

LIONS FOUNDATION OF NORTH DAKOTA, INC.
Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting
July 16, 2022 10:00 am
Comfort Inn, Bismarck, ND

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by President Western. Those present were President Mark Western, Vice President Kristi Swenson (via Zoom), Secretary Janice Sowokinos (via Zoom), Immediate Past Treasurer Jed Geer, Treasurer PDG Steve Johnson, 1st VDG Lynn Grabow, 1st VDG Rick Stark, Milton Ota, PCC Kevin Bean, DG Jeanette Bean, PDG Gary Morrel (via Zoom), PDG Kathy Boe, and Executive Director Lois Reiersen.

President Western led the Pledge of Allegiance along with his daughter Freya who signed the Pledge.

Introductions were done along with an ice breaker where board members had to partner up and introduce each other using their favorite food that starts the first letter of their first name.

A Quorum was established.

Secretary's Minutes: Motion made by Kevin and Seconded by Lynn to approve the April, 2022 minutes as presented by e-mail with one correction – Kathy Boe was in attendance at the meeting. 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:	\$48,318.07
Newspaper Balance:	\$7,513.85
Eye Bank/Vision Grants:	\$62,535.47
Operating Funds:	\$86.34

Grant Checking Account: \$17,089.01

A correction was made that the Hebron Grant was not listed. The grant checking account should be reduced by \$2,870.00, so the Grant Checking Account balance would be \$14,219.01.

\$3,554.75 is available for regular foundation grants for this meeting/quarter.

Steve moved and Milton seconded. Motion carried to accept the Treasurer's report as amended.

Old Business

Audit/Review of LDFC issue

According to the Bylaws, an internal audit must be performed every year and every five years a review or audit must be performed by an accounting firm. It has been determined that it has been over 3 years since a review or audit has been performed by an accounting firm. A motion was made by Kevin and seconded by Jed to give Treasurer Steve Johnson the authority to have a financial review conducted of LFND covering the last 5 years. This review will be done and reported on at the next meeting. A budget of \$3,000 was given for this review. Motion Carried.

Website Update

Steve connected with Butch Frank. Current information is up to date on the website. Steve is going to spend some time with Butch correcting any other issues that arise

Lions Award Issues/Transition

Kristi Swenson has taken over this program. It was brought up by Steve that the pin currently says Lifetime Donor, but the program is referred to as Lifetime Member. Steve suggested to use Lifetime Donor on all references to the program to be consistent. Kristi to handle this change.

Update Signature Authority on Accounts

Helen Baumgartner was removed as a signatory on the Video Magnifier checking account as the last meeting. Kevin Bean & Dennis Friesz were added. Mark to communicate with Dennis to confirm that Helen should be added back as a signatory on the Video Magnifier checking account.

The current bank for LFND is Union Bank, which has no branches in other cities in ND. Steve will like to propose to move the accounts to Gate City Bank, which has branches across the state. Gate City allows one signature on the checks. Steve mentioned that Gate City Bank requires a second "registrant" on the new account. It was suggested that Janice Sowokinos be the second registrant on the account. She agreed with this suggestion. Jed made the motion to have Secretary Janice Sowokinos as the second registrant on the account. Rick Seconded. Motion carried.

Steve doesn't need to be added to the Union account as Jed will transfer all funds to a new Gate City Bank account.

New Business

Grant Applications

Regular Applications

The Braddock Lions Club requested \$2,000 for a new roof for storage area in the Lions Clubhouse of Braddock. This is a holdover from the last meeting. It was voted to deny this request due to the Lions not doing any of the work on the project themselves. Mark will write a letter to the president of Braddock Lions Club explaining why the request was denied.

The Robinson Lions Club requested \$2,000 for renovations of bathrooms in the former school gym. This project would be helping the city, but there are no Lions doing any work on the project, nor is it a Lions facility. It was voted to deny this request. Mark will write a letter to the president of the Robinson Lions club explaining why the request was denied.

The Robinson Lions Club requested \$7,500 for building RV camping spots. It was voted to deny this request. This would be helping out the city, but it not a Lions project.

Vision-related Applications

Lynn made the motion and Kevin seconded to approve the following vision grants.

Bismarck Lions – Glasses for Individuals - \$858.00
Devils Lake Lions – Glasses for Individuals - \$243.75
Lake Metigoshe – Eye Exam and Glasses - \$250.00
Hazen Lions – Video Magnifier - \$350.00
Williston Korner Lions – Glasses for Individual - \$161.00

Motion Carried

The Medina Lions submitted a request for reimbursement for helping a child with eye issues. The request was denied due to the reimbursement being made to the parent. Lois did explain this to the club, so they know how to handle in the future.

The question was brought up about the effect this would have on LFND's 501(c)(3) status if this request would have been approved. Mark is to look into this with Kirk Tingum.

ND Newsletter Issues

It was briefly discussed changing the ND Lion to make it shorter with more caption based pictures and not so many articles. PID Pat Vannett had sent Lois a copy of the SD Newsletter which is more in this format. Kevin, Kathy, and Jeanette will make up the committee to look into this further and report at the next meeting.

990 Form Issues

There was a question brought up if the proper 990 Form was filed for LFND. The form was included with the tax return, but Jed to clarify and report back to the board

Preparing for State Convention & Parade of Green

The LFND meeting at the State Convention will take place on Friday afternoon at 1pm. It was discussed at this time about a breakout session at the State Convention from LFND. The breakout sessions would include education on the website and grants. Steve and Mark will organize. Kristi Swenson, on behalf of the convention committee, confirmed that this would work. It was also briefly brought up about setting up a table/booth for LFND at the State Convention. Mark to follow up with an e-mail to ask for volunteers during the convention. The Parade of Green will take place on Saturday afternoon at the convention. Clubs can make the choice weather or not they want to come forward with their checks. There will be a table to distribute their checks. Kristi will let the board know if volunteers will be needed from the other organizations to collect checks at the table.

Recruiting New Potential Board Members

There are three board members with terms expiring. They are as follows:

Milton Ota – Not eligible for another term
Mark Western – Eligible for a 2nd term
Jed Geer – Not eligible for another term

Investment Report

The sum of the investment accounts is \$391,462.90. This is a change of (\$60,144.69). Dividends and Interest make up \$3,190.55 of this amount. The market was described as hurry up and wait. In other words, just wait out the downturn. Jed indicated that Ameriprise Financial may be available at the State Convention during the LFND meeting to explain any questions.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report upon.

Reports

a. Executive Director	Lois Reierison
b. Video Magnifier Program	Dennis Friesz
c. Eyeglass Recycling Program	Dennis Friesz
d. Sight for Kidz Program	Pat Vannett

The Executive Director reported during the course of the meeting.

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

Upcoming Meetings

- a. October 21, 2022 Spirit Lake Casino, St. Michael, ND
- b. January 21, 2023, planned to be via Zoom.

- c. April 29, 2023 in Bismarck
- d. July ____, 2023 in Bismarck (TBD)

Adjournment

Mark challenged all board members to bring 1 goal to the State Convention for 2023. Is there something that needs to be done differently? What can we be proud of?

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Boe
Acting Secretary of the Board