



## Full Board Meeting

### Zoom Meeting

11/24/2020

Meeting called to order by Chairman Ed Thauer at 12:05pm

In attendance: Ed Thauer, Ben Eavey, Jeff Kraai, Cheryl Anderson, Gary Anderson,

John Rice, Jim Baird, Anna Clifford, Colleen Mulder, Thaddeus Phelps, Kyle Travis

Absent: Boyd Griswold

1. Approved minutes
2. Pres Ben Eavey's Report: University Club is closed until Dec 8, 2020. If they permanently shut down, Ben suggested one zoom meeting a month. Kyle suggested having the zoom meeting at noon. Cheryl talked to The University Club and they did receive a grant and hoping to be open until next summer. Dec 15th is the Holiday Raffle, if we aren't meeting, suggestion to hold the raffle at our first meeting together. We will wait and see the Governor's call and the University Club status. Ed Thauer & Kim Gary are checking other places to hold our meetings in case the University Club permanently closes.
3. Treasurer's Report, Jeff Kraai: Art McWilliams has dropped, he retired so wanted to drop. Our finances are in good shape, not spending any money. We should have a hefty cash & fund balance in June. We will wait until April/May for a proposal/discussion on a discount to the lunch dues for the next year. The charity fund is quiet. We have money to spend if any committee could use extra funds. Anna Clifford suggested that the Marketing Committee receive some of the extra funds to update materials & PR. Gary moved to accept and Ben seconded, voted & passed. The Community Balance is \$41, 885 and Value of Investment is \$992,425, this amount is reported quarterly. The Community Balance goes to our charities in June.
4. Membership Report, Gary Anderson: The priority is to keep members. Pride groups not going yet. There have been a few requests from our web for potential members but we have nothing to invite them to, no service, not even a regular meeting. Maybe invite them to our zoom meeting with a speaker, the speakers have been really good. Suggestion to hold an outdoor event, charge a small amount and go snow shoeing. Then donate the money to a food bank or one of our charities. Let's do something active and outside that we could invite prospective members. Jeff suggested the 4th Tuesday in Jan/Feb to get the word

out. An activity to invite members, family members, grandkids etc. Not to hold the activity in December, too busy .To not even do a social meeting on zoom. Gary is talking to younger age group Lions to find out how to get them involved. Trying to get feedback from young members why they are not attending zoom meetings or to just get them involved. What does it take? Kyle said meetings at noon, as their normal schedule works for him. Colleen said that right now with COVID, everyone with children are just overwhelmed. Maybe night is too tough. Noon might be a better time. Or maybe have one meeting at noon and one at night. The question is how to not make it a burden to attend. Anna suggested a task force. Gary is handling the phone calls to younger Lions better. How to get them to give us 45 minutes a week? Will try to get some feedback within the next two weeks.

5. Directors: Absent Boyd Griswold & Jim Baird – neither submitted a report  
Thaddeus Phelps: 10 Pride Groups down this week and 8 more to go. Need to touch base with Gary. A new employee to come to the meeting on the 15th.  
Kyle Travis: Eyeglass is closed to everyone, just a skeleton crew. Holiday Raffle on pause. Hoping for the 15th if things don't get extended. Ryan has not bought anything as yet. He is up and willing, just waiting to see when our first person in meeting is. Student Awards: Cheryl took care of that last year and still too far away to discuss that.  
Colleen: Kyle presented the Drive 4 Vision report about the funds distributed at our last in person meeting. On target for next June. September's weather was better than sometimes in June.  
Anna: Marketing does need funds to launch supportive effort for the club. Blind Dinner Date is wrapping up this year with communication. 2021 has already met and Linda Zizos is the chairman. How the event will look this year if COVID is still in effect or not, we have some new ideas for the event.  
Tech – Ben nothing new, just zoom
6. Newsletter, John Rice: Ed appreciates the newsletter and all the work.
7. New Business:
  - A. Holiday Shopping: Has been canceled. The Center has been shut down, both the director & assist director have COVID. Nothing has been done with the kids regarding the lists they prepare for shopping or our event. With the cancellation of the Holiday Shopping, Anne is asking for part of the money we collected to go to the center. There is a store at the center that the kids can earn points and go

buy items with their points. The money we would donate to the center would go to help replenish this store. Not all of the \$3500 would be donated, because the event did not happen. If Meijer is ok with us giving the center their money, then it would be ok with us. Cheryl suggested to Anne to submit a letter to the board suggesting what she was intending to do with the money for the center, after checking with her Meijer contact. The letter is attached. Gift cards from Meijer will be used to buy items for their stores. Motion from Anne, Gary seconded, voted passed. Cheryl will get back to Anne with the vote.

B. Braille Note Touch Pad for Tryson Smallegan: Letter submitted from Dr. Pat Droste to the board to pay the \$6,000 for the Touch Pad. Tryson is in school, the story attached. Issue is he would have had it paid for if in public school but he attends private school. How much of a need is there really? Also, he already purchased it, we don't reimburse people but companies. We don't know their financial background, they say "hardship". Tryson can't read without it. Suggested not to give the full \$6,000. Anna asked if there is a precedence. We have given money in the past for telescopes etc, but usually not given to the family. They have also reached out to the Elks for support. We have to be careful as to what they are paying. Jeff, suggested giving \$250 but then to fill out our financial forms. If they fill out the forms, we could up the donation but if they don't do the forms, we are all done. We have forms that we use for hearing aids that we could update them to fit this request. There is just not enough information for us to go on. Suggested to give \$500 since we have done that for hearing aids. This will set a precedence for the future. Pat would not have come to us if there was not a need. Gary made a motion for a \$500 check to be sent and then ask them to fill out our financial form for additional money assistance. Kyle seconded, vote taken, passed. Cheryl said at the district level, the ones that fill out the paperwork really need it. The ones that don't finish filling out the paperwork, didn't need it. We need to treat each case by case and what they are asking for. It would be difficult to come up with a policy. There are too many varieties of what the situation needs. Keep it at our discretion. They have the option to go to the Lions of Mi Foundation and ask for their help.

C. New item: Ben Eavey, our tech guy: Dropbox needs to find a new place to store the Lions information. It is not the most secure.

Adjourned at 12:39 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Lion Cheryl Anderson  
Grand Rapids Lions Secretary