



Lions Luncheon Meeting
January 8, 2019
University Club

Meeting called to order by President Ed Thauer at 12:15 with the pledge and prayer. Lunch served

Meeting re-adjourned at 12:44

1. Welcome guest, Dr. Bob Hohendorf, 11-C1 Region Chair/2nd Vice District Governor.
2. Bowling Report, given by Jamie Junod. Bowling has resumed and had a full house but vacations will begin and subs are NEEDED. Please contact Jamie if you would like to join or be a sub on the longest active bowling league in Grand Rapids. (0 continuous years this year.
3. Happy Bucks
4. Calendar Raffle; 606 calendars were given out. 275 stubs have come back in. Please get the calendar stubs in or if you would like more, contact Jamie Junod ASAP
5. Drive for Vision: Report given by Kyle Travis. The committee will be meeting on 1/21/19 at 2pm. Location of meeting is: Blue Sky Vision, 4020 East Beltline, Grand Rapids. If you would like to be a part of the committee, contact Kyle.
6. Blind Dinner had another committee meeting and things are coming along for another successful event. Be sure to save the date: April 11, 2019
7. The First Tuesday of the month, the Grand Rapids Lions Club will be celebrating 100 years. Today was the first of the 8 part series on the GR Lions History given by Dr. Gary Anderson. Charter date 11/14/1919 – to 1944 Video will be posted on our website soon.

Guest Speaker- Dave Bulkowski from Disability Advocates of Kent County.

Dave started out with a short video and gave a handout to everyone. CILS – Center for independent Living Services is a community based, non-profit program which is designed to aid people with disabilities in leading self-directed lives. This program is also an advocate for accessibility ADA Employment Advocacy, Community Organizing, Disability Decorum, Employability Work Group, Family Support Services, Independent Living Supports, Information and Referral, Nursing Facility Transitions Occupational



Therapy Adaptive Home Solutions, Systems Change Advocacy, Veteran Peer Supports, and Youth Transition Services. 75% of their board has some form of disability and the board will always have at least 50% on the board with a disability. This board is a dynamic group that supports people with disabilities in achieving their independent living goals and working toward an accessible and inclusive community for all. 80% of the Baby Boomers (people over 55) will incur some disability before they die. Lately their focus is on access (Home, Community & Employment)

Home & their Focus: Adaptive Home, Independent Skills, Affordable Housing, Benefit Counseling and Navigation. There is always following up from the agency to be sure these benefits are being met.

Community & their Focus: Accessibility (review and guidance), Universal Design, Disability Decorum, Community Disability Agenda

Employment & their Focus: Pre-Employment Transition Services, IL & Foundation Skills, Benefits Counseling and ADA Advocacy.

Why is this so important?

People with disabilities need to be welcomed into communities and feel like they belong.

Funding is from government, philanthropy and donations. There currently is 34 paid staff and the budget to run the programs a year is \$2.4 million. There is a program about to roll out in Kent County. 1. Growing the movement towards an accessible & welcoming Community for all. 2. Enjoying the design and constructive communities along with the “user groups ambassadors” for communities.

Adjourned 1:29 pm

Respectfully submitted by
Cheryl Anderson, Secretary