



Full Board Meeting

· 29, 2020

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In Attendance: Chairman Ed Thauer, President Ben Eavey, VP Gary Anderson, Secretary Cheryl Anderson, John Rice, Jim/Anne Baird, Thaddeus Phelps, Keith Crittenden

Absent: Treasurer Jeff Kraai, Kyle Travis, Colleen Mulder, Boyd Griswold

Meeting began at 12:08 pm

1. **Secretary's minutes** had no corrections. Ben moved to accept. Thad seconded, Voted-moved

2. **Treasurer's report** was submitted earlier via email. No corrections or questions Ben moved to accept. Thad seconded, voted - moved.

3. **President's Report: Ben Eavey**

We had our first in-person meeting at the University Club in September. Next Tuesday, Oct 6, we will meet again at the University Club. The feedback was positive. There were 3 people to a table, everyone wore a mask and the meals were served. We will continue to Zoom the 2nd & 3rd meetings at 8pm. The 2nd meeting will be a club social time with no guest speaker. The 3rd meeting will include a guest speaker. The 4th meeting is the GR Lions board meeting. Cheryl will send out Zoom Meeting instructions to the club to try to engage more members. Members do not have to Zoom in, they can also dial in, listen and contribute. The Zoom meetings have been smaller (7 or 8 Lions) and seem to be the same Lions as the in-person meetings. Ideas are needed for the Social Zoom meetings to get more members to join in. Cheryl will run the Zoom meetings with the Grand Rapids Lions Zoom Acct. Thad will follow up with Kim Gary for the social committee to take ownership of that 2nd Tuesday. Which is the GR Lion Virtual Social get together.

4. **V-Pres report: Gary Anderson**

Membership, we have no new members but lost two. Mary Chelsky & Mary Vanderlugt. We might lose a few more, Patrick O'Hare-moved, Art Palmer-dropped in Spring and was to come back. Gary will follow up with Art. We may also lose Mark Kosciuzko. As VP, Gary cannot do both VP & Membership. There needs to be a new membership director appointed and John Rice is my recommendation. John has a talent for technology and PR. Gary will follow up with John. Pride Groups when they get going will hopefully help retain members. Retaining members is very important to the success of a club. Right now it is hard to bring any new members when we are not doing service. So retention is the key for club success. How do we bring in members? Maybe change the dues structure? A Service member alone is \$200. Maybe that is even too much for a person. There are people that would like to do service but would they pay \$75, \$100 etc? We have GR Lion members that we want to get involved but at this COVID time, what do we have to offer to get them excited. Daniel Elkins was a presenter at the USA/Canada Virtual Forum and did an excellent seminar on membership. Anyone that had registered for the forum has access to any sessions until December 24th, 2020. Gary will download his seminar presentation.

5. Directors:

A. Thaddeus Phelps: Did not hear from the social group, so no social events are being planned at this time. Finalizing the Pride Groups. Program Committee has not responded to Thad. Cheryl does reach out to the program committee on the weekend and does get the bio and speaker from either Mark Oberlin or Shelley Irwin. Bob Snyders seems to be gone in his motorhome.

B. Colleen Mulder – not on the Zoom Meeting and did not submit a report prior to this meeting. Ed Thauer did talk with Colleen and found out that the Drive for Vision Golf Outing raised approx. \$27,000. That is successful due to COVID.

C. Boyd Griswold - not on the Zoom Meeting and did not submit a report prior to this meeting.

D. Kyle Travis: Submitted a report and Ben read the report. The Holiday Raffle meeting is the biggest question and how to handle this meeting. If we did the Holiday Raffle it would have to be the December 1 meeting, but we could have two University Club meetings in December, Dec 1 & Dec 15. The problem is gathering up the raffle items. The December 15 meeting would give the committee two additional weeks. A suggestion was to hold a virtual raffle. A virtual raffle would be hard, especially trying to get the gifts to the people. John Rice said the raffle does help to lift everyone's spirits. Ben would like to plan a designated meeting for the raffle. This will be revisited at the executive board meeting in November. There were photos of the eyeglass center in the attachment from Kyle that will be put in the newsletter as well. Anna also requested the new address of the recycling be put in the newsletter. Maybe in a section called "updates"

E. Jim Baird: October is white cane month. A letter will be going out to members telling about white cane and how this fundraiser benefits the club. However, we will not be collecting at Walmart this year. Christmas Shopping is Saturday, Dec 5, at the Meijer in Cascade. Meijer has been contacted and the GR Lions will be supplying the bus transportation. The kids will shop, then go home with a bag of wrappings for them to wrap their gifts at home, (we don't have access to that Meijer backroom) and then get on the bus to go back to the center. GVSU is going to help with gift bags for the kids. Everyone will be masked with limited contact. More info coming out. We normally pass a box to get money at the luncheons. Maybe a snail mail letter can go out to the members in the middle or end of November. This letter would be adequate to ask for donations to go toward the Holiday Shopping Event. VIP Sports Day is too far away to have any update.

F. Anna Goddard: Blind Dinner Date has officially been canceled for 2020. There was a recent committee meeting. The committee is working on a communication to be sent out to those sponsors that had committed to support the event. This communication will be asking the supporters to leave their money with the event for 2020, or hold it over for next year, 2021 however, they can request a refund of their support. The goal is to communicate the situation and hope they will leave their money for this year and then support the event next year. So far, only one sponsor asked for their money back. The committee is already starting to discuss the 2021 event. The awards from 2020 are

being held over and presented as 2020-2021 recipients. The awards are all engraved. They will need to be sent back to the engraver and get modified and ready for next year. We did talk about the 2021 event having two years of recipients but the time frame of speakers and awardees would just be too long. These awards are already in the cabinet at the University Club safe and ready to be modified for the 2021 event. ABVI is hosting their event. It is not a live event. You pick up a party pack of beers and snacks. In the party pack you will have access to a video that you can watch at any time.

Nov 19 is Cherry Health Celebration with a live stream event. There is some prerecorded videos. We, the GR Lions, are looking at ABVI's & Cherry Health's event to see if we can learn how to do our events for 2021 in case we have to go virtual again. Does GR Lions have video capabilities???? Is that Shelley Irwin or Mary Free Bed? Happy to report that there is a new chair for the Blind Dinner Date but the name will be announced next month. Ben Eavey, the past chair had to step down b/c of his new position of President of the GR Lions. Thank you Ben for all your hard work and leadership with the Blind Dinner Date. Technology, GR Lions authorized Cheryl to purchase a Zoom account for the club. Cheryl Anderson will manage the zoom account. Moved, seconded and vote passed to get acct. The zoom account is open to committees. Cheryl will still need to set up the meeting for the committee but won't have to attend herself. Gary said what about zoom lessons for Lions. How to manage things on zoom. Many people are afraid of Zoom

6. New Business:

Nov 7 the Leadership Institute is sponsoring a free Zoom Webinar on "Lions Opportunities in a Virtual World 2020" The link is just available and will be sent out. The topics are: Virtual Meetings, Virtual Service, Virtual Leadership, Virtual Fundraising & Virtual Membership. It is open to 300 registrants but if there are more than 300, the institute will buy more space. Register at www.lionsofmi.com. It is for all of the Lions of Michigan.

Old Business:

The Shopper Program that the Oberlins are working on has gotten a few drivers. Good that it is coming along

Next meeting is the Executive Board Meeting on Oct 27, 2020

Adjourned at 12:55pm