

DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
Geary Lions Club  
August 12, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 11:14 am by DG Stewart.

The Lions Invocation was led by Lion Brennan Beaumont

A moment of silence for World Peace and deceased members was held.

King Lion Stacey Antoniuk of Geary Lions Club welcomed everyone to Geary and wished everyone a productive meeting.

DG Stewart introduced the head table. The agenda was approved with a motion from Lion Terry Kavanaugh, seconded by Lion Paul Matheson. Motion carried.

CST Susan presented the proposed budget for 2012 – 2013. She also asked for the cooperation of everyone this year. Before every meeting, she will e-mail copies of minutes, financial statements and the agenda to every club, district officer and zone chair. She is asking that members bring copies to the meeting so the district won't have the expense of photocopying and there won't be an excess of unneeded papers. CST Susan also shared with everyone regrets from members e-mailed to DG Stewart who were unable to attend the Organizational meeting.

DG Stewart invite all PDG's to stand and be recognized (10 present). He then invited the Cabinet Officers and Zone chairs to stand and be recognized.

DG Stewart thanked everyone for coming. He also thanked those who attended CEP facilitator training on Saturday. It was a great training. He thanked everyone for allowing him to represent the District this year. He has had a busy five months preparing for his year as District Governor. He thanked Lion Heather for all her help and support. Early in June, DG Stewart had the privilege to visit LFC. He stated that that there was great work being done at the foundation. He encouraged all members to visit if they ever had the chance. While at the Foundation, DG Stewart heard personal stories from people who received all five types of dogs. DG Stewart reminded zone chairs to try to find zone chairs for next year. If possible, let them work with the current ZC's to make the transition next year seamless. He noted that there were only two female zone chairs this year. He encouraged more involvement from females. DG Stewart shared his list of goals for this year – 3 new clubs, 45 new members to existing clubs, decrease dropped Lions to zero and where there are dropped members, new members to replace them. He has asked the DG team to help achieve these goals. The DG team exists of 1<sup>st</sup> VDG, 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG, CST, GLT, GMT and zone chairs. It was noted that three clubs dropped for various reasons, but the DG team is working to get them up and running again. The DG's theme for this year is "Investing in Youth - the Future of Lions." Leo clubs are great way to get youth involved. We will also be working to start some Campus clubs within the district.

1<sup>st</sup> VDG Lucio acknowledged the language barrier he is experiencing with most of the district. He is working on improving his English for next year.

2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Susan thanked everyone who supported her at the convention last year. She is looking forward to the next couple of years. 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG has registration forms for USA/Canada forum for anyone interested in attending. She also encouraged everyone to bring someone new to Cabinet meetings.

PCST Bev Semple (2011 – 2012) informed everyone that the accounts are closed and books are gone to auditors.

Lion Doug Small – GLT coordinator. CEP facilitator training was held yesterday with 22 Lions present and 15 facilitators coming from the training. The Emerging Lions Leadership Institute application deadline is August 18. The application has to be signed by GLT and DG. The Advanced Lions Leadership Institute application deadline is December 9. He encouraged members to complete the Certified Guiding Lions course.

We took a break for lunch.

DG Stewart thanked the Geary Lions Club for preparing lunch. It was enjoyed by all.

Lion Gerry Forsythe – GMT Coordinator – Lion Gerry reported that one club has been saved from disbanding and the DG Team is working with other clubs in trouble to help them. Membership is a concern. All clubs need new and younger members. He encouraged clubs without women to look at opening the doors to female members. LCI has appointed PDG Paul Baker as the coordinator for Campus Clubs – see report. Lion Gerry also encouraged members to complete the Certified Guiding Lions course. He would like to see one Certified Guiding Lion in every zone. The course is available online or kits are available from Lion Gerry.

DG Stewart wants to get CEP started in the district. This is a great program and will help curb the dropped members.

Roll call report – There are 61 members from 25 clubs present.

DG Stewart stated that we either have to hold a successful District Fundraiser or there will be a real need to raise district dues. PDG Jan Phillips felt that holding a district fundraiser at District meetings penalizes the members that attend the meeting and would be in favor of raising dues. But she stated that she is willing to chair a District wide fundraiser which will include all members of the district for this year. Lion John Murray challenged all zone chairs to get to the clubs, push the CEP and show the value of the District

DG Stewart informed the members of some on the troubled clubs within the district. He was pleased to announce that Eastern Charlotte Lions Club is now back on course and the Irishtown Lions Club has 10 new members to be inducted soon.

PCC Rod Wright challenged the Zone Chairs to set goals with the clubs in their zone. He stated that new and young members are key to the survival of the clubs. He also stated that communication is important within the district and zone chairs are a key player with this.

DG Stewart asked that every club have a PR chair and communicate with the District PR chair. The district is now on Facebook. It's another tool for the district to use for public relations.

DG Stewart asked everyone to think about areas for new clubs. If anybody knows about an area that a new club may be started, please let the DG team know.

Lion Jim Aucoin informed everyone that the theme for the Peace Poster contest this year is "Imagine Peace." He encouraged all clubs to take part in the contest this year.

Lion Harold Borden stated that this past year was a good one for the Diabetes Tag day. The amount raised was \$2100. Tag day this year is November 3. Cavalcade 2013 will be held in Newcastle on June 15<sup>th</sup>. There was some discussion regarding the by-laws between the District and CDA. They state that the Cavalcade would be held on the last Saturday of May. By-Laws between District and CDA states Cavalcade Last Saturday in May.

DG Stewart informed everyone that the Sussex Lions Club is looking for help for next weekend with a major fundraiser. There were some volunteers to help them out.

Lion Terry Kavanaugh has been looking into group travel to the International Convention 2014 in Toronto. He gave us some quotes that he has gotten and he will continue to look at options.

The new visitation card will be available in Rexton at the September District Meetings.

Dates to Remember:

Sept 8 – Meet and Greet – Rexton Lions Club

Sept 9 – District Meeting, Rexton

Sept 10 – Submit District Dues

Sept 13-15 – USA/Canada Forum, Tampa Bay, FL

Sept 30 - Portage Recognition Day

DG Stewart presented a certificate to the Geary Lions club to thank them for use of their facilities.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Lion Jim Aucoin at 2:30 pm.

Yours in Lionism  
CST Susan Stennick