

Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation
Third Quarter Executive Meeting
Saturday, May 15, 2010
Hammond, LA

Called to Order: Lion Cesar Fonseca, PDG @ 9:36 AM

Invocation: Lion J. W. Harrison, PCC

Pledge of Allegiance: Lion Bill Heyerdale

Opening Remarks: Lion Cesar Fonseca thanked everyone for attending and announced that we have a new Executive Director, Lion Chris Carlone. Everything running smoothly as it was. Hope we have a long relationship.

Current status of the Lions and the LSU building?

Instructed to meet with LSU? No, Lion Gloria Lynch recommended, but never a direction.

- Lion Chris spoke about breaking away from LSU, wanted a decision based on facts vs emotion. Lion Nancy and I (Lion Chris) will gather facts regarding break away from LSU. Talked to Lion Bob Ebberman, PDG who forwarded cost per square foot for the N.O. area.
- LSU is aware we are thinking about moving, not what they want. LSU suggested expansion to Bogalusa, no optician space available, but there are optical shops in the area.
- Can get a outlying clinics in 8-S within 2 weeks, except Houma area. Can we find enough doctors in the Houma area, since that is where most of our patients are. Our program is not good for doctors because we don't pay enough. Most doctors will except 4-6 patients a month, will not accept 20 patients a month that is needed for Houma. No problem in NOLA, West Bank. Should establish something in Lucher-Gramercy. West Bankers forced to cross the river, aggravating the Clubs. Can get clinics in NO, West Bank, Slidell, and Mandeville.
- Lion George asked why did we start looking for outlying clinics in 8-S? Lion Cesar – if we break away from LSU. Lion George asked why are we breaking away from LSU? Lion J. W. stated we are not necessarily going to do that.
- Lion Cesar stated we are not getting our money's worth for \$200K. In old days, we were told that we were getting a million dollars worth of service. Requests to LSU even before Lion Bobby Eichhorn left were unanswered. Lion J. W. Harrison stated that it was because of the vast amount of turmoil within admin changes at LSU. Lion Jeff said money is for research, Lion Cesar little research is being done.
- Lion Mike, Lion Cesar, Lion J.W. and Lion George met with Dr. Bergsma who told them very little research being done. We, as clubs, are not meeting our goals of donations to the Foundation and it is putting a burden on the staff.

Points discussed by Lion Nancy regarding conversations with Dr. Bergsma.

- Need more office space.
- More money for research to get in their good graces.
- Lion Nancy stated contract is in consideration of space, services and research.
- Lion Cesar agreed that Dr. Bergsma told the Board that he was using \$200,000 to back salaries.
- Restricted us to 4 patients with insurance a week at Napoleon. Bulk of patients are indigent.
- Recently started to allow us to send non insured patients to Napoleon. Stated 55% of patients seen in Houma have insurance. Is profitable for LSU. Napoleon clinic is a private clinic – no Lions signage. Lord & Taylor only seeing our patients one day per month while LCIF funded \$500,000.

Lion Chris asked, “Has LSU turned away a patient?” Lion Nancy answered “yes”. Lion Cesar mentioned patients with no SS# cannot be seen by LSU. We have to re-route to other clinics.

Lion George thought it was short on money, would have to withdraw from LSU. Lion Cesar ready to sit down w/LSU and discuss relationship. Impression by Lion Cesar was that Dr. Bergsma was unable to assist us as they are looking for a replacement. Lion Cesar and Lion Chris agreed what Lion Nancy stated that LSU was using our money for salary. Lion Chris agreed with Lion Nancy that the LSU contract was in consideration of leased space, services and research. Doesn't say successful research, just says research. Lion Chris feels they are not in breach of contract. Lion Nancy did research Slidell office space.

Lion J.W. after Katrina, all research protocols destroyed, have to start from square one. When times are in turmoil, things either get better or worse. Would behoove us for the Board to sit with LSU and ask what direction we are headed. Good, bad or ugly. We need to be prepared. This is all we are doing at this point. Lion Chris stated that if this happened, our office would be up in 2 weeks. \$200,000 would be plenty to create a new office space. Could run office out of Lion Nancy and Lion Chris' homes if possible. Did it before. Operations need not be impacted.

Lion Cesar – Lion George directed to set meeting with Bergsma, friendly meeting.

Lion Bob Williams suggested long term small committee needs to be created, LSU cannot provide services but still want \$200K.

Motion by Lion J. W. that Lions George, Cesar, Chris, Bill Heyerdale and Bob Williams have a “come to Jesus” meeting with Dr. Bergsma. Seconded by Lion Bill. Passed.

Motion by Lion George to instruct Chris to set up 2 outlying clinics in West Bank and Lutchter Gramercy. Lion Nancy mentioned Metairie covered by Dr. Ellen Schneider. Second by Lion J. W. Passed.

Lion Sharon “if not broke, don’t fix it” – leave Houma alone. Suggestion by Lion Nancy to purchase lane of equipment and get our own doctor to come to the Rod Rodrigue Clinic in Houma if we had a break with LSU. Do not want to upset Houma area Lions.

Cubsight - Lion Jeff Robinson. Up again for renewal of DHH contract. Submitted reflecting decrease in film, increase in Welch-Allyn equipment. Will not know until August/September, but no reason to be concerned. Lorraine Farr is retiring from DHH and Melinda Peet is replacing. Lion Jeff has a better working relationship with Ms. Peet. Employed by LSU to work with Lions. Eligible to retire from LSU. Would become employee of LLEF. Doesn’t affect DHH contract. Sometime after end of fiscal year. Should be a savings since LSU won’t be skimming money for ‘benefits’.

- Low vision – Lion George emailed MOU from Low Vision, Etc. (LVE) to Board. What we want to do and can’t find any negatives with it. Lion Cesar does not see any problem. Lion Chris agrees, good program. Lion Jack says we can save money by purchasing devices, no travel or salary with \$20,000 budget. Lion J. W. if we do away with Dr. Gill, what happens to Houma clinic? Lion Chris discussed with Lion George that we set our parameters. Devices, period. Lion Chris believes working with LVE should not change our arrangement with LSU/Dr. Gill as far as our Houma clinic is concerned. LVE will accept any patient referred to them by Lions. Will go to that persons’ home and determine what they need. Lion Tom Gould asked where LVE gets funded? LVE is funded by the government. Similar situation with Glaucoma program. Lion Bill asked about coverage. Lion Chris stated same areas as Lighthouse for the Blind, GNO, St. Tammany and Houma areas covered. Motion by Lion Bill that LLEF enters into MOU with LVE. Second by Lion J. W. Passed. Lion Cesar asked if this is an action item for the Board? Low vision committee to bring this issue up tomorrow to the entire Board.

Discussion from Lion George regarding any agreement with Dr. Gill regarding Low Vision? Had a 2 year agreement. No MOU in force with Dr. Gill. Do not want to continue an unsatisfactory relationship with Dr. Gill. Lion Chris clarified that we need to set parameters, club has to refer and we only pay for device. Once patient is diagnosed, LLEF will contact LVE. Discussion about simple items that we don’t want patients to wait on. Simple phone call to LVE. Motion by Lion George that we will inform Dr. Gill about our relationship with LVE and we will no longer be using him for our Low Vision patients.

Lion Sharon announced we are \$60K short this fiscal year. Lion Bob stated not based on budget, but actual numbers. Good money at State Convention. Lion Cesar stated that Clearview Lions Club should close and donate, but don’t know when. Need to make everyone aware of shortfall.

Lion Nancy advised audit is complete. Answered questions by Claude Silverman with help of Lion Bob Williams in order to finish ’08 Form 990. Next 990 due in November. Will not be as lengthy a procedure. Lion Bob stated no excuse for 990s to be running late. Lion Cesar asked if we are going to change firms? Too much money! Reminder that it

was a 2 year audit for \$20,000. Lion Bill stated cost doesn't matter, we are all liable. Lion Sharon stated we need to be up to date before we change firms. Audit needs to be done in a timely matter. Lion Nancy mentioned engagement letter needs to be received from Erickson, Krentel and Laporte. Lion Cesar asked Lion Bob to make it happen.

Aged Receivables in great shape. Great progress with lab, actually making money because of lab. Any problems with Lab? None.

Lion Lucien Marks wants to see comparative charts showing income/expenses for last few years. Lion Cesar stated expenses have been cut to bone.

Committee Review Statement – tasks for committees??

1. Lion Cesar thought Clinic and Research members should be informed about meeting with Dr. Bergsma to see if they would like to attend.
2. Need to make sure that Contribution and Visitation gets help next year making club visits to encourage donations. Need to bring forms to next meeting in August.

Old Business

1. Knight of Sight for Dr. Gebhardt: \$200 so far, need \$1,000.
2. 'Did you know?' postcards should go out in next 2 weeks. Send money now!
3. Lion George said Lion Bruce Simpson's letter in response to Lion Bobby Eichhorn's request for additional pay was returned to him "undeliverable". Check where it was sent.

New Business

1. Per Lion Mike, two weeks at Chateau Orleans this year. Two prizes can be included in one raffle.
2. 3 Year Trustee – no one elected at State Convention from 8-N. Executive Committee selects, with consideration to DG, to fill for 1 year within the district. Lion Bill nominated Ruthie Lake to fill in until next State Convention.
3. Lion George asked about appointment for 8-S to fill last year of Lion Sharon Williams' 3 year position. DG Peggy Wallace to get back to board with her selection.
4. Lion George recommended and made motion to pay Dr. Gill mileage to Houma and Covington clinics. Prior to Katrina clinic was held in N.O.; no payment needed. Request made by Dr. Bergsma. Comment made by Lion Bob Williams that LSU opened the Houma clinic to satisfy their commitment to the Lions. They are not doing us a favor. Discussion Second none. Motion died

Auto lensometer used for recycling eyeglasses has a broken printer. Lion Don has a broken printer. It can be replaced for \$500. Lion J.W. made a motion to fix machine. Second by Lion Russell Leblanc. Motion passed. Will try to send someone to do some training with Lion Don or train a new person on it.

Meeting adjourned.