

District 5NE
Meeting Minutes
10-30-09

I. Pledge of Allegiance/Call to Order

A. Introductions

~ Members present: Duane Zwinger, Arlo Anderson, Mel Olson, Rob Lien, Al Kalbaugh, Katherine Tweed, Katrina Wendel, Wayne Westlund, Tom Saddler, Doug Roundy, Pat Roundy, Robert Littlefield, Steve Johnson, Liz Simpson, Ron Ulee (district vice-governor from Saskatchewan),

Rob Lien was appointed Tail Twister and fined Ron Ulee and District Governor Wayne Westlund

B. District Governor's Report

~DG Westlund has been ill and so he has not made very many club visits so far.

~There is a new club that is in the midst of being formed up in Cavalier. There are 17 members that have paid so far and there is going to be an organizational meeting set.

C. Motion to Suspend Voting Rules was made by Steve Johnson and seconded by Katherine Tweed. Motion carried.

D. Approval of Minutes from August 13, 2009 was made by Al Kalbaugh and 2nd by Doug Roundy. Motion Carried.

E. Agenda Additions:

~Lion Robert Littlefield asked for a motion to adopt standard by-laws.

~IPDG Duane Zwinger wanted to speak about the Public Relations Grant.

~Lion Katherine Tweed needed to speak about an update on Youth Exchange Camp for 2011. This update calls for financial contributions and is not included under the Youth Exchange report.

II. District Financial Report

~ND 5 Club officer bond should be charged at \$5.75 vs. the \$5.55 that was billed. When the billing is being done, Lion Tom will roll it over to \$5.75.

~There is a form that needs to be filled out, which Lion Tom was previously unaware, it is a tax form that Lion Tom will be taking to a specialist from his local club to assist him with the proper way to complete it.

~DG Wayne Westlund reported that Casselton has not paid. He asked Lion Tom to hold off billing them for awhile. Lion John and Lion Wanda Barnett, who were up for the Extension Workshop, gave some advice that perhaps the Casselton club could have the \$150 fee waved for 8 Casselton Club members that dropped and were not paying dues.

~Lion Robert Littlefield had an update: International has agreed to waive the 8 membership dues, and Casselton has now replaced them with new members. International is crediting them and Casselton will pay for their remaining members.

~Lion Duffy reported that the treasurer for Northwood Lions had to leave his position; the secretary of the club is now filling in as treasurer until the end of the year.

~Lion Robert Littlefield had made several copies of the proposed new Constitution and By-laws for the new district and was wondering if he could be reimbursed for those costs. As long as he submits the bill to Lion Tom, then he will be reimbursed for those costs.

~IPDG Zwinger wondered if all clubs have paid their dues and Lion Tom Saddler said yes, with the exception of Casselton.

~Lion Robert Littlefield has selected the next treasurer, Lion Susan Anderson, who also works for Gate City Bank in Fargo. Also, Lion Blake Straylow will be the next District Cabinet Secretary, Lion Blake has been the secretary before and works out of West Fargo.

~Lion Tom Saddler reported that 2nd Vice District Governor was added that had not been in the previous budget, since it was an added position.

~DG Westlund reported that the original budget was changed because of two additional costs that have not been in the budget from the previous year, the 2nd VDG cost & extra pin costs for ND 5 (which will be discussed later in the meeting).

~Lion Littlefield brought up the dues for the creation of the new district. As we are getting ready to set dues for new district anticipating 1500 new members, we need to think about how to figure out the dues and defend our budget since 5NE due are currently higher than 5NC.

~Lion Rob Lien asked what difference in cost is between 5NC and 5NE. Lion Robert Littlefield and DG Westlund that 5NC pays \$5.50, 5NW pays \$7, and 5NE pays \$8.

~Lion Rob Lien said that some clubs are wealthy and some are barley getting by and might not like to have significantly higher district dues. Lion Littlefield did say that it is pretty high to jump from \$5.50 to \$8. Lion Littlefield cautioned not to make an arbitrary decision on the budget and thought it should be stressed to build the budget together.

~IPDG Zwinger stated that last year's cabinet thought of charging so no one pays to go to the Leadership Rally, but ultimately did not pass it, and IPDG Zwinger still thinks it is a good idea and would support it. IPDG Zwinger said that it does work for the West, but they charge \$100 a club but it might be more appropriate to charge per member.

~Lion Rob Lien offered to help to sit on the budget committee which will make the new budget for next year.

~IPDG Duane Zwinger moved to accept the budget report with a 2nd by Lion Rob Lien. Motion Carried.

V. Reports

B. MERL this agenda item was moved ahead to accommodate the guest, who must visit all three cabinet meetings.

Guest Speaker – Lion Cindy Iverson, a mentor from S.D.

~Lion Cindy Iverson thanked everyone sitting on cabinet and wanted to introduce the Mentoring Program at the Multidistrict level.

~This is new to multidistrict, it has never tried before, and the concept is to combine MERL team position with the mentor position on the multidistrict level to give both positions some merit.

~Having a mentor from outside the state is a resource for district governors and vice district governors that could address questions and problems that might arise. It is sometimes better to consult an outside person.

~As a MERL representative, the focus of district & multidistrict is on extension, retention and leadership. We need to keep the members we recruit. If we get new lions involved, we can retain them.

~Lion Iverson reported that as part of the training for District Governor, International requires a 3-year plan of action from every district governor. In 5NE District Governor Wayne included increasing membership, finding new clubs, and increasing convention attendance. MERL team and cabinet members need to help each district governor meet their goals. This is also why the creation of the 2nd Vice District Governor position is so important to be able to assist the District Governor with their goals and to start thinking about goals of their own once they are the District Governor.

~Lion Iverson would like to encourage each member of the multidistrict and district to remember our motto: "We serve". Lion Iverson asked not to let political rhetoric to destroy our mission; and reminded everyone that it will take time for this idea to be fully embraced. Lion Iverson encouraged everyone to go out and advertise the Lions, who we are and what we do to promote membership. Lion Iverson also asked everyone present to think about becoming District Governor as it is a great experience.

~Lion Cindy Iverson's position is a 3-year position; which is wonderful since she can start working with 2nd vice district governors now and by the time they are DG there will be a relationship as DG. The success of this program is based on the use of the mentors. Lion Iverson feels that Multidistrict needs to have more of a purpose other than to train District Governors. Use your mentors to answer questions. SD and Canada also have their own mentors.

~IPDG Zwinger, at meeting in Canada, the International director was there and he was impressed with the program. IPDG Zwinger reminded everyone that it takes a little while to establish this position. IPDG Zwinger thought that how sequence should work: if a club has a question (for example on membership) they would talk to someone on district cabinet, and if the district cabinet has questions or the district governor, they would take it to the mentor position, in this case, Lion Cindy Iverson, which is just the progression of how it should happen.

~IPDG Zwinger remarked that at the Multidistrict level, Lion Cindy had used a key word "transition", that everyone in the Multidistrict are all in a big transition.

~Lion Cindy thought that we are not really going to see great results until 2nd Vice District Governor becomes District Governor and hopefully they will be familiar with everything when they become District Governor, making their job easier and more familiar.

~Lion Robert Littlefield likes the idea of coming up with 3-year plan for goals; you know what your job is as MERL, Leadership, Women in Lionism, etc. Lion Cindy said that it gives some continuity in developing and planning for the up-coming years.

~IPDG Zwinger wanted to "piggyback" on what Lion Robert Littlefield had said; last year was the first time they met as a MERL team, and it was commented at that time as the goals were being developed that it might not be affecting you very much, but it actually did; it seems like we are all on the same path.

~DG Westlund mention that in developing a 3-year plan for the goals, when asked what his goals are, it was easy to pull out the plan and describe it, other than a few numbers being changed.

~Lion Rob Lien wanted to clarify, regarding the goal for the formation of 4 clubs, towns/communities were being targeted.

~Lion Robert Littlefield state that the target areas are: the Northeast part of the state by Cavalier; the area by Griggs county/Cooperstown where there are no clubs; the Southeast corner,

Hankinson, Lidgerwood, Wyndmyere, Milnor, also have not clubs. The focus this year is Cavalier.

~DG Westlund had put down 4 new clubs for the year; Casselton was expected to be chartered in this term, but ended up with a charter in June, which was actually counted. Next year, DG Westlund would like to continue developing new clubs in that area on the next governor's behalf.

~Chairman of the conference briefly came in to the meeting to offer assistance and to relay information of meal tickets.

III. Old Business

A. Pin Policy

~DG Westlund wished for the pin policy to be defined a little more since he has plenty of them left over and was also wondering what to do with all of them. Lion Arlo Anderson thinks the central district ordered 200 altogether and there are too many pins.

~DG Westlund said that we are already ordering pin for Seattle and the Sydney pin are already here; which Lion Littlefield already has.

~Lion Robert Littlefield asked if we order these pins or do they just arrive. The pins are to give away. IPDG Zwinger feels that there are too many pin in excess. IPDG Zwinger reminded that our membership went down, but will increase again with 5NC, but every lion member should have one. Lion Robert Littlefield asked if we should sell these pins to the clubs. Lion Arlo said that when he receives the pins, he tries to have the clubs purchase them (a couple of clubs do, but only take approximately 4 or 5 pins.

~DG Westlund says there is no policy on what to do with them. Lion Arlo says that the district is supposed to get the money. Lion Robert Littlefield suggested that we need an order form to send to the clubs and recommend a certain amount of pins per club, which may make it easier to sell them. Lion Arlo suggested that we buy 250 pins to sell to the clubs next year and Lion Robert Littlefield suggested that then we ask each club to buy 5 pins, which is \$15 worth of pins.

~Multidistrict pins are given away, for example when going to International Conventions, these are where the multidistrict pins are distributed. Lion Robert Littlefield said that the multidistrict pins are the "PR" pins and the state pins are a money maker for the district.

~Lion Robert Littlefield suggested that there be a committee set up to draft a form to present to the cabinet in January. Lion Robert Littlefield made a motion for a three person committee to draft policies for state pins and multidistrict pins which was 2nd by Mel Olson. Motion carried.

~Lion Arlo Anderson stated that there are a lot of old pins and wondered what we should do with them. Lion Robert Littlefield asked for Lion Arlo to put together an inventory of the pins so that maybe we could gather collections and sell them at a silent auction or another event.

~Lion Arlo Anderson, Lion Katherine Tweed & Lion Robert Littlefield volunteered to be on the pin committee.

B. Status of Membership Goals

~ Lion Steve Johnson reported that his letter went out to the clubs promoting membership as the number one goal. This letter went out the Week of September 1st. Lion Steve sent a postcard with these letters which would identify the club membership chair and asked for them back. The postcards were self-addressed and there was a hint on them regarding how many members they had for their club to help them identify what a 5% increase would be in the next year. The deadline was October 1st and only 9 out of the 35 postcards had been returned.

~Lion Duffy stated, as membership chairman for Northwood, that Northwood is going to induct 3 new members and 2 more potential members; however she had not sent in the postcard yet since half of the Northwood members have not paid their dues and do not know if they are going to stay in the club.

~Lion Steve Johnson said that he is having some problems with the return of the postcards and that he will be contacting the Zone Chairs and working with them more closely to identify these clubs and have the Zone Chairs assist with local club response to the membership issue. Lion Steve also stated that he will approach the club presidents one more time and let them know if they have not identified the membership chair, it will be assumed that the club president is the membership chair. Lion Steve's goal is that by June 30th every club should have completed the 4-step process identified in the letter he sent out in September and have reported back the results.

~IPDG Zwinger wanted to brag a little about the membership for Carrington Lions, the club is now up to 35 members, 3 new members were inducted. Last year had they had 8 new members and only lost a few.

IV. New Business

A. **Endorsement of Steve Johnson as 2nd Vice District Governor** could not yet be determined since it has to be taken to the District-wide meeting on October 31st.

B. **Review of Proposed By-laws**

~Lion Robert Littlefield put forth a motion regarding the standard by-laws; since we are going to have new districts, created from the previous three, by combing parts of the district together, the leaders of the three districts agreed to propose to their districts to adopt that standard by-laws that Lions International recommends. The long range planning chairperson, in this case Lion Katherine, makes a report of those candidates who meet the criteria and those people will be nominated and voted on in the district wide meeting on Oct. 31st. Lion Robert's motion is to adopt the standard district by-laws and Lion Katherine Tweed 2nd the motion.

~Further Discussion: DG Westlund recognized that there had been some disagreement over the by-laws so each of the three districts agreed to accept standard Lions International by-laws to eliminate the disagreement and make the smoothest transition into the newly form districts as possible.

~Motion carried.

V. Reports

12. **Long Range Plan (Nominating) Committee's Report**

~Lion Katherine Tweed, as chair of the committee, reported that she and the rest of the committee, PDG Dobs and PDG Zwinger, verified the biographies of Lion Robert Littlefield and Lion Steven Johnson, as well as nominating letters on their behalf, and recommend that the nomination of Robert Littlefield move forward to the role of District Governor and that Steve Johnson move forward to the role of 1st Vice District Governor for next year. At this time the nominating committee does not have a nomination for 2nd Vice District Governor for next for the new District 5NE. The current District 5NC has not put forth any candidates as of yet even though they are away of the encouragement from current District 5NE on a candidate from that current district for 2nd Vice District Governor for next year.

~Lion Tweed asked for, on behalf of the Long Range Planning Committee, that the cabinet unanimously recommend Lion Robert Littlefield and Lion Steve Johnson to move forward to the roles of District Governor and Vice District Governor. Lion Tweed also stated that Lion Al Kahlbaugh agreed to handle the nomination of Lion Steve Johnson at the all district meeting.

~Lion Katherine Tweed made a motion for unanimous endorsement of Lion Robert Littlefield and Lion Steve Johnson and IPDG Zwinger 2nd the motion.

~Further Discussion: Lion Al Kahlbaugh had one comment, when Lion Steve was working through the flood of 1997 did a tremendous job and every time there has been a problem since then he has had the personality of “how do we solve the problem not who do we blame” and he is the kind of person we need in the quality of a district governor coming up in the future.

~The motion was carried unanimously.

~Lion Del Hager, just coming from the 5 NC meeting, reported that they do have 2 candidates in 5 NC to put forward as future district governor; but they will both be for 5 NW.

~Lion Steve Johnson had a question for his status in that he never really been elected as 2nd Vice District Governor.

~Lion Robert Littlefield explained that at meeting for October 31st, Lion Steve has to be officially elected at the all district meeting as he had been in the 2nd Vice District Governor as a designee, and then will be elected at the district meeting. Lion Robert Littlefield further explained he will then go onto be elected as first vice district governor at the combined new 5NE District meeting.

IV. New Business

B. Purchase of new equipment:

~DG Westlund rented a projector for 2 days at \$100 for the Extension Workshop. The cabinet should consider buying some equipment, like a digital projector. There is money set aside for Extension Workshops, but if purchased equipment, then it could be passed on to the new district governors as well as being used in other areas such as the Spring Leadership workshops. DG Westlund went to Office Max to price the projectors and found the cheapest one, that would just show power points was \$550 cheapest one but the one that could show movies was approximately \$750.

~Lion Al Kahlbaugh made a motion to authorize \$800 for a projector.

~Discussion: Mel Olson made the suggestion to check the lamination so that it was strong enough so all of the lights would not have to be shut off in order to see what was on the screen.

Lion Steve Johnson wondered how to pay for it as it was not in the budget. The solution is to amend the budget to pay for it.

Lion Robert Littlefield also suggested that two small speakers also be purchased with the projector if movies are to be shown so that the movies could be heard.

~Motion is restated to include the speakers and the approval with be pending until it is determined that funding will be available which is made by Lion Al Kahlbaugh and 2nd by Lion Doug Roundy.

V. Reports

D. Committee Reports

Zone B-1

~Lion Rob Lien reported on his first Zone B-1 meeting in Horace. One idea discussed was to have a Zone fund raiser to help raise money for the Zone along with a club mixer. The idea was to hold a golf tournament at the course in Mapleton. Another possibility is to have an evening club in the Fargo area, it will make up the loss of the Edgewood club plus get an evening club up in the Fargo area.

~Lion Robert Littlefield reported that he is trying to get a club at NDSU, but it is not going to be an exclusively campus club. The possibility is to have a late in the day/evening club.

~Lion Rob Lien and Lion Carla Lien reported, as Guiding Lions for the club, that the Mayville/Portland Lions Club will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. and turn their meetings into an evening club instead of an early morning club.

Zone A-1

~Lion Liz Simpson reported that Zone 1A had their meeting on Oct. 22nd. Red River Lions and UND Campus Club did not have representation at the zone meeting. Lion Liz reported on a few activities of the clubs in the zone. Lion Liz also reported that a major community/fund raising project, Christmas in the Park, where all clubs in town participate, is coming up and all of the clubs look forward to the collaboration.

~Lion Liz also reported that Lion Virginia, the secretary for Mayville/Portland club did come to the meeting where she confirmed that the club was now meeting at 6:30 p.m. and that all of the members are having difficulties obtaining their copies of the state Lions Newsletter. They held their first event called Summer Fest that really did not make money but got their name out in the community, they are also planning an event for December. Mayville/Portland club also requested to have an officer training since they missed it due to flooding last spring. It was suggested that their Guiding Lions club assist with an officer training.

~Lion Robert Littlefield made a suggestion that there should be an officer training at the Lions State Convention just for the reason that some may miss the Leadership training in the fall.

Zone A-2

~Lion Duffy reported that she had her first meeting at September 12, a breakfast was served by the Northwood Lions. Lion Duffy had asked her board members to attend in hopes to inspire one of them to be a Zone Chair later. District Governor Westlund was there and so was 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Johnson who gave a nice presentation on membership. Pete Adamson, CEO of the Deacon of Northwood Health Center who told of the successes of the bone scanner machine and equipment that was purchased through flood funds. The only club that was not present was the Devils Lake Club. Lion Duffy did call their secretary and asked how their club was doing. Lion Duffy suggested that calling the club presidents and/or secretary is valuable if there is not an initial response to the first letter. Each club present told of their fund raisers and upcoming events. Northwood Lions is having a raffle and Lion Duffy did bring tickets. Overall it was a good meeting with good output from the clubs there. Lion Duffy is planning on having a zone meeting in Devils Lake in November, possibly on a Saturday, in order to inspire the club president or secretary to attend.

Zone B-3

~DG Westlund reported that he did contact Lion Steve McMiller and he stated that there was no report and no meetings yet.

Zone B-2: No Zone Chair

~Lion Duffy did volunteer to attend one meeting with the clubs, not a formal meeting, to help get the clubs organized and a Zone Chair chosen.

~IPDG Zwinger had contacted a few people who turned down the position.

~Lion Robert Littlefield suggested that again, the idea of having an informational meeting on what it is like to be a club officer, district officer, etc. at the State Convention and therefore show how it is not intimidating but might be fun to be an officer.

IV. New Business

E. Public Relations Grant

~IPDG Zwinger reported that all of the District Governors in the Multidistrict are putting together a plan for the grant. It is \$20,000 in a grant for spreading the news about Lionism.

~Lion Robert Littlefield stated that the last 2 weeks of January is the big push from Lion International for public relations and that every club needs to get their name in the local media. Youth music competition is one idea for that Lion Robert's club in Fargo is going to promote in the media.

Items C & D: Approval of New Constitution and Review of the By-laws

~Lion Robert Littlefield said that these items would be reviewed and voted on in the district meeting on Oct. 31st. Lion Robert passed out the constitution and by-law copies that will be handed out at the all district meeting. The International by-laws have been formed word for word with just a few exceptions that Lions International cannot list as it is up to individual districts.

E. Youth Camp

~Lion Katherine reported that the Multiple District 5 Youth Exchange Camp will be held in our district in 2011. Because of all of the changes within the district, Lion Katherine had asked the cabinet to endorse going along with the camp being at Wesley Acres. We must have a \$500 deposit for the dates for the camp. Even though Multiple District 5 will cover much of the expenses, until the new district is fully in place, it is uncertain if we can even sign this contract, yet.

~Lion Katherine and Lion Steve can work together on the formulation of the camp if DG Westlund can check on the legal standpoint of it. The camp is a function of the Multiple District, it does not change but does move from district to district; however, at this time, since we will be having a new district, but cannot move forward with this until redistricting is complete.

V. Reports

A. LCIF

~Lion Littlefield has been working with Lion Mel on the spring rally.

~Under the Budget there are 2 modifications. One was the \$750 that Lion Littlefield did not use, that was originally allocated to use for the USA/Canada forum, be put toward the trip to Sydney. Lion Steve Johnson made a motion that the \$750 be used for Lion Littlefield's trip to Sydney and Lion Katherine Tweed 2nd the motion. Motion Carried.

~Lion Littlefield reported that we, as a cabinet, must have some money toward LCIF Development Program that is going on right now. The committees have a line of the budget which is \$2,000 where the \$100 can come out of so that there does not have to be a new line created just for the LCIF Development Program.

~Lion Littlefield also mentioned that there will be a bus going to Saskatoon this summer and it is leaving from Grand Forks.

~Lion Mel Olson reported on leadership, he state he is looking forward to involvement in leadership. Lion Mel also has sent a letter to each club president to encourage the clubs to send someone to go to state convention. Lion Mel is looking for something a little different for the leadership rally. Lion Mel is open to suggestions on what to focus on in this rally, which is April 10th.

~Lion Robert Littlefield reported that the West region is paying for anyone from the Central region who wants to attend their leadership rally. Lion Littlefield suggested that we should do something similar.

~DG Westlund said that each district used to set their own date, but it has been suggested that all dates be set at the same time to be a little more seamless.

~Lion Mel also stated that number of lions that are great lions that are not interested in being leaders; but others don't have the information necessary to make a decision. IPDG Zwinger stated that Lions don't know all about Lionism which is part of the LCIF grant.

~IPDG Zwinger has been asked what LCIF does for us; they have given District 5NE \$278,000. IPDG Zwinger also reported that he is still working on the audit but it involves several different communities. The deadline is Nov. 1st and IPDG Zwinger should have it done by then.

~Lion Del Hager gave a quick report on the State Convention which will be in Grand Forks in October of 2010.

~Lion Rob Lien reported that he collected \$7.10 in fines for Tail Twisting which will be donated to Service Dogs for America.

~IPDG Duane Zwinger made a motion to adjourn which was 2nd by Lion Tom Saddler. Motion Carried.

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by District 5NE Cabinet Secretary, Katrina Wendel