

**Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation
Board of Trustee Meeting
Feb. 9, 2008
Ruston, Louisiana**

Meeting was called to order by President Cesar Fonseca, PDG at 1:20 PM.

Invocation was given by Lion Ann Sanders, PDG

Pledge was led by Lion Leland Stanford, VDG

President's remarks: President Fonseca recognized Lion Mary Williams, President of the Ruston Club. He thanked her club for hosting the meeting. Things are looking positive. Our finances are in the black again. Offices should be back in New Orleans by June or July. Clinic should be open at the Lions/LSU building by July 2009. Lion Cesar presented Executive Director Bobby Eichhorn, PID \$500 to settle a bet concerning LSU as national champions. Lion Bobby in turn tried most graciously to give a Tulane National Championship banner to Lion Cesar. It did not exist.

Roll was taken by Secretary George Edwards.

District L: Present, nine; excused, two; absent, six.

District I: Present, eight; excused, four; absent, three.

District O: Present, nine; excused, eight; absent, eight.

District N: Present, ten; excused, four; absent, five.

District S: Present, fourteen; excused, three; absent, fifteen.

Total: Present, 50; not present, 58.

Guests were then recognized.

Five from District L; two from District I; one from District O; zero from District N and eight from District S.

Motion was made by Lion Jim Caruso, PDG to accept the minutes as printed, second was by Lion "Pinkie" Willie, Past President. Motion carried.

A Knight of Sight was presented to Lion Frank Merritt.

Treasurer's report was given by Lion Bob Williams, PDG.

Treasurer Bau Lake, PDG then accepted donations totaling \$11,145.

An LSU floor mat was then auctioned. The winning bid of \$110 was given by Lion Gloria Lynch, Past President.

Executive Director Robert Eichhorn then gave his report.

Finances look good. 90+ days accounts receivable is zero. Excited about getting back into our building. The hearing with the state concerning the termination of Jewell Breaux was decided in our favor. The Sugar Bowl raffle very successful. Sixty-eight clubs sold at least one ticket. A certificate of appreciation will be presented to these clubs. Netted approximately \$110,000. Plaques were presented to the top five sellers of raffle tickets. Lion Don Brown sold the most, 175 tickets.

A last dollar auction was won by Lion Sharon Williams. She won the "Wild Thing" musical Lion.

State CubSight Coordinator Jeff Robinson then reported that halfway through our fiscal year 12,292 children have been screened. Grants have been obtained to purchase some digital photo screeners. New instruments are much faster and save money by not having to purchase film.

Committee meeting locations were then made and the general session was adjourned.

**Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation
Board of Trustee Meeting
Feb. 10, 2008
Ruston, Louisiana**

Meeting was called to order at 8:10 AM by President Cesar Fonseca.

Invocation was given by Lion Betty Jeffress

Pledge was led by Lion George Edwards

Roll was taken by Secretary George Edwards

District L: Present, ten; excused, one; absent, six.

District I: Present, seven; excused, five; absent, three.

District O: Present, eight; excused, eight; absent, nine.

District N: Present, twelve; excused, two; absent, five.

District S: Present, fourteen; excused, three; absent, fifteen.

Total: Present, 51; not present, 57.

Treasurer Bau Lake, PDG asked for any questions concerning the financial report presented yesterday. Motion was made by Lion Bill Heyerdale and seconded by Lion Harvey Willie to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Executive Committee report by Immediate Past President J.W. Harrison, PCC. Discussed restructuring of LLEF staff by having a Lions Development Director and a Corporate and Grants Director directly under the Executive Director. Receivables looking good. Discussed funding of the Low Vision Program. Move offices back into Lions/LSU by July, 2008.

Louisiana Association of the Blind in Shreveport has indicated that they do not think that they are prepared at this time to partner with LLEF Low Vision Program. They are working on their business plan. An action item presented was to combine our Low Vision Gala with the blind radio station gala.

Past Presidents Committee report given by J.W. Harrison, PCC.
Discussed preparing chronological biographies of all past presidents.

Nominating Committee report given by Dr. Lisso Simmons, PDG.
Officers of the LLEF for the fiscal year 2008-2009 were nominated as follows: Lion Ethel Robin, PDG as Treasurer, Lion Bau Lake, PDG as Secretary, Lion George Edwards as Vice President and Lion Mike Kennedy, PCC as President.

Long Range Planning Committee report given by Lion Cathy Comeaux, DG. Refine long range plans as presented by assigning committees the task that we are developing to ensure long range plans are followed through. Met with Club Visitation to let them know that they should prepare to do annual training of new advisors and trustees. Need to establish a Low Vision Committee to monitor our Low Vision Program. Visited Diabetes Committee to notify them that 2008-2009 begins a diabetic awareness drive throughout the state of Louisiana through associations with other diabetic organizations. (This may call for a major grant from LCIF and other funding sources.

Personnel and Properties Committee report given by Lion Jim Caruso, PDG. Committee will review staff job descriptions and report at the next quarterly meeting.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee report given by Past President Bruce Simpson. Would like to simplify the election of the three at-large member of the Executive Committee. Resolution to amend Article III Section 3 of the LLEF Bylaws to read as follows:

Section 3: Nomination and Election

- A. Nomination of candidates for the three(3) elected positions on the Executive Committee shall be the second order of business of the new Board of Trustees at its first quarterly meeting.
- B. Nominations shall be received from the floor. The Nominations and Elections Committee shall certify that the candidates are qualified and that at least one candidate is nominated from any sub-district(s) not represented on the Committee as required in Section 2 above

C. The election for the seats on the Executive Committee shall be held as the last item of business prior to the adjournment of the quarterly meeting. This election shall be by secret ballot with each trustee being allowed three votes. The Nominee from any underrepresented Sub-district receiving the largest number of votes among the nominees from their Sub-district(s) shall be declared elected. From the remainder of the nominees, the nominee(s) receiving the largest number of votes (a plurality) shall be declared the winner(s) of the remaining seats.

CubSight Committee report given by Lion Phil Alexander, PDG.

There was a brief discussion on the number of screenings completed in the first half of the year. Hopefully, we will continue at the same pace for the remainder of the year. If so, we will surely reach our goal of 20,000.

The budget was then discussed. Due to the use of the new vision screeners, we will have a renewed interest in the CubSight vision screening program. We foresee a need to increase the budget by roughly 30% to \$237,995. Also, we need to budget approximately \$48,000 for 10 new Welch-Allen Sure Sight Vision Screeners.

Diabetes Committee report given by Lion Norma Cormier.

November is Diabetes Awareness Month. Suggest that LLEF send out a letter to every Lions club in the state asking that they try to do at least one blood sugar screening in their community that month.

Hearing and Speech Committee report given by Lion Pat Bayard.

Can used hearing aid batteries be recycled? LSU's clinic office is now located at 2820 Napoleon Ave. in New Orleans. Phone: 504-412-1585.

Eyeglass Recycling Committee report given by Lion Mauro Leiva.

\$2000 needed in next year's budget.

Finance and Audit Committee report was given by Lion Lee Mott, PDG.

The budget for 08-09 was considered in general terms. Inputs from committees will be considered as received. Dr. Gill provided estimate of \$75,000 for Low Vision. Budget for 08-09 will be developed over next 2-3 months and presented at the next quarterly meeting in May.

Rent in Slidell was approved at the last meeting but expired in December. Action item: Approve Slidell rent considering that our move back to New Orleans has been delayed.

Fund Raising Committee report given by Lion Don Brown.

Big Bass was discussed. It will be here before we know it. We hope that that committee will have someone in each district in charge of scheduling both the boat and the four wheeler for appearances at locations throughout the state. Also discussed was a 50/50 raffle, which Lion Cesar Fonseca informed us that it would be prohibited unless a stated amount of the prize was on the ticket---which could be done. More research is needed on this. Lion Bill Bingham , PDG mentioned that the reason that we put all raffles on one ticket for the Big Bass was to not ask members to sell more raffle tickets. Lion Bill also discussed the 8-N Golf Tournament coming up May 12, 2008(10th Annual). Last year three clubs worked and raised approximately \$25,000. There was discussion of coordinating 3 to 5 tournaments at different locations throughout the state in 2009. Lion Don Brown will try to attend the May tournament. Lion Bob Andrepont, PDG discussed a bookmark project that we could do for the state convention. He will address the board Sunday. This will be an action item. The Sugar Bowl raffle was discussed and we must look at next year to make it better.

Grants Committee report given by Lion Tom Gould.

We discussed developing “partnership” relationships with corporate entities, and anticipated ways in which the grant committee can support a developmental director/grant writer when hired.

Director Eichhorn shared his vision of the office of Corporate Developmental Director/Grant Writer.

Lion Anthony Fregosi and I discussed ways for a dispersed grant committee to communicate, as quarterly meetings won't suffice.

Endowments Committee report was given by Lion Ruthie Lake.

Discussion ensued regarding the printing of envelopes for donations to the Endowment Fund. It was decided to have \$500 worth of envelopes without prepaid postage printed. Lion Mike Kennedy, PCC will do the page layout and PDF file to take to the printer. This can only be accomplished if the Finance Committee approves our request for funds. The Sight and Hearing Executive Committee met and directed the endowment Committee to review the Sight and Hearing portfolio. If there are areas that are suspect, they should take appropriate action to maximize the return on investment.

Contributions and Visitations Committee report was given by Lion Jackie Morse. Discussed club visitations. Lion Cathy Comeaux and Lion Bryan Foret from Long Range Planning came by and let us know that we would be doing the training for new advisors starting in August, 2008. We discussed the need to have visitation assignments made in the last quarter to give plenty of time for setting up visitations. Contributions are looking good but we need to keep the good work going. Visitation forms are coming in but slowly. Those visiting need to make sure to fill out the forms and send them in. We had no budget items since we feel that all items used for training new advisors should come from the administrative budget. No action items.

Action Items:

To combine our Low Vision Gala with the Blind Radio Gala.
Motion by Lion Jim Caruso and seconded by Lion Bill Heyerdale. Motion approved with no opposition. Motion to pay the rent at the Slidell location through June. Motion by Lion Sharon Williams and seconded by Lion Gloria Lynch. Motion approved with no opposition.

Old business:

Director Eichhorn informed the group that a \$500,000 grant from LCIF for clinic equipment has been approved.

New Business:

Auctioned scarf made by Lion Joyce Willie to Lion Vickie Alexander for \$55. Auctioned "Wild Thing Lion" to Lion Kathy Harrison for \$51. Another LSU floor mat was sold to Lion Gloria Lynch for \$110.

Benediction was voiced by Lion Ann Sanders and meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 AM.

LOUISIANA LIONS EYE FOUNDATION STAFF

Executive Director

Robert J. "Bobby" Eichhorn, PID

Operations Manager

Nancy Gould

Patient Coordinator

Pat Bayard

Development Director

Chris Carlone

Optical Department

Mauro Leiva, Optician
The Optical Center, LLC

Phone (504) 525-7254 **This number is not in service at this time. When we return to the Lions/LSU Building, the number will be reinstated.

Foundation Mailing Address:

2020 Gravier Street, Suite B
New Orleans, LA 70112

Phone (504) 525-7235
(800) 441-LION {5466}
Fax (985) 646-4430

Cubsight Coordinator

Jeff Robinson

Cubsight Mailing Address:

825 Kaliste Saloom Road, III-100
Lafayette, LA 70508

Phone (337) 262-5312
(866) CUB-SITE {282-7483}
Fax (337) 262-5237

Eyeglass Recycling Mailing Address

Eyeglass Recycling Program
Harahan Lions Club
1001 Hickory Avenue
Harahan, LA 70123