

DISTRICT 23A CABINET MEETING
Brazi's Restaurant, 201 Food Terminal Plaza, New Haven
Monday, July 31, 2017
Minutes (Draft)

The first Cabinet Meeting of Lions year 2017-2018 was held at Brazi's Restaurant in New Haven on July 31, 2017. District Governor Shaukat Khan called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. There were forty-six (46) Lions present. (See attachment #1 for details.)

A four-point meeting opening was observed.

DG Khan first recognized Immediate Past District Governor Colette Anderson for her outstanding year and presented her with an International President's Pin and his own pin and banner. Official Cabinet pins were next distributed to Vice-District Governors Allen O'Farrell and Bill Manthey, to Cabinet Secretary Jim Bennett, to Cabinet Treasurer Linda Maggs, and to the Region Chairs, Zone Chairs, and Cabinet Committee Chairs who were present this night.

On a motion made by RC Joe Fazzino, seconded by RC Linda Gustafson, the minutes from the Cabinet Meeting held on June 5, 2017 were approved. (Attachment #2)

Cabinet Treasurer Linda Maggs presented a Financial Report for the Lions year ending June 30, 2017. (Attachment #3) A small, \$963.50 loss was experienced last year, but the District carries forward a healthy, \$21,938.04 balance, well above the \$5,000 minimum required.

CT Maggs next presented a proposed 2017-2018 Administrative Budget in the amount of \$28,920. (Attachment #3) The figure is based on 1,480 members and assumes no dues increase from the presently-charged \$12.45/member/year. **After a motion made by ZC Joan Bielizna, seconded by RC Joe Fazzino, the proposed 2017-2018 Administrative Budget was approved.**

No correspondence was noted by the Cabinet Secretary.

DG Khan announced that a new Lions Club has already been started in the District, the Wallingford Shapla ("Water Lilly" in Bangladesh) Lions Club, with twenty-five members signed up so far. Several club officers have been selected, and official recognition will be forthcoming from LCI once the charter fees have been received and processed.

First Vice-District Governor Report: (See attachment #4)

Second Vice-District Governor Report: Bill Manthey commented that he attended the International Convention held in Chicago. It was his first one, and he really enjoyed it. He also participated in the recent meeting of the Multiple District Council at which the various Committee charges were developed and attended the grand opening of the District's Lions Low Vision Center celebrated last week at the Cornell Scott Medical Center in New Haven. 2nd VDG Bill said he would like to revitalize adult eye screenings in the District this year as well as expand our pediatric screenings to include children with autism. His main task this year is to serve as Coordinator for all Cabinet Service Committees. Bill also reported that he (hopefully) plans to attend Advanced Leadership Training (in Denver, CO) this coming November.

Region Reports:

Alan Sturtz, Region I Chair – RC Sturtz commented that he attended the International Lions Convention and announced that the first meeting of the Lions Clubs in Zones 1 and 2 is scheduled for **September 25th**; and

Joe Fazzino, Region IV Chair – RC Fazzino reported that he attended the International Lions Convention and further commented that he has set up a phone tree for his clubs via MyLCI.

Zone Reports:

Kim Cunningham, Zone 2 Chair – ZC Cunningham said she was excited to be part of this year's Cabinet and commented that a longtime club member recently passed away;

Anne Dembski, Zone 4 Chair – (See attachment #5); and

Letizia Morales, Zone 8 Chair – ZC Morales announced that the first meeting of the Lions Clubs in Zones 7 and 8 is scheduled for **October 4th**.

GLT Report:

Lori-Ann Beninson, District GLT Coordinator, highlighted some of the particulars of the upcoming **Women's and Children Symposium** scheduled for **October 28th** in Hamden. (Attachment #6)

GMT Report:

Melissa Smith, District GMT Coordinator, reported that she sent out an e-mail on July 26th introducing herself and offering her assistance to all clubs with fifteen (15) members or less. She encouraged them to utilize social media to publicize their activities and to attract new Lions. Melissa plans to expand her efforts next to include those clubs with between 15-20 members.

Committee Reports:

Jack Lynn, Cultural and Community Activities Chair – Lion Lynn said he is planning a multi-cultural fundraiser to be held sometime next spring;

Jerry and Helene Dellert, Diabetes Awareness and Action Co-Chairs – (See attachment #7);

Frank Molinaro, Environmental Co-Chair – Lion Molinaro commented that he also attended the International Lions Convention, and reported that LCI is presently evaluating its Environmental Photo Contest for possible changes;

Ernie Harrington, Information Technology Chair – Lion Harrington said he is working very hard to maintain an accurate activities calendar on-line, but he needs clubs, both Lions and Leo, to update their information with LCI;

Joan Bielizna, Directory Chair – Lion Bielizna also urged clubs to please update information about club meetings (day of week, frequency, and location) and club members (phone numbers, addresses, e-mails) on MyLCI, as errors are carried forward year after year because incorrect information is not corrected by the Club Secretary;

Brian Fournier, Reading Action/School in Box Program Chair – Lion Fournier said his first action would be to encourage clubs to put together backpacks for students in their local communities;

Joyce Wruck, Lions Eye Health Program Chair – Lion Wruck announced that the legislature recently passed an amendment to S.B. 1014, Section 10, allowing the use of automated vision screening equipment when performing pediatric eye screenings. This will now preclude the parental consent requirement when screening kindergartners, and first and third graders; (See attachment #8)

Joan Bennett, PDG, Opening Eyes Chair – PDG Bennett reported that 280 special athletes and 45 unified partners went through all nine screening stations this year. 174 of them received eyeglasses, 3 were given sports goggles, and 117 received sunglasses. Volunteers included 18 Optometrists, 18 Optometry students, 13 Opticians/Techs, 58 Lions/Leos, and 45 others. Doctors Sue and Chris were very pleased

with the help they received both on Friday (to set up) and on Sunday (to break everything down). We do, however, have to figure out a way to reach more athletes, as just 280 out of the 2,400 who competed on **June 10th** and **11th** participated in Opening Eyes;

Joan Bennett, PDG, District LCIF Coordinator – PDG Joan announced that just 22 of the District's 48 clubs have listed a Club LCIF Coordinator for the current year on MyLCI. Her goal is to encourage many more clubs to fill this position, as one of DG Khan's major goals is to dramatically increase donations to LCIF from the clubs in 2017-2018;

Ted Bresky, Lions Alert/Emergency Response Team Co-Chair – Lion Bresky reported that all three Districts will be promoting free smoke alarm detectors and Go Kits (in preparation of hurricane season) this year;

Joan Hunt, Fidelco Co-Chair – (See attachment #9);

Pam Mainiero, Veterans Stand Down Chair – This year's stand down will be conducted on **Friday, September 22nd**, from 8:00 am-2:00 pm, at the Connecticut Veterans Home, 287 West Street, in Rocky Hill. Lion Pam is looking for at least 10-12 volunteers from District 23A willing to work a morning shift (8:00-11:00 am), an afternoon shift (11:00 am-2:00 pm), or all day. All volunteers will be served a free lunch. If you would like to provide personal service to our veterans on this day, please let Lion Pam know at either pam286@comcast.net or at 203-464-2606. Thanks; and

Linda Maggs, PCC, LPCCI Chair – PCC Maggs let everyone know that she is the new President of Lions Project, Canine Companions for Independence. Congratulations, Linda!

DG Recognitions:

DG Khan singled out two dedicated Lions, Joan Bielizna and Ernie Harrington, for special accolades this night, as both have worked tirelessly on the new District Directory. Thanks to their efforts, the Directory will be going to the printer later this week, so copies can, and will, be mailed out to members of the Cabinet, Club Presidents, and Club Secretaries sometime next week.

DG Goals for 2017-2018:

- Organize and help the projects by the clubs of the District that support Lions' mission, vision, purpose, and motto, "We Serve," for all sections of the population in the community;
- Encourage the clubs of the District to organize projects on LCI's Five (5) Global Frameworks of Service: Hunger, Vision, Environment, Diabetes, and Pediatric Cancer;
- Reach out to diverse populations in the District to provide them our service and encourage them to become members of Lions Clubs;
- Diversify the service activities by encouraging the clubs to take service projects beyond their usual activities;
- Increase collaboration between Lions Clubs and other community organizations for the purpose of service;
- Encourage the participation of all Lions in club, District, and community activities. Encourage senior leaders in the clubs (e.g. Past Presidents) to be more active in mentoring new member and/or advising the new club leadership;
- Bring new leaders into the District Cabinet and provide them with the necessary training;
- Increase participation/donations by the clubs in LCIF activities;
- Increase the number of Lions in the District by recruiting new members, retaining existing members, and/or establishing new clubs; and
- Inspire the clubs with the current International President's message: "Power of We, Power of Action, Power of Service."

DG's Theme:

"Diversity, Collaboration, and Participation for Service"

Old Business: None

New Business:

On a **motion made by RC Sturtz, seconded by ZC Morales, the Cabinet's voting members approved the Finance Committee's recommendation that District dues be waived for all new student members and new Veterans members for the current Lions year.**

Announcements:

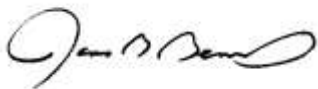
DG Khan noted that an International Director Candidates Forum will be held on **Saturday, September 9th**, from 9:00-11:00 am, at the Middletown Senior Center, 61 Durant Terrace, in Middletown. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet the candidates, PCC Mark Lyon, from the Brookfield Lions Club, and PCC Sia Dowlatshahi, from the South Windsor Lions Club, and to ask them questions.

DG Khan also stated that the next Cabinet Meeting will be held on **Monday, October 9th**, 7:00 pm, at Lakeview Lodge in Bethany.

District Chaplain Jim Bennett offered a benediction.

With business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



James B. Bennett, PDG
Cabinet Secretary, District 23A