

LIONS FOUNDATION OF NORTH DAKOTA, INC.

Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting

April 23, 2022, 10:00 AM, Quality Inn, Bismarck ND

MINUTES AS APPROVED

Call to Order: Meeting called to Order by President Tingum at 10:02 am. Those present were President Kirk Tingum, Vice President Kristi Swenson, Secretary Mark Western, Treasurer Jed Geer, Janice Sowokinos, Rick Stark VDG Elect, Kevin Bean, Gary Morel, Milton Ota, Board Member Elect Steve Johnson, Doug Rothe, Mac Beaudry, 1 VDG Jeanette Bean, 1 VDG Lynn Grabow, Lion Del Hager, and Executive Director Lois Reiersen, and Kathy Boe.

The President noted that a quorum was present. The President added two items to the agenda, for reappointment of the Executive Director, and a discussion regarding an “orcam” to be discussed further below.

Secretary’s Minutes: Motion made by Kristi Swenson and Seconded by Kevin Bean to approve the January, 2022 meeting minutes as presented via email. Motion carries unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Jed Geer presented the Treasurer’s report. He reported as follows:

The Quarter ending balances were as follows:

Administration Accounts:	
Consisting of:	
Permanent Funds:	\$46,618.32
Newspaper Balance	\$4,227.49
EyeBank/Vision Grant	\$63,753.47
Operating Funds	\$5,251.85
Grant Checking Account	\$16,237.10

Investment accounts have been combined and that will be discussed in greater detail below.

\$4,059.28 is available for regular foundation grants for this meeting/quarter. The President also briefly discussed the difference between 501(c)(3) treatment (re pass-through donations) and 501(c)(4) donations as it relates to tax treatment for donations.

Milton Ota moved and Kevin Bean seconded, Motion carried to accept the Treasurer’s report as amended.

Old Business

Transition of Lions Award Program- Kristi and Rick Swenson have received all of the Lions Foundation award awards and ephemera and are in the process of taking charge of awards from Lion Lewellan Rustan.

Update for Signature Authority on Accounts

The President advised that he thinks that only one person should be a signatory on Lions Foundation accounts—that issue can be resolved when the new board and new officers take over in July.

With regard to the Eyeglass Recycling bank accounts, Lion Dennis Friesz advised that he needed authority to add himself and a second person onto the account, and expressed a desire to add Lion Kevin .

Lion Kristi Swenson moved and Lion Milton Ota seconded that the Board create a resolution to permit Lion Dennis Friesz and Lion Kevin Bean to hold signatory authority on the Eyeglass Recycling Account, and that Lion Mel Olson, and late Lion Kevin Vannett’s names be removed, to the extent that either remain on the respective accounts.

After discussion, the board adopted the resolution unanimously by a voice vote. The President and the Secretary are empowered with the power to draft any “resolution” document required by any financial institution to effectuate this Resolution.

With regard to the Video Magnifier Program, Lion Jed Geer moved and Lion Scott Hildre, that Lion Kevin Bean’s name be added along with Lion Dennis Friesz and Lion Helen Baumgartner, to the Video Magnifier Account. The Motion carried by a voice vote, and the President and the Secretary are empowered with the power to draft any “resolution” document required by any financial institution to effectuate this Resolution.

Audit Update

The bylaws require an audit or review every five or so years, and it has been five years since the last audit. Either the Board should change the bylaws, or it is time to do an audit in accordance with the bylaws.

Lion Jed is charged with the responsibility to determine the possible cost for a “review” level of scrutiny, and for that “review” to happen for both the Lions Foundation of North Dakota as well as its umbrella organizations.

Website Update

Lion Steve Johnson reported that not much has happened with the Lions Foundation of North Dakota webpage for several years. Once on the board, Lion Steve plans to roll up his sleeves and take the lead on bringing the website up to the 2020s.

Report on Speaker Talking Points

The President reported on bringing the “Foundation onto the road” to explain what the Foundation does and how clubs may qualify for both vision grants and traditional grants.

The President circulated a list of “talking points” regarding the Foundation for board members and Lions to use in the field.

New Business

a. Grant Applications

i. Regular Applications

There were two traditional grant applications considered at the meeting.

The Braddock Lions requested \$2,000 for a new roof for storage area in the Lions Clubhouse of Braddock. The Hebron Lions Club requested a grant in the amount of \$2,870 for renovations for the Lions Park in Hebron.

Mark Western moved and Kevin Bean seconded that the Board seek additional information from the Braddock Lions Club regarding the proposed grant to determine whether it meets the criteria of a “Lions Project” as set out in the Standard Operating Procedures.

Lion Terry Oxendahl and Lion Jeannette Bean seconded that the Hebron Lions Club grant be approved up to \$2,870 on the contingent basis that the Hebron Lions Club confirm that the fundraising done for the project was done by the Lions Club. Motion carried.

ii. Vision-related Applications

The Board considered three separate vision grant applications; the Ashley Lions Club sought \$218. Scott Hildre moves and Kristi Swenson moves that the Ashley Lions Club grant be approved in full. Motion carried. The Grand Forks Lions Club sought \$1,000 for their donation to the School For the Blind Little Rooms project. Motion made by Lion Milton and seconded by Lion Kevin Bean to approve the grant request. Motion carried. The Williston Lions Club requested a grant in the amount of \$404.20 to reimburse payment of an airline ticket. Because the payment by the club was directly to the individual and not a direct payment, approval of the grant would create IRS 501(c)(3) problems. Lion Kirk moved and Lion Kevin Bean seconded, that the grant be not approved because of the IRS issues. The Motion to not approve the grant request carried.

At that point, the President recessed the Board subject to the call of the chair. The President called the Board back to Order on or about 12:14 pm.

b. Report on Review of Executive Director

The President gave a very positive report on Lois Reiersen as Executive Director. The Board expressed its appreciation.

c. Election of Officers

The President advised that the following individuals were willing to serve in the following positions for the upcoming fiscal year:

Lion Janice Sowokinos as Secretary
Lion Steve Johnson as Treasurer
Lion Kristi Swenson as Vice President
Lion Mark Western as President

Lion Milton Ota moved and Kevin Bean seconded that nominations for Treasurer cease and that the Steve Johnson be chosen as Treasurer by acclamation.

Lion Kevin Bean moved and Lion Jeannette Bean seconded that the nominations for Secretary cease and that Janice Sowokinos be chosen as Secretary by acclamation.

Lion Mac Beaudry moved and Lion Kevin Bean seconded that the nominations for Vice President cease and that Kristi Swenson be chosen as Vice President by acclamation.

Lion Milton Ota moved and Lion Scott Hildre seconded that the nominations for President cease and that Mark Western be chosen as Vice President by acclamation.

Additional Agenda Item- Mark Western moved and Jed Geer seconded that the Honorable Lois Reiersen be appointed as Executive Director for the new fiscal year.

d. Preliminary Discussion on Consolidation of Investment Funds

The President advised that the segregation of investment funds (Vision Projects Fund) and other funds may be no longer necessary.

e. Discussion on Foundation Expectations At Convention

Vice President Kristi Swenson will be checking in with her zone to determine whether the Foundation will have a breakout session, and whether the Foundation will have any additional expectations for the State Convention. To be continued at the July meeting.

Agenda Addition- Orcam Machines—

It is a machine that is hooked onto glasses; the unit functions to “read” labels, etc., for the user. It is the consensus of the Board that it is something to “look in to”, and it would likely fall under the portfolio of the Video Magnifier program.

Investment Report:

Treasurer Jed Geer reported that the first quarter was not great for the market, and that the total investment accounts’ value went down approximately 5% or \$20,000. The investment accounts’ funds downturn is representative of where the financial markets have gone over the last several months.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence to report upon.

Reports:

a. Executive Director

Lois Reiersen

- b. Video Magnifier Program
- c. Eyeglass Recycling Program
- d. Sight for Kidz Program

The Executive Director advised that there is a new email address for submitting articles to the North Dakota Lion. There is also a new entity that does the printing.

The umbrella organizations' reports were submitted to the Board and received.

14. Upcoming Meetings

- a. July 16, 2022 in Bismarck
- b. October 21, 2022 Spirit Lake Casino, St. Michael, ND
- c. January 21, 2023, planned to be via Zoom.
- d. April, 29 2023 (TBA)

Jeanette Bean and Kristi Swenson move an second for the above dates for future meetings of the Lions Foundation Board of Directors.

Adjournment: By motion from Kevin Bean, Seconded by Jed Geer, meeting adjourned at 1:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Mark Western
Secretary of the Board