

Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation
Business Meeting
August 9, 2009

Call to order; Lion George Edwards at 8:00 a.m.

Invocation; Lion Ethel Robin, PDG

Pledge of Allegiance; Lion Don Brown, DG

Opening Remarks; President George Edwards

- Hope all had a good committee meeting, dinner, evening

Roll Call; Lion Fred Lantz, PDG

Introduction of Guests; L – 1, I – 1, O – 2, N- 1, S – 4

Lion Jim Caruso asked that the Personnel & Properties Committee Report be added to the minutes from the last meeting. Motion by Lion Elliott Bauman to accept the minutes with the correction, 2nd by Lion Bill Heyerdale.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Lion Cesar Fonseca, PDG, 2nd by Lion Phil Alexander, PDG

Acceptance of Donations, Lion Sharon Williams

- \$48 from District 8-S Seminar and Cabinet meeting

Lion Chris Carlone made a presentation about the Fair Share Program. Donations can now be made thru a draft program with your bank. New outlying clinic, Pool of Siloam is for indigent care patients in the Shreveport area. If patients have insurance (Medicare or Medicaid) they will be seen in a private clinic in Bossier City. The Pool of Siloam has about 400 patients waiting for eye screening. Donations for their care is being accepted.

Committee Reports:

Executive; Lion Mike Kennedy

- Meeting opened with presentation by Dr. James Hill, PhD, Professor of Ophthalmology, Pharmacology, Microbiology and Neuroscience. Dr. Hill presented the case that bridge funds from Lions was needed to salvage their research program for a couple of years until the new administration could get their program underway. A new Chairman of Ophthalmology will not be in place until about mid 2010. In March of 2010 a large grant from the National Eye Institute will end. This grant cannot be renewed until the program at LSU can be rebuilt. Bridge funds from Lions would assist in continuing certain aspects of the program, thus helping recruiting. Help was specifically requested to fund key personnel and certain laboratory

operations. Monies requested was \$250,000 over a 3 year period or about \$83,000 per year. Discussion ensued that it was possible that a LCIF Core 4 grant (matching funds required) could be obtained for the laboratory equipment but such a grant could not be obtained to support key personnel. That portion would have to come from the Lions of Louisiana.

- Current Status of the Building – Much of the Lions building has been re-allocated to the Neuroscience group. There are few “eye” people on the 3rd floor. LLEF has been allowed to keep a separate space across the hall for additional office/storage.
- Current Status of Operations – Reference pages 3 & 4, referrals of all kinds were up for the 4th quarter largely due to new outlying clinics. See page 12. Reference pages 20-30, club contributions are up for the 4th quarter. As noted, we finished in the black for the year. But next year we will not have the advantage of a \$100,000 contribution from a club closure.
- Aged Receivables – Over 90 days total \$1,528.50 over 11 clubs.
- Received annual report from Development Director Chris Carlone who has visited 73 clubs this year as well as attending various Lions functions through out the state such as Installation Dinners, Charter Nights, Fund Raising Events, and other special meetings. He was instrumental in establishing relationships with 10 new outlying clinics.

Officer and Trustee Development; Lion Ed Frost

- The committee will hold a seminar for one year and two year board members at the next board meeting. PDG Bryan Foret will make the presentation during the committee meetings. At our 3rd and 4th meeting, they will visit committees.

Past President, no meeting held

Long Range and Planning; Lion Anthony Fregosi, PDG

- The committee discussed the need for other committees to forward their long range goals to the Long Range Committee for inclusion in a comprehensive long range plan. Lion President George Edwards stopped by and the committee asked that he please stress to the other committees the need for them to forward their plants to the long range committee.
- The committee then discussed the “reduced” communications with LSU and the desire to try and re-establish a closer relationship with LSU. The committee understands that the LSU system is in “turmoil” and does not want to get caught up in their problems, but does feel it is in our best interest to try and maintain the best lines of communications possible.
- Dr. Leland Scoggins will reach out to LSU in an attempt to open lines of communications.

Personnel and Properties; Lion Jim Caruso, PDG

- The first topic of discussion was the financial statement concerning eye glass billing. The billing was found to be in line. All bills in excess of 90 days have been paid or are in the process of being paid.
- PDG Leo White asked about the inventory of property belonging to the Foundation. Recently, Cesar Fonseca and Jim Caruso met Nancy at the storage facility rented by the Foundation on Jefferson Davis in New Orleans, and reviewed the contents. Fifty-four boxes of Patient Referrals, paid bills and all other sorts of miscellaneous

paperwork dating back to the early 1980's was destroyed. A company came to the site and shredded the boxes. Items of interest were kept at the facility. Two purple and gold shovels with brass plates depicting the ground breaking of the Lions/LSU clinic were to be sent to the Foundation office. Furniture and equipment with the exception of the new equipment at the Foundation office have been identified. All equipment still has to be cataloged.

- Some of the operation of the office and travels were discussed with Nancy and Chris.

Cubsight; Lion Phil Alexander; PDG

- Lion Jeff gave a report on '08-'09 screening. We set a new record, but we didn't reach our goal of 20,000 child screenings. Only 19,974 children were screened. We did agree on a new goal for eye screening for '09-'10 to be 23,000 children. We will encourage all of our screening teams across the state to accept that goal as their own goal and work to exceed it.
- Lion Jeff reported 3 more of the Welsh Allyn units had arrived and have already been assigned out.
- Lion Jeff also pointed out to us that the Cubsight office was having some problems keeping up with the screening data entry into our files. Now that we have been increasing the numbers of children being screened, his office staff are being taxed pretty bad to get all the data entered in a timely fashion. He has a need for more part time help during the heavy screening period, the months of August thru April. 30 hours a week for 36 weeks @ \$7.50/hr = \$8,100 a year.
- Action Item: to hire part time help for Cubsight.

Hearing and Speech; no meeting

Eyeglass Recycling; Lion Thomas Babin

- Districts L, I, N not represented. We talked about getting the Region Chair to talk with his Zone chairs to get clubs to get the sight chairperson to be in charge of recycling glasses. Would also like to find new locations for eyeglass recycling boxes. 290,200 pairs of glasses were received by the Harahan Lions for recycling. If clubs have requests for glasses please give the Harahan Lions 30-90 days notice.

Low Vision; Lion Jack Wallace, PCC

- We report to you today on the status of the Low Vision Program. Based on the current budgetary needs of this program, we believe it to be in the best interest of the Eye Foundation to table this committee until further discussions can be had with the Lighthouse for the Blind.
- The current budget needs for this committee are approximately \$41,500. However, we currently only have ~\$8,000 for our needs. Lion Jack Wallace has plans to discuss working in conjunction with the Lighthouse for the Blind to allow them to take over the actions of this committee, with the Eye Foundation contributing to the Lighthouse's cause to provide for the necessary equipment needs of the patients.
- This motion was discussed among Lions Jack Wallace, Peggy Wallace, Shawn Foret, Evelyn Kirk and Willie Dixon and agreed that this would be the best course of action at this time.
- Action item: to approve budget for a Low Vision program.

Constitution and By-Laws; Lion Bruce Simpson

- Discussed election of At Large Members of the Executive Committee and recommend the following change to the By-Laws:

Amend Article III Section 3. Nomination and Election to read as follows:

Section 3: Nomination and Election

- A. Nominations of candidates for the election of the three (3) at large positions on the Executive Committee shall be received from the floor during the Saturday session of the first quarterly meeting each year.
- B. The Officer and Trustee Development Committee shall certify that these candidates are qualified and shall conduct the election.
- C. The election shall be an action item at the Sunday meeting of the first quarterly meeting.
- D. There shall be one election by secret ballot to fill these three (3) positions. Each voting Trustee may cast one vote for any three (3) candidates.
- E. Except as provided below, the three (3) Trustees receiving the largest number of votes (a plurality) shall be declared the winners.

In the event it is necessary to elect a member from any Sub-District(s) not represented on the Executive Committee as required in Section 2 above, the candidate from each such Sub-District receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared the Executive Committee member from his/her Sub-district. Thereafter, the determination of the winner(s) of any remaining at large seats on the Executive Committee shall be determined in accordance with the above paragraph.

Finance and Audit; no meeting held

- Action Item: to approve budget for '09-'10.

Fundraising; Lion Ann Sanders, PDG

- Contact each Club and ask if they contribute to the Eye Foundation. Work from there with each club in the state.
- Check on Boat tickets.
- Ask your members of this Eye Foundation what you in your mind do as a fundraiser.
- We will do our best this year to make the Eye Foundation very proud of us.

Marketing and Public Relations; Lion Tom Gould

- Elicited from the committee which logo to use for the Valued Partner static cling sticker for the outlying clinics. Recommend to the Board that we proceed.

Grants and Endowments; Lion Bob Ebberman, PDG

- We were informed that at the morning LLEF Executive Committee Meeting there was a request from LSU for a grant in the amount of \$83,000 per year for the next 3 years. This appears to be for equipment but may include some salaries for personnel involved. This will be investigated to determine the purpose and the specific needs. LCIF may consider this a Sight First project or a Core 4 grant request depending on the requirements of LSU. We will refer to LCIF at Oak Brook for further guidance.
- Our guest, Lion Ed Orgeron, LLEF investment counselor, gave us the current Endowment (Sight & Hearing Foundation, Inc.) account analysis as brought to the LLEF Executive Committee meeting earlier in the day. His recommendation to us is that of the \$323K value of the account there is \$93K in cash that should be invested in an interest bearing instrument. We concur. Lion Ed awaits LLEF Executive Committee approval for this recommended action to take place.

Contributions and Visitation; Lion Michele Waskom

- The committee met in the ballroom. The committee is given the task of assigning every club in the state at least one Trustee Liaison who will visit their assigned club before the November board meeting. The Trustee Liaison will challenge the clubs to make the eye and ear facilities available to their communities. They will also “thank” the clubs for their support when appropriate and ask for support or continued support for future donations.
- The committee reviewed a list of the clubs in the state and will begin assigning a Trustee Liaison to each club. The committee should receive a complete list of all Trustees and Advisors from the Foundation’s Office Manager in the coming week and expect to be able to complete the assignments in the 7-10 days following. The assignments will be emailed or placed in the U. S. Postal mail.
- The committee also discussed the usefulness of a sample script for the Liaison to use. The committee will work together to draft a script and have it completed in time to attach it to the Liaison’s list of club assignments. All club assignments should be completed by the end of August; giving 2 months to conduct visitations.

Diabetes and Diabetic Eye Disease; Lion Susan Hinckley

- Program given by Lion Chris Carlone and will be presented by Lion Cesar Fonseca.
- National Diabetes month is November. National Diabetes Day is Saturday, November 14, 2009. The goal is to have a Diabetes Awareness Walk at least by each district, but preferably, by each club or a combination of clubs. Information will be completed and sent to each DG to be put in their next 2 newsletters (September & October). All districts are asked to participate actively. For any information you may contact: Lion Susan Hinckley at 318-235-3465 (cell) or 318-259-8595 (home) or by email at susansturtle108@yahoo.com.

Clinic and Research; Lion Cesar Fonseca, PDG

- Joint meeting with Diabetes and Diabetic Eye Disease committee.
- Lion Chris Carlone working with a possibly 2 Charter Schools in New Orleans to screen students for eye problems. Will ask for Lions assistance using the Welch Allyn Screening Unit. The Essilor Company will pay for the total cost of the glasses. LLEF will need to provide an Optician only.
- At Lions International Convention, Lion Chris learned about Friends of Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation and their Glaucoma Screening Unit.

They would provide the van at no cost to us except advertising to get information out to the public. We could possibly team up with LSU.

- Action Items: Charter School screening and Mobile Glaucoma Screening Van.

Motion made by Lion Lucien Marks, PDG to discontinue the Low Vision Program presently administrated by Dr. Steve Gill, 2nd by Lion Jim Caruso, PDG. After clarification by Lion George Edwards, motion withdrawn.

Motion made by Lion Jim Caruso, PDG to proceed with Charter School Program, 2nd by Lion Elsie Marks, carried by majority (28 for – 4 opposed).

Motion made by Lion Cesar Fonseca, PDG to proceed with Glaucoma Screening Van. We are to organize and cover advertising costs. 2nd by Lion Earl Pellegrin, carried.

Motion made by Lion Phil Alexander, PDG to amend the budget to include a 2nd part time employee for Cubsight, 2nd by Lion Bill Moore, PDG, carried.

Motion made by Lion Lee Mott, PDG to approve the entire '09-'10 budget, 2nd by Lion Sharon Williams, carried.

Old Business; Big push for Big Bass Rodeo.

New Business; 87th State Convention April 16-18, 2010 in Slidell, LA.

Next LLEF Meeting to be held in Scott, LA on November 7 & 8, 2009.

Adjourn