



Grand Rapids Lions Luncheon Meeting  
September 8, 2020  
Photographer Brian Kelly

Meeting started with a welcome at 12:15pm by President Ben Eavey.

Past President Ed Thauer gave the prayer

Broke for lunch

Reconvened-12:44pm (19 members & 2 guests in attendance at the University Club)

**Announcements:**

1. Past Chairperson Shawn Eyestone presented Past President Ed Thauer with his President's plaque.
2. Past Pres Ed Thauer presented President Ben Eavey with his gavel
3. Pres Ben then presented Past Pres Ed Thauer with "Lion of the Year" Award for all the work and perseverance with the successful GR Lions 100th Celebration.



4. Sec Cheryl Anderson, a member of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Committee spoke on the **USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum** being held virtually on Sept 25-27. Instead of a registration fee of \$200, there is a \$20 registration fee for the whole weekend of seminars. Go to: [Lionsforum.org](http://Lionsforum.org) to register. This is the best way to see what a USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum is all about and from your own home.

5. Ben Spoke on the **Michigan Forum** that will also be held virtually for ½ day in November, more details to follow.

6. **TAILTWISTER:** Jamie Junod Money collected for Lion not wearing Lion pins and collected money for Happy Bucks (welcoming a long time absent member, new Kraai grandson and Ed Thauer's joke)

7. **Drive for Vision** is Sept 21st. There are 20 foursomes, the normal is 32 foursomes, so we could use a few more. **NEEDED** is Prizes & sponsors. Contact Kyle Travis if you are able to help in anyway. [travis.kd@gmail.com](mailto:travis.kd@gmail.com)

8. **Calendar** this year brought in the same amount of money as usual but with the COVID, do we want to go forward with the calendar fundraiser? Jamie needs to start working on it now. Consensus in the room was, YES.

9. **Bowling** Alleys are closed so nothing to report and probably won't have bowling until January.

10. **Eyeglass Recycling** does not have any formal times due to trying to figure out the spacing and how many people are allowed in at one time. There are a few Lions that have been going over and working but if you want to work, contact Scott Brady; [scottbrady2120@gmail.com](mailto:scottbrady2120@gmail.com) or Gail Junod; [Jamiegailjunod@yahoo.com](mailto:Jamiegailjunod@yahoo.com) There have been materials shipped out to California for reimbursement and a tentative trip next spring to Jamaica if we are allowed in the country. Remember if you have glasses to drop off, there is a shed around back that you can leave them in.

11. **New Service Opportunity** – Mark & Kathy Oberlin have been helping a blind gentlemen with shopping. There is a large need in our community to be a “courtesy shopper”. It is a basic need to pick them up and drive them to the store, walk through the store with them and get them home. It is best to do it in pairs, just works better. These people have a limited amount of money and to pay for an Uber to take them to the store and home cuts into their allowance for food. It is usually every two weeks to take this person to the store and it may lead into helping with other appointments as well. ABVI does not have any employees that can leave work for a 2 hour period to do this so it is a definite need in our community. If interested contact Mark or Kathy Oberlin who will be setting up a list of people in need and Lions that can help. Gary Anderson pointed out that this is a Lion activity so as a sanctioned Lion activity you are covered up to 1 million dollars of liability if something should happen.

12. **Years of Service Chevrons** were given out to the 3 Lions in attendance. There were many others that will be named at one of our Zoom meetings.

13. **Raffle** Jamie was the \$5 pull & Ben was the second. No winner today.

**Program: Photographer Brian Kelly**

His business was doing well like with his architecture photos, his photos of comedians for Laughfest promotions along with personal projects that included photographing portraits of Detroit residents, entrepreneurs around town, fitness and model portfolios and his favorite night photography.



Everything was going well prior to COVID 19 when everything got shut down. However, Brian had a deeper story to tell. His 15 year daughter with Cerebral Palsy underwent leg surgery and had to recover at Mary Free Bed for her recovery and only one parent could stay with her. His wife stayed at Mary Free Bed and he stayed at

home with his other 2 children. One morning he woke to a beautiful sunrise and went out with his camera and drone and filmed Grand Rapids at sunrise and returned at sunset. He has put these photos in a coffee table book available late October. The proceeds are going to Mary Free Bed for needed equipment for CP kids and Disability Advocacy.

This meeting was also uploaded by video to YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERDWhDYuCQ&list=PLcKkcVljZTcX-VRxPNU3uPpAoZuG47pTi>

**Meeting adjourned at 1:35 (next Tuesday, Zoom Social Mtg at 8 pm)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lion Cheryl Anderson, GR Lions Club Secretary