

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

Fall Council of Governors Meeting
October 27-28, 2023
Virtual via Zoom

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

Multiple District Four

CALIFORNIA LIONS



Council of Governors
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October 27-28, 2023

Council Chair Craig Durand called the meeting to order.

District Governor Benjie Fernandez gave the invocation.

District Governor Rick Carnal led the Pledge.

WELCOME INTRODUCTIONS: CC Craig established protocol.

August Organization Council of Governors Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes from the August Organization Council of Governors meeting as presented by Council Secretary Elisa Coyle was made by DG Christy Kroell 4-A2.

DG Rich Cervantes, 4-A3, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

CC Craig recessed the meeting until 9:00am, October 28, 2023.

Recess

Reconvene 9:00 am

Treasures Report

Council Treasurer Drew Sasser presented the financial report.

- Reported there are some corrections that need to be made before a vote for approval. Corrections needed include:
 - Leadership Institute balance needs to be corrected
 - Youth Exchange balance needs to be corrected.
 - Dues balances need to be corrected
 - Investments should have the interest income showing on the financials.
- Corrections will be made and presented at the Mid-Winter Council of Governors meeting for approval.

Lions International Report

PID Ken Ibarra

- Congratulated Linda Griffin on a successful USA/Canada Forum in Reno, CA.
- The LCI Board of Directors meeting was held in Cairo, Egypt two weeks ago.
- Reported on the Executive Summary from the Board of Directors meeting:
 - Constitution & Bylaws – Updated the Standard Club Bylaws under Membership Categories to include DISCOUNTED MEMBER.
 - Finance – Approved changes to e-commerce and supply chain management engaged a third-party company for LCI club supplies sales.
 - Long Range Planning – Reported the creation of committees and/or conduct research of the following.
 - Create and ad-hoc committee to study how to make LCI more friendly to women and young people.
 - Conduct a study of LCI global causes and potential of mental health & wellness.

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors Meeting

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

Lions International Report (continued)

- Create an ad-hoc committee to develop a Leo membership category.
- Create a working group to study the development of a corporate club model.
- Marketing – Approved 43 marketing grants for the 23-24 fiscal year, all with a maximum of \$15,000. (Congratulated Lions Float, Inc. on acquiring one of the grants for the float)
- Membership Development – Reviewed and updated Mission 1.5, also approving funds for GAT district and multiple district coordinators and approving additional give aways available to promote the initiative. Began investigating corporate membership and Leos as members.
- Technology – Provided a comprehensive report on the Salesforce project with staff confirming the Lion Portal launch in January 2024.
- LCIF - IPP Brian Sheehan held the annual Foundation Strategic Session in Chicago in July 2023. PCC Roger Powell and PDG Manny Sanchez were in attendance along with many other California Lions.

LCIF

PDG Manny Sanchez

- Presented the new programs – Presidential Supporters (individual giving), Club Supporters (replacing Campaign 100), Presidential Awards for Goals Achieved (Presidential Medals).
- Foundation awards businesses for \$1,000 or more they receive a special plaque.
- Legacies are available following the Campaign 100 drive. Newly designed pins.
- MD4 is still #2 in the United States. Very close to moving into the #1 position. We are #4 in the world.
- Will be having a webinar on how to write grants and what grants are available.

LIONS FLOAT, INC.

PDG Manny Sanchez

- We are two months away from the float being completed. Design “Changing the World through Music”
- Asked for clubs to send in stories of support of the theme.
- Riders are all accounted for, walker spots are still being filled.
- This is a global project not just a signature project for California. LCI supports this project as a marketing tool. We have received the \$15,000 marketing grant.
- Phoenix has asked us to decorate all of the 19 floats in the barn because Lions bring the majority of the volunteer decorators. Schedule is on-line at lionsfloat.org. We will have coordinator meetings in the middle of November.
- Dr. Patti arrives on the 29th of December, and we will have a service project, meeting with the District Governors and the President’s reception and Governor banquet follows the Presidential Reception.
- Ambassador Program is an annual program that is going well.
- Ride of Your Life tickets need to be sent in by November 2.

CLF

PDG Mario Benavente

- Exists to serve the clubs and districts of MD-4 and was created by the Council of Governors several years ago.

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors Meeting

Fall Council of Governors Meeting

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

CLF (Continued)

- Introduced the board members of the foundation. Board members serve on a rotating 3-year basis. District Governors make the appointments.
- Educate your members about the grant opportunities.
- Shared the balance of assets and asked for continued donations to be made to support the service of the clubs and districts. Designated funds in a disaster fund. A maximum of \$5,000 for grants is being given out but would like to fill the gap between LCIF and CLF in the future by offering \$10,000 grants.
- The board accepted an appeal to send money to the Hawaii Lions Foundation for the fire disaster.
- Ran a non-matching grant for hunger projects and gave out \$7,000. 2 other grants were given out 1 to Antioch Riverton LC for \$2,500 for a refrigerator for a veteran's stand down and the other was \$,5000 for the purchase of an IRIS device for a pilot program in C3.
- Sponsored the USA/Canada Forum. Had a booth and was displayed prominently in addition to holding a seminar.
- Looking for individual donations, club and district donations and are looking to get into Legacy and Corporate donations. Please let the board know if you have any contacts.

AREA GLOBAL ACTION TEAM LEADER

PDG Mark Piva

- The council is off to an incredible start particularly, DG Lily from L3 has already chartered 2 clubs.
- All districts are currently positive in membership.
- District Goals and Mission 1.5 Goals – Goal is to bring in 2,951 new members and charter 31 new clubs. (Mission 1.5 goal is 22 clubs) Currently have added 3 clubs with 3 more in process.
- Need to improve on adding our data about training into Learn. Currently we are at 11%.
- Service reporting is at 47% overall with all LCI at 59%. The service reporting percentages includes Leo clubs. Goal is 85%.
- The council is poised for success. GAT meets weekly and is working well to move forward.
- If having difficulty filling leadership roles request the district leadership report that summarizes the number of titles held and members sponsored.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR

PDG Manny Sanchez

- Working as a full team with GMT and GST.
- Pushing for people to report on Learn. District GLT's need to do this, and club training also counts so please send that information to the District GLT's.
- Pushing for individuals to trainings in Learn and their permanent record carries through their entire Lions career, this also includes Leo's. This counts as service hour opportunities.
- GLT has applied and been approved to provide an Emerging Lions Leadership Institute (San Ramon in January). This is how we develop new leaders. Continuing the Regional Lions Leadership Institute (Anaheim in March)

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors Meeting

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

GLT (Continued)

- Seminars at convention – have room for new classes. Subject matter experts will be providing the seminars

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR

PDG Juanita Nichols

- As of October 25, every district currently has a net gain.
- Find out why displeased members are leaving and try to maintain retention numbers.
- Started the MD4 Dashboard which is a monthly publication from the MD4 GAT Team, and the team has asked the Governors to share this information across their district and club leadership. Started for the purpose of keeping everyone informed of the status of the multiple and the individual districts monthly.
- Held first meeting with the district GMT leaders on October 19. Supplied a summary of the effects of Mission 1.5 goals for their districts. Next meeting scheduled for November 16. These meetings are open to everyone, not just the GMT leaders.
- Reminder about the Global Membership Growth Grants and the Proud Lion Programs. Please encourage your Lions and clubs to utilize these.
- Sharing of resources via the MD4 Dashboard and using them for your membership success.

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM COORDINATOR

Lion Kathy McCracken

- Meeting monthly since August with the district GST's.
- Kindness Matters Award has been selected, Phil Am Lions Club (C4) for their Marin Food Bank.
- Project Care flyer for the second quarter which is for projects centered around Hunger, First Responders and Military. Please have your service chairs report in MyLion.
- Project Care for the first quarter has been completed and it was for projects centered around Childhood Cancer, Diabetes and Humanitarian.
- Project Care for the third quarter will be for projects centered around Vision and Youth.
- Project Care for the fourth quarter will be for projects centered around the Environment.
- Environmental Photo Contest – 2 areas to be voted on at convention: Nature and Service with Lions. Send 8x10 photos to Kathy McCracken no later than January 15th.
- Service Metrics are:
 - Served 1,161,729 people
 - 7,018 service projects completed
 - 197,318 volunteer hours
 - Donated \$15,874,939
 - Projects raised \$2,158,859
- Reporting in MyLion is important. Currently in the Constitutional Area the reporting is at 48%, MD4 is currently at 64% reporting.

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

LEO LIAISON

Leo Jessica Ma

- Senior at El Capitan High School in Merced (District 4-A1).
- Been a Leo for 4 years.
- Positively impact community by involving themselves by uplifting the community.
- Prepared and served food to the homeless shelter.
- Create a network of friendships in the club and help the community and create a relationship with the leaders.
- City events the club has worked at include Merced Christmas Parade, Pride Festival, County Elections, Halloween Street Bash and various fundraising dinners. Club can host their own booth at these events to market Leo's.
- Cooperate with other Leo clubs in their district.
- Disconnect from Lions Clubs and would like to be under one banner of service. Trying to create a global network of youth.
- Attended the USA/Canada Leo Leadership Forum in Chicago. Learned a lot from the Lions leaders present and given valuable insight into the global span of the organization.
- Encourage to participate in action within the 5 pillars of service. Cooperated with Turkey to provide funds for the earthquake relief.

YOUTH PROTECTION

PDG Juanita Nichols

- 4 training sessions completed between Aug 15 and Sept. 5. Targeted to District Governors, District Youth Protection Officers, District Youth Program leaders, and club youth protection officers.
- Estimating a little over 200 members have received training and more training will be made available, and updates will be given as changes occur to the program.
- Club compliance forms are slowly coming in. All clubs need to submit the form regardless of their participation with youth programs. Youth Protection Officers are asked to notate requests because the documentation provides confirmation of compliance.
- The committee is setting up schedules for follow-up meetings with the district protection officers. Address issues that the districts may be encountering.
- District Governors have a roster of youth protection officers. District youth protection officers should have the forms available.
- DOJ has approved our application, and we are awaiting the final confirmation packet from them to move forward on provided information to the membership regarding requirements and processes.
- Preparing instructions on the Live Scan Fingerprinting process. The manual will be updated when the process is complete.

BUDGET & FINANCE

PDG Josephine Louie & PDG Bill Ridle

- The committee completed the meetings with the Standing Committees for their budget requests.
- The committee met at the MD4 Office in Santa Barbara to compile the proposed budgets.
- Proposed budgets are deficit budgets, and the committee has discussed the income deficit with the

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

Councils stress the need to make changes in the future for continued operations. Suggested using the unused income from 2020-2022 to balance the proposed budget.

- Future planning by the Budget and Finance committee needs to be completed making suggestions regarding the reduction of operating expenses.

Motion to approve the draft of the 2024-2025 Budget (Plan A) to be placed on the ballot for vote at the 2024 MD4 convention was made by DG Council Treasurer Drew Sasser -4-L4.

DG Rick Carnal-4-L2, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS – CONVENTION VOTING RULES

PCC Logan McKechnie

- The Constitution and Bylaws committee charged with the responsibility of coming up with the rules of convention at this meeting. The rules need to be adopted by the council. Voting has changed this year, with the new LCI delegate rule. A credentials and elections committee has been appointed. Credentials will check the status of the delegate and confirm them allowing them to vote. Voting will take place at the convention. The rules on campaigning will be posted at the convention. The rules were shared on the screen with the exemptions missing. The exemptions are the pin traders, LCIF, CLF and Lions Float, Inc.
- Life members are not considered discounted members by LCI for the delegate count.

Motion to accept the submitted 2024 Convention Rules for the MD4 Convention was made by DG Manil Shrestha, 4-C3.

DG Scarlett Ku, 4-L2, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

PDG Eduardo Oviedo

- Working under the supervision of the MD4 Global Action Team is developing the MD4 global action team goals with an action plan for this year. Requested from each coordinator a proposed three-year plan.
 - GMT PDG Juanita Nichols – Working with all 3 councils to provide plans for net membership and goals for the next 10 months and 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.
 - GLT PDG Manny Sanchez – Working with each council to assess leadership goals by district for the next 10 months.
 - GST Kathy McCracken – Each year GST coordinator goals is 100% reporting in the districts. Increased number of clubs completing at least one challenge from Project Cares. Service goals for three years is unrealistic since they are constantly changing.
- Requested proposed three-year plans from the standing committees.

LONG RANGE PLANNING (Continued)

- Requested proposed three-year plans from the special chairs and other committees.

CONVENTION MANAGEMENT

PDG James Fong

- Replacement for PDG Kevin Patel is PDG Bhong Gracia from Area 3
- The walk through has taken place at the venues for the MD4 Convention in Riverside.
 - Convention Center, Marriot Hotel, and Mission Inn.
- DG Hank Trueba stepped down as Host Chair and PDG Fred Caldera is the new Host Chair.
- 2IVP AP Singh from India will be the MD4 Convention guest.
- 2023-2024 Council has appointed a Credentials and Elections subcommittee consisting of 4 members: PDG Pat Dimond, PCC Logan McKechnie, Lion Sharon Mendelson, and PDG John Schroeder.
- Updating and finalizing the budget for approval for the Host Committee.
- MD4 Convention information has been posted on the MD4 website.
 - Early Registration - \$35 (Before November 5)
 - Midway Registration – \$55 (November 6 – December 31)
 - Registration - \$75 (January 1 – February 20)
 - Voting only registration - \$30
- Summary of the 2025 MD4 Convention – Host Chair is PDG Betty Morris (4-A2)
 - Signed contracts with the host hotel (Marriot) and convention center in Visalia. The alternate hotel is the Wyndham Hotel.
 - Requested the \$10,000 from MD4 to open the administration checking account for the convention.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & HOSPITALITY

Josephine Fong

- LCIcon will take place in Melbourne, Australia, June 21-25, 2024.
- Council approved the Caucus Breakfast to be held on Saturday, June 22, 2024, at the Melbourne Marriot Hotel. Deposit of \$905.90 made to reserve the venue. The second and third payments are of similar amounts and due in early December and February. The fourth and final payment is due 6 weeks prior to the event. The menu consists of: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Bacon, Hashbrowns, Roast tomato, bread. Cold items such as cereal assortment, pastry assortment, dry fruits. Variety of drinks.
 - The room holds 123 people. If all seats are sold the revenue generated from the sale of the meals will cover the cost of the food, renting of the room and the setup of the tables and chairs. If we do not meet that number there will be a separate charge for renting the room and the setup. Breakfast will be \$40 per person. Begins at 6:30am, Service at 7:00am, End at 8:15am. Load shuttle for parade following the breakfast.
- Pin Design – Cost and instructions for ordering pins will be coming shortly. Purchasing 1000 pins only.
- Uniform – Blue Hooded Sweatshirt. DG Drew Sasser will communicate the cost, sizing and purchasing information with the committee.

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & HOSPITALITY (Continued)

- Entry Requirements into Australia.
 - Must use the ETA Application on your smartphone to acquire a visa which is mandatory. Subclass 601 Visa – People over 70 are more likely to be randomly screened.
 - Register early and reserve your hotel early – no delegate hotels are being assigned this year.

Motion to approve the addition of the seating guidelines for the International Convention Plenary Session and Caucus event to the MD4 Policy and Procedures Manual of MD4 for 2024 Convention rules for the MD4 convention was made by DG Kevin Guess – 4-C4.

DG Lily Harris – 4-L3, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Motion to approve the uniform for the International Parade in Melbourne, Australia, to be a heather blue hoodie with the Agents of Change shield on the front left panel and the state of California in yellow on the back with California across the state on a diagonal. Additionally, the 2024 Float design will be displayed in the area of Pasadena. (Design attached), Black pants and white shoes will complete the uniform was made by DG Hank Trueba – 4-L5.

DG Council Secretary Elisa Coyle – 4-C1, seconded the motion.

During discussion DG Drew suggested adding the Leo logo and MD4 to the design on the back of the hoodie.

DG Hank Trueba – 4-L5 amended the motion to add the Leo logo and MD4 to the design on the back of the hoodie.

DG Council Secretary Elisa Coyle-4-C1, seconded the amended motion.

Motion carried.

Motion to approve the pin design as presented to the council for review for the Melbourne, Australia International Convention was made by DG Drew Sasser – 4-L5.

DG Benjie Fernandez – 4-C6, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

CALREFRESH AD HOC COMMITTEE

DG Kevin Guess

- Welcomed newest members – 2VDG George Clark-4-C6, 2VDG Matt Stickler-4-A1, and 2VDG Roger Mahaffey-4-L4.
- Completed the initial version of the District Governor Transition Guide. The purpose of the guide was to create a checklist to assist governors and vice governors with key dates, activities, and requirements from the moment of election as a second vice district governor through the district governor term. It was presented to the 23-24 council for approval and distribution to the councils. It is intended as a living document with the possibility for changes and updates as needed.
- Submitted revisions to the Hosting a COG Manual and Convention Manual to the 23-24 council for review and approval.
- Provided a second Plan A Vision gallery walk at the last Council of Governors meeting.

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

STUDENT SPEAKER

Lion Michael Coffaro

- Topic is “For A Better World, What Would You Change?”
- 330 clubs have asked for the packets.
- Brochures have been sent to the printer and will be sent out next week.
- Inquiries have been made about raising the prize money on a local level and the answer is no, you must follow the rules set forth in the brochure.

USA/CANADA LEO FORUM

PDG Chiragkumar “Kevin” Patel

- Thanked council for appointing Leo Liaison and Leo-Lion Liaison to the council from all 4 areas.
- December 5 is International Leo Day. Request Leo Advisors and Chairs to celebrate.
- Planning on having Leo leadership training for Leo Advisors and Leo-Lions.
- Asked for clubs to complete the YPP compliance forms.
- Asked for advisors to enter Leos into LCI to aid with the forum planning.
- 54 Leos and advisors attended the forum in Chicago.
- 7th USA/Canada Leo Forum will be held in Connecticut August 7-11, 2024. Forms will be coming out in the beginning of 2024.

YOUTH OUTREACH

PDG Jamie Hart for Chair Margaret Lee

- PDG Kevin reported on the Leo Youth Institute at Scott Island near Merced, April.
- Will be putting on a Leo Youth Institute in the south at Teresita Pines, March.
- Complimented Leo Jessica Ma on her report.
- Leos will be present at the MD4 Convention to carry the flags and Saturday morning following the flag ceremony there will be a Leo Symposium hosted by the committee.

HUNGER CHAIR

Lion Eleanor Britter

- The need for Lions has increased greatly.
- Need a strategic plan that is sustainable for the area of hunger. Each district is called upon to report to the hunger committee each month the amount of food service and monies donated to help those in need.
- Currently there is a farm bill in California that will aid in the partnership with farmers for supplying food.
- Last year we won 3rd Place in the White House Challenge with the collection of food donations made to food pantries, schools, after school programs, senior centers, first responders, veterans, churches, individuals amounting to more than 5 million pounds of food.
- Made money donations of \$11,822.
- The multiple has been entered into the White House Challenge this year.
- Asked the council to provide a room for the collection of food goods at the MD4 Convention.

YOUTH EXCHANGE

PDG Thelma Batilo

- Reported that 16 students attended camp this last year. We sent out 9 students.
- Need at least 40 students for the upcoming year's camp with supervisors and transportation assistance.
 - Hosting will be prior to camp this coming year (2 weeks prior to camp).
 - Camp will be held June 24-29, 2024.
 - Looking for a minimum of 16 youth exchange students and adding the rest for camp from our Leos. Need at least 10 adult counselors.
 - Adult counselors need to comply with the Youth Protection Policy.
 - Deadline to submit is March 15.
- Youth Advisors in the districts are important as contacts for the Youth Exchange program.
- Presented the budget amount of \$2,500 to budget and finance for the 2024-2025 budget.
- Requested to have PDG Jennifer Mendoza-4-L6 and Lion Brian Blinn 4-L5 appointed to the committee to represent the south.
- Asked if a Youth Exchange bank account could be established. DG Council Treasure Drew Sasser will supply PDG Thelma with banking information for the collection of funds from the exchange students.

MAGIC YARN PROJECT

IPDG Linda Barbara

- The project is growing in the North. Will be doing a workshop in C5 for DG Zenny Yagen and a workshop in C4.
- Leos in A1 and A2 have completed yarn cutting projects.
- Just completed a wig building workshop. 230 wigs were completed and will be distributed to children that have requested them.
- Attended the first Magic Yarn convention in Ohio. Presented a \$5,000 check from California.

Lunch Break
Reconvene 1:00pm

MD4 OFFICE REPORT

CC Craig Durand

- The council is in the process of hiring Marcie Mendoza, who has been working in the office as a temp employed by Robert Haff. The council is doing a buyout to bring Marcie on board as the full-time office coordinator.
- Repairs will be identified in the next week and steps will be taken to get the repairs at the office completed.
- DG Rich Cervantes and 4-A3 lion volunteers will be taking a flag inventory so we can replace the necessary flags to be ready for the convention in February.

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

USA/CANADA FORUM RENO

PDG Linda Wagner Griffin

- Thanked the original bid preparers, PID Bill Iannacone, PID Larry Dicus and PID Howard Hudson.
 - Thanked the volunteers that attended the monthly meetings leading up to the forum.
- Acknowledged the chairmen that were acknowledged by IP Dr. Patti Hill at the forum.
- PCC Don Gall – Secretary
 - PDG Skip Zhender – Treasurer
 - Susan Gall – Host Office
 - Barbara Cronyn – Staffing in Nevada
 - Vicky Smith and PID Howard Hudson – Protocol
 - PCC David Johnson – STRIDE Walk and special project
 - PCC Bob Stewart – Sponsors and website
 - PCC Richard Wilmont – Security
 - PCC Linda Pugliese – Hospitality
 - PDG Andy Anderson – Seminars
 - PDG Jun Valera – Medical Team
 - PDG Manny Sanchez – IT
 - PDG Gary Wong – Forum Store
 - 1VDG Jason Laird – Marketing
 - 1VDG Alan Winkelstein – Exhibits
 - 1VDG Billy Gaither, Jr. – Airport Operations
 - 1VDG Vicky Brady – General Sessions
 - Jimmy Ness – Facilities
 - Joe Treza – Pin Traders
 - Margaret Lee – Registration
 - Becky Stewart – Peace Poster Display
 - David Williams – Photographer
- California volunteers made up approximately 60% of the volunteers, Nevada 12% and 28% came from other attendees.
 - Almost 1700 attendees.
 - Thanked the council for the first monetary donation made to get started.
 - The special bag project was successful, and we are still collecting bags to get 2 benches.

PEACE POSTER AND ESSAY CONTEST

Lion Diane Quinlan

- Due to the district by November 15, 2023.
- Send posters and essays to Diane Quinlan NOT the MD4 Office. Must be sent by December 1, 2023.
- The reception for the California winners will be held in Garden Grove on December 9 at 11am. The building will be locked during judging. Posters will be held to be displayed at the MD4 convention.

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Lion Gopa Kumar

- Contact information for the committee is MD4Lions-marketing@googlegroups.com.
- Ongoing marketing items – Inflatable Logos available, CA License Plate (Have 1000+ but need 7,000+), had a booth at the forum.
- Plan to have social media presence and ask for Lions to use #californialions.
- There is a marketing resource center available on the website.
- Creating a living document for the marketing directives given by the council.
- Several logos are available on the website. DG Drew asked for the logos to be sent to all of the governors.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

PCC Logan McKechnie

- In 2019 the LCI Board adopted a Standard Constitution for clubs and districts and made them mandatory. They also adopted a Standard Constitution for Multiple districts at that time but did not make it mandatory. They did say if your current Constitution does not cover something in the Standard you will follow the Standard. The committee has, after 5 years of work, melded the standard and the current multiple district constitution as item 1 on the ballot for consideration. Constitution and Bylaws recommends the merged version of the Constitution and Bylaws.

Motion to approve ballot measure 1 being placed on the ballot for approval by the delegates was made by DG Rick Carnal – 4-C2.

DG Christy Kroell-4-A2, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

- Standard form wording is on the Lions website and any questions should be directed to the committee.
- Ballot Measure 2 is a request of the council to increase the mandatory reserve fund from \$100,000 to \$150,000. Currently we maintain the \$100,000 as a state of emergency fund and that amount is currently insufficient. Constitution and Bylaws, Budget and Finance and the Council all recommend this measure.
- Ballot Measure 3 is to add the Youth Protection Committee to one of the standing committees in the multiple district.
- Ballot Measure 4 is to add the CalRefresh Committee to one of the standing committees.
- Ballot Measure 5 is the proposed budget for 2024-2025.
- DG Drew Sasser explained the clarification language regarding the council chair selection process to be added to the Policy and Procedure Manual, Chapter 1, Sections 1&2.

Motion to accept the clarification of Chapter 1, Sections 1 & 2 of the Policy & Procedures Manual was made by DG Benjie Fernandez-4-C6.

DG Manil Shresth-4-C3, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Fall Council of Governors

Summarized Minutes

October 27-28, 2023

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

PCC Logan McKechnie

- Addressed the amendments proposed by L6 for the ballot at the August Organizational COG in Visalia.
 - To allow any person holding a title of PDG or higher to vote in any election in MD4 whether or not their club is in good standing.
 - To have the council of governor appoint a former ID to the council to advise the council on how it should act in MD4
 - To select the council chair from any Past District Governor in MD4.
- The council requested the committee to investigate the procedures of the endorsement.
- The committee was approached by the DG, 1VDG and 2VDG at the end of the August COG and withdrew their request.
- 10 days ago, the CC and the chair received a letter from PID Bill Crawford saying the amendments needed to be presented at this meeting.
- The determination was the procedures of the endorsement were not completed correctly.
- The chair submitted request to LCI Legal on a ruling on whether it should be placed on the ballot. We are currently awaiting a ruling from LCI Legal.
- This report serves as the notification of it possibly appearing on the ballot.

DG Benjie Fernandez gave the benediction.

CC Craig Durand adjourned the meeting at 2:26pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Elisa Coyle

Council Secretary, Elisa Coyle

Selection of Council Chair and Officers

MD4 Constitution and By-laws

Amended February 2022 CHAPTER I COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Section 1 OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

- 1) **COMPOSITION.** There shall be a Council of Governors composed of all the District Governors in the Multiple District and shall also include one immediate Past District Governor who shall serve as Council Chair.
 - a. At the final meeting of the Council prior to the International Convention, the District Governors-Elect shall select, by written ballot, a member of the outgoing Council to act as their Council Chair.
 - b. The election shall be a **secret ballot*** and shall require a majority vote. The officers of this Multiple District shall be the members of the Council of Governors.
 - c. Each member of the Council of Governors, including the Council Chair, shall have one (1) vote on each question requiring action of the Council of Governors. The Council Chair shall serve for one year.
- 2) **OFFICERS.** The officers of the Council of Governors shall be a Chair and a Secretary and a Treasurer and such other officers as the Council of Governors shall deem necessary, all of whom shall be elected annually by the Council of Governors.
 - a. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be elected by secret ballot at the first meeting of the incoming Council of Governors.
 - b. The Executive Administrator shall be selected by the Council of Governors

*** The secret ballot is a voting method in which a voter's identity in an election or a referendum is anonymous.**

Robert's Rules Voting by Ballot (edited for clarification for Council Chair selection). The main object of this form of voting is secrecy, and it is resorted to when the question is of such a nature that some members might hesitate to vote publicly their true sentiments. Its special use is in the ...elections of members and officers, as well as in the preliminary steps in both cases, and the by-laws should require the vote to be by ballot in such cases. As the usual object of the ballot is secrecy, where the by-laws require the vote to be taken by ballot any motion is out of order which members cannot oppose without exposing their views on the question to be decided by ballot. Thus, it is out of order to move that one person cast the ballot of the assembly for a certain person when

DRAFT 2 – POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUL

the by-laws require the vote to be by ballot. [An individual may submit a vote by text or email to a teller which may be accepted when reviewed by both tellers....](#)

When everyone appears to have voted, the chair inquires, "Have all voted who wish to?" and if there is no response he says, "The polls are closed," whereupon the tellers proceed to count the ballots. If in unfolding the ballots it is found that two have been folded together, both are rejected as fraudulent. A blank piece of paper is not counted as a ballot and would not cause the rejection of the ballot with which it was folded. All blanks are ignored as simply wastepaper, and are not reported, the members who do not wish to vote adopt this method of concealing the fact. If no one is elected, it is necessary to ballot again, and to continue balloting until there is an election.

The names of the candidates should be arranged in order, the one receiving the highest number of legal votes being first. In reporting the number of votes cast and the number necessary for election, all votes except blanks must be counted. If no one is elected, it is necessary to ballot again, and to continue balloting until there is an election. If no one is elected, it is necessary to ballot again, and to continue balloting until there is an election.

Election by Majority: Majority is determined by 50% of eligible voters plus one. For example: 14 DGEs present a majority is 7 + 1 or 8.

Procedures for Selecting the Council Chair

- 1) The 1stVDG/DGE are responsible for sending out a call for applications and resumes for Council Chair to all of the out-going District Governors by February 15th. The material is usually prepared by the Cabinet Secretary unless the DGEs select another member to perform this task.
 - a. It is standard practice to ask the applicants to answer specific questions that DGEs determine important as part of the application process.
 - b. It is recommended that the packet also includes a copy of the Council Chair job description, especially duties that are specific to the operations of the MD4 Office and the supervision of staff.
 - c. The packets should contain instructions as to who the applications will be sent to and the deadline for submission. Six weeks should be adequate for potential candidates to respond. It is recommended that the instructions include a statement indicating that late applications will not be accepted.
 - d. The applications received by the set deadline should be sent to all members of the Council within 3 days for their review.
 - e. This information should be kept confidential and only discussed by the DGEs.
- 2) The 1stVDG/DGE shall prepare specific questions to ask all potential candidates. Due to the limited time for interviews, it is recommended that questions be kept to 3 or 4. The Council selects members to ask

specific questions for all interviews. A timer is identified to cue candidates when 30 seconds remain to wrap up that answer.

- 3) The same questions are asked of each candidate. The questions should be asked by the same selected person each time.
- 4) Candidates are given a specific number of minutes to answer each question and are cued at 30 seconds remaining.
- 5) It is recommended that the Cabinet Secretary prepare ahead of time several sets of secret ballots for voting.
- 6) If a DGE is not able to attend the Council can arrange for the DGE to participate via phone or zoom and submit his/her secret ballot to the teller. Robert's Rules shall be followed to determine a majority vote selection.
- 7) The candidate receiving a majority of the vote shall be declared the Council Chair. The Council shall continue to vote until a majority vote is obtained.
- 8) The selection of the Council Chair is held at the Joint Council of Governors Meeting unless circumstances prevent the holding of the Joint Council of Governors Meeting. If such an event occurs, alternate methods of selection may be used such as digital meetings.

Procedures for the Selection of Officers

- 1) When the Council has several members interested in Council Secretary and Council Treasurer positions it is recommended that interested candidates submit resumes to the Council using the same deadlines as established for the Council Chair position. Interviews and voting shall follow the same procedures as identified for the Council Chair position.
- 2) If there is only one candidate for a position, the Council is still required to vote by secret ballot and have a majority vote for the election of the candidate.

Note: Not submitting a ballot or submitting a blank ballot is an acceptable method of maintaining the secrecy of ballot. You never ask who didn't submit a ballot.

The Council Chair is a voting member of the Council of Governors. Each member of the Council of Governors has one vote, this includes the Council Chair.

[The meeting to elect the council chair and the other executive officers should be chaired by the current Council Chairman or the Chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws committee.]

[If there are more than two candidates for an office, there must be at least three votes before a motion may be entertained to eliminate the lowest vote recipient from the next ballot.]

DRAFT