Lion John Aiken introduced the speaker for the meeting – Sherri Crum, Director of the Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind. Ms. Crum spoke on the many programs and resources of her organization. It is located at 535 N. Neville at the First Trinity Evangelical Church.

Secretaries Report

The minutes of the August Cabinet Meeting were presented and a motion to approve was made by ZC Geoff Temple and seconded by PDG Harold Fletcher. The motion carried.

The minutes of the November Cabinet Meeting were presented and a motion to approve was made by Lion John Aiken and seconded by PID Carl Battistone.

Treasurers Report

PDG Harold presented the Treasurers Report

Administrative Fund	Ending Balance	\$3,062.88
VDG Fund	Ending Balance	\$1,353.67
State Council/ Convention Fund		\$1,843.88
(which includes an \$1800 CD)		

Motion to approve the report was made by ZC Andy Zivinsky and seconded by ZC Mary Jane Keller. The motion carried.

PDG Harold presented the Audit Report

The Audit Committee met and determined that the activity in the Administrative Fund and the Blind Activities Fund were correct and presented fairly the cash position of District 14B. Lion Roy Smith is to be commended for his efforts in presenting accurate and detailed recordings of the District’s transactions.

Motion to approve the report was made by PDG Jack Schimmel and seconded by ZC Geoff Temple.

District Governor Remarks

District Governor Jay congratulated the Lions of the District for helping make the Blind Bowlers Tournament a success. Lion Sam DePiero was a participant in that contest and District Governor Jay congratulated him about his great score.

The PRIDE editor has resigned and resumes may be submitted by anyone interested in that position. There will be a new position of Web Site Coordinator and resumes may be submitted for that position also.

Vice District Governor’s Report

VDG John Frombach was not able to attend this Cabinet Meeting but presented a report. LCIF Grant - \$9,685.65 in vouchers was distributed to flood victims in the Millvale area. With this money the District was able to help 190 families.

Allegheny County Special Olympics Spring Games will be held at Baldwin High School. Letters will be mailed to all club presidents and secretaries to provide information about the many opportunities to assist. Dr. Timothy Shriver spoke at the International Convention about this special program.

State Convention Program Book Ad – there will be a full page ad from our District to District 14M.

Zone Chair Reports

Region 2, Zone A – Geoffrey Temple, Chair

Second club visitation has been made to the Clairton Club with others planned shortly. All clubs in the Zone have ongoing fund raising and service activities in their areas.

Region 2, Zone B – Mary Jane Keller

Second round of club visits have been started with all clubs reporting their spring and summer fundraisers and meetings.

ZC Geoffrey Temple and ZC Mary Jane Keller have scheduled a Spring Joint Zone Meeting for Tuesday, April 1, 2008.

Region 3, Zone A – Andy Zivinsky

Region 4, Zone A – Maryann Dayton

All clubs are active and membership is the main concern.

Region 4, Zone B – Jim Engel

All clubs are active and membership is the main concern.

Region 3, Zone B – Patrick Lorinc

Visits have been made to most of the clubs in the Zone. All clubs have reported extensive fund raising and service activities.

Leader Dog Chair Report – Lion Jim Engel

Bill Hansen, President/CEO of Leader Dog School has retired. Greg Grabowski will be the new President. A spokesperson from Purina Dog Food recently visited the school and was so impressed, they donated their Pro Plan Dog Food for the entire 2008 calendar year. Remember to keep Leader Dog School on your list of donations.

Beacon Lodge Report – Lion Tom Hurrell

Much work has been done to the 14B Dorm – inside and outside. All of this has been done due to the contributions of the Lions of 14B. When additional funding is available, more work needs to be done to the exterior. In addition, the Camp needs lots of work done to the water and sewer lines and three initiatives are in place to help counter this cost.

When introducing Lion Tom Hurrell, District Governor Jay told the Cabinet that Lion Tom will be on the Beacon Lodge Board with PDG Dennis McCarthy.

International Understanding Co-Op/Environmental – Lion Karen Hamerski

The plan of action this year will be to replant the seedlings at South Taylor Environmental Park that perished due to drought and additional work to renew the area. Ranger Mike DiRenaldo and the children of Painter Elementary School have been asked to assist on this project.

Blind Bowlers Tournament – PDG Rich Keller

There were 60 bowlers from 4 states that participated. District 14B provided 58 Lions from 16 Lions Clubs and the District Cabinet to help at the lanes. To date 29 clubs from the District donated to the tournament for a total of \$850. Thanks to all the Lions who helped – and a special thank you to Lion John Case of the Central Elizabeth Lions Club and PDG Jim Hartman from the West Mifflin Lions Club for all their help all 3 days of the tournament.

PDG Rich also spoke about the Pennsylvania Lions State Convention which will be held this year at the Meadows in Washington, PA. Lion Rich is Chair of the Club Officers Seminar and encouraged the Lions of 14B to attend since it is so close. The Club Officers Seminar can be very helpful for incoming Presidents and Secretaries.

PDG Jack Schimmel also mentioned that 14B Lions need to go to vote for District Governor and Vice District Governor. There will be lots to do – attend the International Banquet and meet the International President. The PA All-State Band will play. Committees to be manned for the Convention are Necrology, Registration, Certification and Elections. Please come to help. In 2014 the State Convention will be held in 14B.

Center for Hearing & Deaf Services - Alison Weber

HDS is having a Sign-A-Thon on Saturday April 5, 2008 at the Monroeville Mall. It is a sign language marathon that will be held from noon to 5pm. There will be vendors with special products. It is also a social event.

PDG Jack commented that was a good program and had been done in the past.

The District Governor's party will be held April 4, 2008 at the Westwood Golf Club. Social hour starts at 5:30pm. Please RSVP. We ran out of food at the Fall Rally. It is not an all you can eat event. Attendees are encouraged to bring items for Operation Pittsburgh Pride.

District Governor Jay remarked that the speaker for this event is International Director Russ Sarver of Illinois.

Eye Prosthesis – Lion John Aiken

There is no activity with that committee.

LionsQuest – Lion John Aiken

There will be a program in South East Pennsylvania on March 7 and 8. Lion John checked with Lion Dottie Hill, the Region Coordinator and there is no funding for our funding.

Lion John also suggested we need to have more co-chairs for learning and continuity of the committees.

Diabetes Awareness/Research - PDG Joe Donkin

Christmas Around the World was a success – we made \$3,000. The Lions Auction for Diabetes will be held on May 2, 2008. PDG Joe made a motion to have the District donate \$50 to the Diabetes Auction. This was seconded by ZC Mary Jane and approved by vote.

IT/Web Site -PDG Jim Hartman

Newsletter will be on the web site for February and March shortly. Clubs are reporting good on the web site. All the statistics are on the web site.

Long Range Planning Committee – PDG Jim Hartman

Long Range Planning is a work in progress.

Lions of PA Foundation – PDG Dennis McCarthy

Applications for the Joseph Wroblewski awards are being distributed to districts. 35 awards have been given to Lions in Pennsylvania. We have also given out 1,183 PA Fellows. The 2008 rockers are available for \$5.00.

Campaign SightFirst II – PDG Dennis McCarthy, Sector Coordinator

Currently the District has raised \$58,966.72 of the \$134,105 we need to make our District Goal. There are still two model clubs, McKeesport and Pittsburgh DeafBlind. This campaign has raised \$143,416,657. There is a new program called “30”. For \$180 you can save 30 peoples eye sight.

Sight Conservation Eye Research – PDG Jack Schimmel

The Board met at the State Council meeting in Wilkes-Barre, February 1, 2008. The main agenda was the review of a grant which was tabled. This year’s Fall seminar will be held at the Eye and Ear Institute at the end of September. There will be more information in August for that program.

Western PA Lions Hearing Foundation - PID Carl Battistone

The Foundation last met on October 2007 at the Eye and Ear Institute. At the last meeting, the income level to be considered for hearing aid assistance was set at 120% of poverty level. It appears that figure may be set too low. The Board will discuss this at the next meeting. The Foundation graciously requests that all Clubs consider donating to our cause when you start distributing your funds at the end of your Lions year.

Radio Information Service – Lion Sam DePiero

Radio Information Service is doing well with giving information to our listeners. This is being done with only 2 full time and 2 part time employees. This is imposed by WDUQ to keep within their budget. We also depend on volunteers. The next fund raising event will be in May. The information on this event will be announced in the Cauldron. Lions have donated \$4,725 in this fiscal year.

White Cane Committee – Lion Jane McKnight

Since the November Cabinet Meeting, I have had two additional clubs report their participation in White Cane Days. They were Pitcairn Lions Club and Sunset Hills Lions Club. The total for the year is \$12,364.25. Out of 46 clubs, only 14 clubs participated in White Cane Cays.

Discussion about a Cabinet Chair position for Special Olympics Committee. PDG Harold Fletcher suggested Lion Chris Tognarine of the Central Elizabeth Club. PDG Jack Schimmel said that a policy needs to be drafted to take care of this committee.

Lion John Aiken asked about approval to have the speaker contact clubs to solicit donations. PDG Rich Keller made a motion to allow this to be done. Seconded by PDG Jim Hartman. Approved by all.

Duquesne Leos have asked to send students to the Youth Seminar in District 14E. Motion was made by ZC Mary Jane Keller and seconded by ZC Geoff Temple. The amount is not to exceed budget.

Redistricting – PDG Jack Schimmel

At the November 2006 State Council Meeting, Council Chair Richard Yurish appointed a committee to study the feasibility of redistricting in MD14.

A brochure was distributed giving much detail about the membership statistics in the state of Pennsylvania. This gives the Who, What, Why and How of the Redistricting Study.

The membership in MD14 is currently a low of 24,750 Lions. 24,200 Lions are figured in next years budget. In 1991 there were 35,305 Lions. There has been a decrease in membership in 14B and across the state. MD14 wants to be proactive and do something before being directed by Lions International.

The goal is to put 1500 Lions in each District. This is an important process – a long process.

PDG Jack engaged the Cabinet in a thorough discussion of the study and presented the proposal for a Cabinet vote on whether to have the District Governor go back to Council with a Yes or No vote from District 14B.

The motion was made by PDG Harold Fletcher to have the District Governor present a Yes vote from this District and was seconded by Lion Alison Weber. The Cabinet approved the motion. All were in favor of moving forward.

Next Cabinet Meeting will be May 31, 2008

Motion was made by PDG Harold Fletcher to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by PDG Joe Donkin.