

## DISTRICT A-1 LIONS CABINET MEETING MINUTES

### JUNE 12, 2011 – WARDSVILLE GOLF CLUB, ONTARIO

District Governor Lion John Ross acted as Chairperson and called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM with the following District Cabinet Officers in attendance:

1 <sup>st</sup> VDG Steve Mahovlich	2 <sup>nd</sup> VDG Wayne Cudney	IPDG Evelyn Spiering
CS Michael Kresky	CT Eric Dolansky	RC1 Mickey Puddicomb
RC2 Peter Seguin	ZC1E Terry Ouellet	ZC2E John Johnston
RC24 Bob Tanner	ZC24W Joyce Doucet	ZC2N George Croft
ZC1W Valerie Burningham	ZC24N Bob Radtke	

**Regrets received from** - ZC1C Linda Fowler and ZC2S Robert Bride

Attendance 55 (9) Presidents, (6) Secretaries, (2) Treasurers (38) Others

VDG Lion Steve Mahovlich led with the singing of O Canada. He followed this with a minute of silence reading out the names, since the last Cabinet meeting, of three deceased Lions members from the District.

District Governor Lion John welcomed everyone and then set protocol reminding everyone on the rules of housekeeping and of the attendance/sign in sheet for completion located at the door.

**Treasurer's Report:** CT Lion Eric Dolansky advised that \$42,882.28 was currently in the Bank with an additional \$26,103.86 carried in GIC's. From those balances and segregated were funds as follows: Effective Speaking \$4,573.00, Lake Joseph Transportation \$4,387.18 and Youth Exchange \$15,903.00. Motion made RC Peter Seguin, seconded, ZC George Croft to accept this report, carried.

**Secretary's Report:** Cabinet Officers and Clubs & District Chairs received a copy of the Minutes of the District Meeting held on April 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> in London for their prior review. M/S Lions Steve Mahovlich/ Valerie Burningham to accept the minutes as presented. Carried. There were no errors, omissions or business arising.

**Correspondence:** CS Lion Michael Kresky advised of one piece of correspondence received and read the thank-you note from the Canadian Diabetes Association pertaining to our recent donation made of \$175.00. This donation was made as part of this year's District A-1 Convention. Any other Club items that had been received and were requested to be copied by the sender, were placed in the envelopes for all Clubs, District Chairs and Officers to have. Accordingly, there was no business arising.

**District Officer's Reports:**

Region 1 Chair Lion Mickey Puddicomb provided an overview of her year as Region Chair. Her support to the Zone Chairs and their dedication to their duties. She attended Zone Advisories and did an Orientation to benefit all Lions at each. She considered the Orientation of value to include in a future School of Training. The Region Rally, Region's Effective Speaking Contest and her encouragement to have Clubs creating web sites were other highlights in her year and she thanked the Lions for the opportunity to serve in her capacity as Region Chair.

Zone 1 East Chair Lion Terry Ouellet thanked all for a most positive experience as Zone Chair. For the benefit of future Zone Chairs, it was suggested that the Clubs participate more in providing monthly reports of activities/successes/failures. By doing so and should something arise that assistance could be provided for, the Zone Chair is in a position to assist.

Zone 1 West Chair Lion Valerie Burningham advised that all Official Club visits had been completed. She extended her appreciation in having the opportunity to learn and grow in a variety of ways. She noted that Lionism offered meaningful opportunities for people to make the biggest possible difference in a community by using a diverse set of skills coming from members from every walk of life.

Zone 2 North Chair Lion George Croft advised the positive experiences he has enjoyed over the last two years as Zone Chairman and he thanked the Clubs for both their timely communication and hospitality. He acknowledged the members for their support in building a stronger Zone and a stronger community in London and area and wished his successor the same successes that he was able to experience.

Zone 2 East Chair Lion John Johnson thanked the Clubs for their support in sharing their experiences with him over the last two years he has held this position. As previously advised, membership in his Zone was up 10 members. He noted that the Clubs in the Zone work well together and that both he and they look forward to one of the lead-off events which is the Zone Golf Tournament to be held on July 10<sup>th</sup>. This year the tournament is hosted by the Dorchester & District Lions Club.

Zone 24 North Chair Lion Bob Radtke noted that the challenge to grow our Clubs, particularly with younger members and women is ever present. He thanked the Lions for sharing their wealth of knowledge and suggested others give consideration to stepping up into a Zone position if you wish to gain more knowledge about Lions. Lastly, he encouraged all Club members to be active in visitations to both other Clubs and to Zone Advisory meetings to gain further insight on serving the community.

Zone 24 West Chair Lion Joyce Doucet provided information pertaining to the Zone since Convention. Zone 24 West Lions received a partnership award from the CDA for contributions made since 1996. For the 2010-11 year the Zone Project to benefit the CDA realized approximately \$7,700.00. Certificates of Appreciation were given to Clubs using Advertising Incentive Funds or for membership increases.

With no further reports made – M/S Lions Steve Mahovlich/Mickey Puddicomb to accept the reports as presented. Carried.

**District Chair Reports:**

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM (GLT) – Lion Jacqui Flood gave a brief overview of this new position, of which together with the (GLM) Global Membership Team replaces the existence of the MERL Team. She advised that information is to be received after August 6<sup>th</sup> and once the information is received, it will be provided to the Clubs and District.

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM (GMT) – Lion George Croft echoed the fact that information will be forthcoming to this newly created position after August 6<sup>th</sup> and the Clubs and District will also be provided the information. Lion George, in preparing for this new position requested the Club's input to him on what worked well in your recruiting and welcomed receiving this on or before August 6<sup>th</sup>.

2011 CONVENTION REPORT – For the Chair Lion Dave Balmos, Lion Don McKessock went over some of the results of the District A-1 Convention. Lion Don indicated that the Convention Committee, who turns over all profits from the Convention and retains a modest amount in a Convention Account for start-up costs for the following year, would like a change to the District's Policy Manual to increase this amount. Based on the recommendations of the Convention Committee, M/S Lions Joyce Doucet / Mickey Puddicomb "that the District A-1 Policy Manual be updated to reflect that the Convention Committee be able to carry forward up to \$3,000.00 for a following year's Convention", carried.

NO CHILD WITHOUT PROGRAM – Lion Chair Bruce Edwards advised that the Chatham Lions Club is in the process of sponsoring a school in their city. His committee is in contact with the School Principal and he expects the contract to be forthcoming. To the incoming Chair Lion Bruce welcomed the opportunity to share his information and resources to make the changeover a smooth transition.

YOUTH EXCHANGE – Lion Chair Evelyn Spiering advised that we are expecting 21 students from 14 countries on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Host families for 12 students for July 2 to 13 and 10 students for July 13 to 23 are still needed. She has contacted all Lions and Lioness Clubs to request support and if still short, will consider contacting the Optimist Club(s) as it may be necessary. Donations received to date amounted to \$6,070.00 and 4 Lions have stepped forward to be chaperones when the camp is in Mt. Brydges. Additional chaperones are most welcome and if available please contact Lion Evelyn on or before June 18<sup>th</sup>. Lion Evelyn recommended for the Cabinet's consideration a District Youth Exchange name change from the present – District A-1 Friendship Youth Camp and advised that the suggested name change met, when approached, with the acceptance of the Mt. Brydges Lions Club. Based on this M/S Lions Bob Tanner/ Wayne Cudney "to change the present name of the District A-1 Friendship Youth Camp to 'The A-1 Al Betterley Youth Camp' ", carried.

LEADER DOG PROGRAM – Lion Chair Mickey Puddicomb provided an overview of her year. This related to Conventions and speaking engagements attended, Founder's Awards given out by Clubs, a listing of donations received from Clubs in the District and a detailed listing of other donations made from a variety of sources, bringing total donations made for this year to \$22,473.75. While steadily improving year over year, the donations generated fall shy of the \$39,000 it takes to graduate one individual and a Leader Dog. Lastly, she wished the new Chair all the best and offered her support in his endeavors.

LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA – Lion Chair Rick Letton advised that LFC will obtain their goal of graduating 150 teams this year and that is the target for next year. The biggest fundraiser for LFC which continues to be held nationally is the Purina Dog Guide Walk providing Lions with instant recognition for their efforts. Within the District the number of Purina Dog Guide Walks continue to increase and he was pleased to report that in the first 9 months of this Lions' year a little over \$31,000 has been raised. Lion Rick advised that it was interesting to note that the greatest number of applications for service dogs to LFC is being made to benefit autistic children.

HEARING & WORK WITH THE DEAF – Lion Chair Barb Tuxford advised that 285 children from all over Southwestern Ontario enjoyed the 2011 Deaf Children's Festival held May 25 and 26 at the Robarts School in London. To support the festival, \$5,840.00 was raised in Southwestern Ontario. As Lions, our donations went to provide two petting zoos and a bouncy castle with the remainder assisting in helping to offset other expenses.

LAKE JOSEPH TRANSPORTATION – Lion Chair Peter Best advised that all facets of the project are coming together with the trip to the Lake Joseph Centre being made on Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> and returning on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. The bus charter, which is costing \$4,294.00, has been forwarded to the District Treasurer for payment in the month of June. Lion Peter invited all Lions to come out to assist the passengers at approximately 10 AM on July 10<sup>th</sup> when they stop for a one hour brunch at the McDonald's on Wellington Road in London, having at that time travelled from Windsor. He appreciated contact ahead of July 10<sup>th</sup> to ascertain the number of volunteers expected to provide this valued hands on service in being able to work with the sight impaired.

WEBMASTER – (Read) Lion Chair Curtis Marwood advised that a new navigation bar has been created on the District's Web site. He encouraged any Club that has not set up a web page to do so at <http://www.e-clubhouse.org/> Lion Curtis appreciated the several hundred photos sent to him which will be archived and for the new Lions' year a new album will be started. He encouraged all to continue to send him photos. He advised that a few Clubs have been successful in creating Facebook groups or pages to promote their activities/events. Photos, in addition to Facebook, can also be shared on Skydrive (Window Live/Hotmail) and Picassa. He encouraged Clubs to use the e-mail groups on Google for A1 Lions to announce events, send newsletters or to share news of successful activities or ideas. He provided the sites for the groups.

EYES-RIGHT – (Lion Harry Wismer, Chair, Eyes Right) Since our annual meeting in February, our board has been active and in fact, had a media presentation at the Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital in Windsor the end of April. At that time, CBC TV and radio, the Windsor Star, the hospital CEO, the hospital Foundation Chair, and the surgical staff attended our second presentation of \$25,000.00 to the corneal transplant program for the ophthalmological department of Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital. This brings our payment to \$50,000.00 of our total pledge of \$75,000.00 to the program. With the outstanding support of our Lions family, we hope to complete our commitment within the next year. Lion Chair Harry and Lion Vice-Chair Gail have made several speaking engagements, and we are more receptive to any clubs request for more information or our attendance to speak about "Eyes Right". We, as the board of directors, are so pleased with the continuing support of the Lions, Lioness and Leos. Without you, we

could not continue our programme. Remember this is ours, District A-1 Lions Sight Conservation Foundation. WE SERVE SO OTHERS CAN SEE.

GOLF TOURNAMENT – Lion Chair John McColl advised those in attendance that everything was ready to go and provided the necessary details for those playing golf and/or enjoying the dinner that follows on what to expect. Any questions from the floor were answered and he thanked those participating.

LIONESSE LIAISON REGION 24 – Lion Chair Mike Tuxford praised the Lioness for the work and support they do in Lionism. He noted the Clubs 100% support in both the Healing Garden project and to Eyes Right. Regretfully he advised that the Grand Bend Lioness had folded and pointed out that no one joined or transferred over to the Grand Bend Lions Club and to expect such a move in not automatic.

With no further reports made from the floor, Motion/Seconded Lions Steve Mahovlich/Bob Radtke to accept the reports as presented. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – Lion Treasurer Eric Dolansky advised that 16 Clubs took advantage in applying for and receiving up to \$150.00 toward advertising costs to promote Lionism. He suggested a similar program be allowed for next year for the new Governor and Cabinet to kick-start this program and recommended that a budget of \$2,000.00 be set aside towards advertising and reimbursed to the Clubs as may be applied for. M/S Lions Peter Seguin/Terry Ouellet “to set aside \$2,000.00 toward District A-1 Club’s advertising with reimbursement of up to \$150.00 per Club”, carried. District Governor Lion John Ross, noting the financial surplus that the District is operating with recommended the consideration and decision of Cabinet in supporting Eyes Right for an amount of \$1,000.00 and to LCIF for \$1,000.00 to be earmarked to assist those in need as a result of the Slave Lake fire. After discussion it was noted that LCIF would not specifically direct funds as may be indicated in any donation and that any donation to the Slave Lake situation would have to be made direct to the party(s) that may be handling the receipt and donations for the victims of Slave Lake. With both recommendations having been given due consideration, M/S Lions John Johnson/Steve Mahovlich “that \$1,000.00 be donated to Eyes Right”, carried. M/S Lions George Croft/Bob Radtke “that \$1,000.00 be donated to LCIF”, carried. It was suggested that the donation to LCIF made from the District be banked with LCIF and used towards purchasing a Melvin Jones Fellowship and be awarded in future to a deserving Lion/individual.

AWARDS – District Governor Lion John Ross was pleased to announce our winner of the District’s twice monthly bulletin also won at the MDA level and passed over an award to ZC Lion Bob Radtke to be given to the Poplar Hill & District Lions Club, Lion Neil Mutch, Editor. The District’s Peace Poster winner was shown to all. It was created by Amber Mikkelsen and sponsored through the Glencoe & District Lions Club. District Certificates of Appreciation were handed out to Lion Mickey Puddicomb and Emerson for their dedicated service to Leader Dog, to Lion Gail Tanner with notable mention to the Petrolia Lions for their work in Sight Conservation and particularly with Lion Gail in her work with Eyes Right, to Lion Bev Wirta for her work with Diabetes Awareness, and to Lion Barb Tuxford as the District’s Hearing Chairperson. Recognizing an individual who has and continues to serve in a variety of capacities to

benefit others through dedicated humanitarian service was PDG Lion Don McKessock who received a Melvin Jones Fellowship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – London Central Lions Club on September 18<sup>th</sup> will be celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with an Open House from 1PM to 5PM further details to follow. `Fight for Sight` benefit night was recently held and raised \$24,000 which will be going to the Ivey Eye Institute as part of a \$50,000.00 commitment made over 5 years and which is anticipated to now be paid over 3 years. Lambeth Lions is having their 6<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser, to benefit several local charities for both Lambeth and London with guest entertainer Denise Pelley on Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> – full details provided today in each Club/District Officer /District Chair envelopes to be taken back to your Clubs. The Granton & District Lions Club is having their annual car draw, this year on a 1969 Dodge GTO Convertible, draw is being conducted on December 26, 2011 and tickets are available from Lion Mike Tuxford or any Granton Lion. Petrolia Lions Club is raffling off a `Hot Rod` grill (barbecue) and tickets are available from Lion Bob Tanner or any Petrolia Lions member. Tecumseh - Lakeside Lions Club members have tickets available for a `Cash` draw. Announcements continued ....

Continuation of Announcements - St. Thomas Lions Club/Lion Wayne Cudney advised he still had a few tickets remaining for a car draw on a 1971 Chevelle which will be drawn at next week's Autofest. This concluded the announcements.

CLOSING REMARKS – DG Lion John Ross thanked the Cabinet, District Chairs and Clubs for their support throughout his year and turned the meeting over to DG-Elect Lion Steve Mahovlich for any words he may wish to give. Lion Steve advised that there are lists, prior to the Directories coming out, located at the sign in table for anyone to take. He noted corrections that (soon-to-be) Immediate PDG Lion John was inadvertently missed and that the Blenheim Lions Club's e-mail address is incorrect, with all corrections being made in time for the Directory. He also advised that Lion Bob Henry is currently in the hospital. With no further remarks the meeting was turned back to DG Lion John Ross and calling for any other business for the good of Lionism and seeing none, called for an adjournment at 11:25 AM with the motion given by ZC Lion Joyce Doucet.

**Motion to Accept as presented:**

**Seconded:**

**Any Errors or Omissions:**

**Result:**