

Mid-Winter Governors Meeting
February 21-22, 2024
Riverside, California

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

Multiple District Four
CALIFORNIA LIONS



Council of Governors
Mid-Winter 2024
Riverside, Ca

Multiple District 4, California, Lions Clubs International
Council of Governors Mid-Winter

Summarized Minutes

February 21-22

Council Chair Craig Durand called the meeting to order.

District Governor Benjie Fernandez gave the invocation.

District Governor Rich Cervantes led the Pledge.

District Governor Christy Kroell led "God Bless America."

WELCOME INTRODUCTIONS: CC Craig Durand established protocol.

Fall Council of Governors Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes from the Fall Council of Governors meeting as presented by Council Secretary Elisa Coyle was made by DG Drew Sasser 4-L4.

DG Kevin Guess, 4-C4, seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Treasures Report

Council Treasurer Drew Sasser presented the financial report.

- Corrections have been made to the 2022-2023 Financials corrected.
- Current financials for the 2023-2024 year will be presented at the June Joint Council of Governors meeting for approval.

Motion to approve the financials for the 2023-2023 year as presented was made by Council Secretary Elisa Coyle 4-C1.

DG Kevin Guess 4-C4 seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

LCI Report

IPID Ken Ibarra

- Quoted IP Dr. Patti Hill, "To change the world, we first must believe change is possible. Be brave in the cause you tackle and the work that you do. Don't shy away from something that may seem difficult. You are up to the task and other Lions are here to support you. So, take that bold first step."
- Impressed with leadership development, membership growth, and quality of service provided by our California Lions.
- 2022-2023 Club Excellence Awards resulted in 7,254 approved applications. 56% increase over the previous year.
- Finance – Approved e-commerce changes in the supply chain management to engage the USPS for the delivery of club supply sales. Changes to take place in April.
- Lions Magazine is making final changes to the winter 2024 print issue. Will focus on Mission 1.5.
- Marketing – Reviewed the Rose Float marketing language that went out.

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LCI Report (continued)

- Peace Poster and Essay Contest update – Confirmation email created for the Peace Poster Kits via a new Digitalization process for 2024-2025. Will not need to pay for the kits via mail.
- Technology – Lions Portal – Launch plan includes progress and delay reasoning. Testing is continuing. Committed not to launching a faulty product. Technology is trying for an April launch.
- LCIF – MD4 is the number one donor in CA1.
- International President awards have been forwarded to LCI for final approval. Will be sent to IPID Ken to have them delivered before individual district conventions.

CLF

PDG Mario Benavente

- Wine Tasting Auction to be held at this event.
- Seminar about CLF on Friday at the convention. How to apply for grants.
- Have a table in the Exhibit Hall.
- Silent auction for a cruise.
- Matching grants are available for \$500 - \$5,000.
- Special grants are available that are not matching grants. Hunger – Mar-May \$2500 per district, \$500 per club.

LCIF

PDG Manny Sanchez

- Encourage everyone to continue giving because MD4 is only \$30K ahead of the other areas.
- MD4 is number 3 in the world.
- Giving out Campaign 100, 100% Clubs and Districts, and Legacy recognitions on Sunday.

Rose Float

PDG Manny Sanchez

- The letter to LCI for the 2024-2025 float has been submitted.
- Float is being marketed even more than before. We had more than 3 million impressions. Over 4 million television viewers. There were 12,000 decorating volunteers. 1,400 were supplied by Lions.
- Recognized those who walked and rode the float and the board members.
- Encouraged involvement from anyone interested since we are growing.
- Presented the rough draft of the design for the 2025 Float.

MD4 Office and Personnel

CC Craig Durand

- Office Coordinator Marcie organized 600 ballots. Taken on additional responsibilities in the office.
- We released the bookkeeper, Elvira in December.

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MD4 Office and Personnel (continued)

- The financials are being corrected by PDG Gabby McKechnie.
- An outsourced bookkeeper, Shurene Rehmke, was hired and is working with PDG Gabby and Marcie for the transition and new processes to be used in the office.

2nd IVP A.P. Singh and PID Sangeeta Jatia Report

IPID Ken Ibarra

- Arriving from India to specifically visit the Lions of California.
- Be assembled at the Marriot Lobby for their arrival.

GLOBAL ACTION TEAM AREA 1B LEADER

PDG Mark Piva

- Work with MD GAT teams. MD4 GAT team is working well as a team and meets weekly.
- Have added 3 new clubs, 7 new clubs are in process.
- GAT conducted SWOTs with the 1VDG AND 2VDG, managed the CA Project Cares effort, currently doing a new club development workshop, and will be doing a Mission 1.5 summit in April.
- C4 has a positive membership of 48. Rank 7 out of 10 in CA 1a. L3 has a positive membership of 40 and L6 has a positive membership of 21.
- Suggested Vice Governors to take the Coaching Skills course in Learn.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

PDG Manny Sanchez

- Trying to push the GAT team model down to the clubs.
- Completed the Emerging Lions Leadership Institute.
- Preparing for the Regional Lions Leadership Institute.
- We have a pool of FDI graduates to utilize. Want to put these people to work.
- Will be doing an FDI at the end of May.
- Asked for more training opportunities.

Motion to approve the Policy and Procedure addition of – “The MD4 Global Leadership Team shall provide training for the three governor councils, districts, and Lions that are required by Lions International and additional training identified for the efficient and effective operations and management of Multiple District Four and the growth of the Lions of Multiple District Four”, was made by Council Treasurer Drew Sasser 4-L4. DG Hank Trueba 4-L5 seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

PDG Juanita Nichols

- Acknowledged Arminda Ruiz as the Family & Women’s Specialist and took the lead in defining the job.

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GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM (continued)

- The next session of the New Club Development workshop is March 3. Reminded the participants to complete their assignments.
- Stressed the importance of the team aspect of the GAT.
- MD4 Growth Grants available. District - \$500, Region - \$300, Zone - \$200 and Club – \$150.

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM

Lion Kathy McCracken

- Meet monthly with the GSTs and the area GSTs.
- MD4 has served 2,596,575 people, 14,999 activities completed, 410,638 volunteer hours, \$31,780,779 funds donated, and \$3,974,633 funds raised. 79% of the clubs in the Multiple District are reporting. Leos have 33% reporting.
- Tallying the numbers for Quarter 1 Project Cares (Diabetes, Pediatric Cancer and Humanitarian)
- Quarter 2 just completed. (Hunger and Military / First Responders)
- Quarter 3 began in January. (Vision and Youth)

BUDGET AND FINANCE

PDG Josephine Louie

- In September the budget was established with the cooperation of the council and the committee.
- Proposed budget details are available in the written report.
- There is a budget seminar at the convention with PDG Bill Ridle.
- PDG Bill Ridle will complete training for the treasurers at the convention.

Constitution and Bylaws Report (ballot)

PDG Ken Echeberry

- Ballots were mailed on the correct timeline.
- Measure 1 is voting on the Merged Standard Constitution with the existing MD4 Constitution and Bylaws
- Measure 2 is voting on the mandatory reserve fund increase to \$150,000
- Measure 3 is voting on adding the Youth Protection Committee as a Standing Committee
- Measure 4 is voting on adding CalRefresh as an Other Committee
- Measure 5 is voting on the requirement of the Council of Governors to elect a council chair from a pool of ALL past district governors.
- Measure 6 is voting on requiring the Council to appoint a PID as a non-voting member of the council
- Measure 7 is currently a moot point. The supremacy clause in the International CBL addresses this issue.
- Measure 8 is the adoption of the proposed budget.
- The last item is the selection of an endorsed International Director candidate.

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Motion to confirm the three motions that were completed in between the Fall and Mid-Winter meetings. The motions were to 1) Approve the amended Hosting a COG Manual. 2) Approve the amended Convention Manual and 3) Approve the appointment of PDG Jim Lee to the Credentials and Election sub-committee in place of PCC Logan McKechnie was made by DG Christy Kroell 4-A2.

DG Scarlett Ku 4-L2 seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Long Range Planning

PDG Jose Nichols

- Committee established by LCI and is a Standing Committee in MD4 with the requisite to study, review, and gain a working knowledge of the association's operations, and strategic plans (past, current, and prospective at all levels).
- The history of the committee has been ineffective and does not have any continuity.
- The committee will be refocusing on the future as to the work it needs to complete in collaboration with the MD4 GAT and CalRefresh Ad Hoc Committee.
- The effectiveness of the committee relies on the feedback from the GAT team, CalRefresh Ad Hoc Committee, and the Councils.

Recess

Leo-Lion Liaison

Leo-Lion Manati Patel

- We have 170 active Alpha Leo Clubs, 13 Omega Leo clubs. The current membership is 2,331.
- There are only 7 qualified Leo Lion Liaison positions available in the category.
 - Must be a Leo District officer.
 - Be an advocate for leadership roles and leadership training
 - Serve as support and point of contact for the district Leos
 - Explore Lions membership program opportunities
 - Serve as a resource to district cabinet officers and assigned committees
 - Coordinate with the district Leo chairperson for the promotion of the Leo clubs and Leo Lion programs
- IP Dr. Patti Hill is a proponent of this position. The position was introduced in April 2021.
- Thanked the council for the appointment as the liaison and the ability to create opportunities for our youth.

Youth Protection Committee

PDG Juanita Nichols

- Child protection laws are not going away with the possibility of them getting more stringent.
- Need a knowledgeable team to keep up with the changes in the laws and compliance requirements.

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Youth Protection Committee (continued)

- Volunteer background clearances must be completed when an adult (18+) has direct contact with or supervision of children for more than 16 hours per month and/or 32 hours per year.
- Youth protection officers need to self-evaluate their projects for the number of hours that they work with children.
- Live Scan has been added to the package and the forms are available on the MD4 Website.
- Included a photo release in the forms as well as consent and release of liability forms.

International Convention Hospitality Report

Lion Josephine Fong

- Breakfast will be held at the Melbourne Marriot Hotel. From 6:45am-8:15am there will be a sit down hot-plated breakfast. Cost is \$40. A shuttle bus will be available following the breakfast to get to the parade route.
- The convention uniform is a Heather blue hoodie, black pants, and white shoes. The red shirt is optional.
- Commemorative pins are selling well.
- There are no designated delegation hotels this year.
- A visa is required to travel to Melbourne.
- There is a post-International Convention trip available for Lions.

MD4 Convention Management Report

PDG James Fong

- Reported the new Host Committee Chair is PDG Fred Caldera 4-L5.
- The Council appointed the Credentials & Elections sub-committee consisting of PCC Logan McKechnie, PDG Pat Dimond, Lion Sharon Mendelson, and PDG John Schroeder. PDG Jim Lee has replaced PCC Logan McKechnie.
- The 2025 Convention is in Visalia, CA and the theme is Service on Safari.

Lions Youth Outreach Report

Lion Margaret Lee

- PDG John Doogan has resigned from the committee.
- Thanked the Leos for serving as liaisons.
- 51 Leos, 5 Advisors, and 2 Lion volunteers attended the USA/Canada Leo Leadership Forum in Chicago.
- Youth Leadership Institutes will be held at Teresita Pines and Scout Island.

Youth Exchange Report

PDG Thelma Batilo

- Asked the districts to have the Leo Advisor or Student Speaker Chair handle the position of Youth Exchange chair if they do not have one appointed.

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Youth Exchange Report (continued)

- This past year there were 16 student attendees at Camp Teresita Pines. We sent out 9 students.
- Asked the council to find people to appoint to the committee to fill the vacancies.

CalRefresh Report

DG Kevin Guess

- How to look at our policies and supply excellent customer service to our Lions of California.
- Reviewed and updated the Convention Manual and Hosting a COG Manual.
- Addressing and developing an SOP for the business office.
- Transition checklist for the governor team.
- Develop the Governor Transition Guide
- Partnering with the GAT to develop a multiple district strike team plan and a district strike team SOP.

Leo Advisor

PDG Jamie Hart for Lion Melanie Hunter

- Rebuilding Leo clubs after COVID-19 has been a challenge. Most of the Leo clubs had to start over.
- The Youth Leadership Institute at Camp Teresita Pines will be \$25 for the first 50 Leos and Advisors to register. The deadline is March 1.
- The second Youth Leadership Institute in California Scott Island in Merced, April 4-7. The registration fee is a donation.
- There will be a Leadership Forum here at the convention this year. They will be participating in the Magic Yarn service project.
- There will be a quarterly Zoom meeting on the fifth Tuesday of the month for all things Leo led by Leo Advisor Melanie Hunter and Lion Advisory Panel member PDG Gabby McKechnie. 30-minute zoom on March 29.

Marketing Report

Lion Gopa Kumar

- The goal is to promote projects under the direction of the Council of Governors.
- There are 6 Lions inflatables available for use. The sign-up is available on the marketing website.
- There is the goal to get California state license plates available.
- Social Media platforms have been created for multiple.
- Set up the availability to use Canva to create flyers and marketing materials.

Stamping out Preventable Blindness

PCC Bob Stewart

- Pilot in C3 is currently underway.
- Use the technology at diabetes awareness events, low vision clinics, and underserved communities.

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Stamping out Preventable Blindness (continued)

- Concern over liability at low-vision clinics reporting issues. To prevent liability, you need a licensed Ophthalmologist present.
- The pilot will be completed by the end of April.

Magic Yarn Project

PDG Linda Barbara

- Has brought the project to the northern portion of the state.
- Working on her certification as a full trainer for the project.

Peace Poster/Essay Contest Report

Lion Diane Quinlan

- 13 out of 14 districts participated in the poster contest. 3 participated in the essay contest.
- The awards will be given out at 2:30 pm Saturday during the convention.

Motion to approve an addition to the Policy and Procedure Manual clarifying and allowing reimbursement to the youth that participate in and have been recognized as winners of the Peace Poster and Essay Contest to attend the MD4 convention was made by DG Benjie Fernandez 4-C6.

DG Julion DeGuzman seconded the motion

Motion carried.

MD4Con 2025 Visalia, CA

PDG Betty Morris

- 1 year away. Meet once a month and the committee is establishing their sub-committees.
- Have a current menu with costs that have been confirmed and guaranteed by the venue.
- The theme is Service on Safari.
- Registration is available online using Ticketspice.
- The headquarters hotel is the Marriot Hotel. The alternate hotel is the Wyndham Hotel.

Robert G. Smith Walk to Cancel out Parkinson's.

1VDG Vicki Brady

- The date for the 7th Annual Parkinson's Walk is April 6, 2024.
- Registration is open for individuals and teams.
- New website this year.
- 52 different courses – a regular course and an ADA course.

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Motion to approve the schedule of the 2024-2025 Council of Governors' meetings. August Organizational, August 16-18, 2024, hosted by C3. Fall Virtual, October 26, 2024. Mid-Winter, February 20, 2025, hosted by A2 and June Joint, May 31-June 2, 2025, hosted by 4-L6 made by DG Kevin Guess 4-C4.

DG Zenny Yagen 4-C5 seconded the motion.

Discussion to clarify the dates for the June Joint. May 31 is not Friday.

DG Kevin Guess amended the motion to change the dates of the June Joint to May 30 – June 1, 2025.

DG Zenny Yagen seconded the amended motion.

Motion carried.

Fort Thomas

PDG Lisa Alexander (Missouri)

- Melvin Jones Museum and Memorial
- Looking for support to keep the museum up and running.

Clarifying Business

CC Craig Durand

- Measure 7 is a moot point because Lions International gives the Past International Officers the right to vote as a thank you regardless of their club's standing.
- Reiterated that PDG Gabby McKechnie is volunteering her time and not being compensated for her work cleaning up the books.
- PDG David Beeman asked if the past officer had to still be a Lion. The answer is yes because they need to be a member of a club.

Adjourned