

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

Summarized Minutes

August 4-6, 2023

August Organizational Council of Governors Meeting
August 4-6, 2023
Visalia, California

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

Multiple District Four
CALIFORNIA LIONS



Council of Governors
August Organizational Meeting 2023
Visalia, Ca

Council Chair Craig Durand called the meeting to order.

District Governor Benjie Fernandez gave the invocation.

District Governor Kevin Guess led the Pledge.

Visalia Mayor Brian Poochigian addressed the Lions of CA.

District Governor Christy Kroell led "God Bless America."

PCC Karen Crook presented the gavel to CC Craig Durand.

WELCOME INTRODUCTIONS: CC Craig established protocol.

June Joint Council of Governors Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes from the June Joint Council of Governors meeting as presented by Past Council Secretary Linda Barbara was made by Council Secretary Elisa Coyle, 4-C1.

Council Treasurer Drew Sasser, 4-L4, seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Treasures Report

Council Treasurer Drew Sasser presented the financial report.

- Reported there are some coding corrections that need to be made before a vote for approval.
- Corrections will be made and presented at the Fall Council of Governors meeting for approval.

Motion to appoint PID Ken Ibarra Protocol Chair for MD4 for the 2023-2024 Lions year, effective immediately made by DG Kevin Guess, 4-C4

DG Benjie Fernandez, 4-C6 seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Lions International Report

PID Ken Ibarra

- The Board Meeting was held at the Omni Seaport Hotel on July 4-6.
- Reported that the transition of the LCI accounts and reporting system to the Salesforce infrastructure is nearly ready for implementation.
- Mission 1.5 was introduced to the Board and at the Convention. Goal is to attain 1.5 members by 2027.
- The following amendments to the International Constitution and By-Laws were approved at the 2023 International Convention:
 - A resolution to remove the minimum district requirements from the international director qualifications. Removal of this requirement will permit qualified candidates from any district, including transitional and provisional districts, to contest for the office, provided all other qualifications are met.
 - A resolution to create a distinct membership category for members paying discounted dues as a result of any discount program offered by the association. Creation of a new

Lions International Report (Continued)

category will prevent members paying discounted dues from increasing a club's total delegate entitlement at a district, multiple district or international convention.

- A resolution to update the duties of district officers. Amendment of the duties will align with a focus on membership growth and leadership development moving forward.
- The delegates elected Dr. Patti Hill of Canada for International President, Fabricio Oliveira of Brazil for International 1st Vice President, A.P. Singh of India for International 2nd Vice President, and PID Mark Lyon of Connecticut for International 3rd Vice President. CA1 elected six international directors: Anthony Paradiso (NY), Marie Cunning (AZ), Steve Middlemiss (NH), Hans Neidhardt (KS), Guy Hollander (KY), and John Lawrence (MD), in addition to Joanne Ogden of MD5M, representing Canada.
- Requested the Lions of CA endorse 3rd International Vice President Candidate, Manoj Shah of Kenya.

Motion to endorse 3rd International Vice President Candidate, Manoj Shah of Kenya (MD411) made by Council Secretary Elisa Coyle, 4-C1.

DG Rick Carnal, 4-C2, seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

GAT AREA LEADER REPORT

PDG Mark Piva

- Lauded the leadership training received by the Blue Crew and the current council.
- All governors have posted their goal and they are available on Insights.
- Critical MD4 goals
 - Net growth goal 2,602 members
 - Consider a Global Extension Team Coordinator at the MD level.
 - Adding 31 new clubs – Currently DG Lily Harris has 2 in the process.
 - FVDG/DGE training begins soon with Group Leaders
 - 4 - 90-minute sessions of GAT training for FVDG/DGE's will commence soon.
 - Recognition is important and there are Presidential Awards available for Mission 1.5 goals met.
 - Search website for all available Presidential Awards categories and requirements.

MD4 STATUS REPORT

CC Craig Durand

- Part time bookkeeper in place for last 7 months.
- Full time coordinator, Marcie.
- Working on the COG preparations and Student Speaker packets.

PIP DOUGLAS ALEXANDER

- Addressed the CA Lions with commendation on the work and responsibilities of the Multiple District leadership.
- Addressed the membership issues in CA1 and CA2 and the need for Mission 1.5 using the GMA.
- Service is why the Lions exist. Need is greater now than before.

GALLERY WALK SWOT

DG Kevin Guess

- Asked the participants of the COG to write their thoughts so the council can create a comprehensive plan for moving forward with their input on hand.

LCIF

PCC Roger Powell

- MD4 raised \$944,000 this last year.
- 4 Districts have earned Chairperson Medals for Exemplary Giving (4-L2, 4-C6, 4-A3, 4-L6)
- The goal for MD4 this year is \$475,000.

Motion to accept the report of the closure of LCIF Grant GA14401/MD4 for the renovation of Teresita Pines was made by DG Rick Carnal, 4-C2.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

CLF

PDG Mario Benavente

- As of June 30, there is \$433,000 in the bank account. The majority of these funds are invested and overseen by the investment committee.
- Grant applications are reviewed by the grants committee and once submitted typically takes one to two weeks to be processed.
- Sponsor of USA/Canada Forum
- Kay K. Fukushima presentations were made to IPDG Falguni Patel and PID Howard Hudson.
- A board was filled at the wine tasting and IPDG Farideh Monghate was drawn for a Kay K. Fukushima.

STUDENT SPEAKER FOUNDATION

PDG Chris Ohrmund

- Displayed the plaque that goes to the winning students' high school for display.
- 6 districts achieved the district goal of \$7,000 raised. (4-C6, 4-L3, 4-L2, 4-A3, 4-L6, 4-C4)
- Overall, the districts raised \$94,949.
- The website has been updated and is maintained by Timothy Griggs and now accepts donations.

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LIONS FLOAT, INC.

PDG Manny Sanchez

- Test 2 Safety test has been completed.
- Merchandise will be available through the website soon.
- The entry fee has increased to \$7,500 from \$4,900 which is a reduced non-profit rate.
- Many marketing programs, Ambassador Program, Fellowships, Ride of Your Life raffle, Riders (sold out this year and making a waiting list for next year) Walker positions.
- Design shows the Lions changing the world through music for our youth. Asked for success stories to be sent in to be shared with LCI Marketing.
- Manny recognized the current Ambassadors and our new Ambassadors, PID Bill Crawford, PDG Bill Ridle, PCC Bob Stewart and CC Craig Durand

Motion to increase the payment to Lions Float, Inc. by \$2,600 to cover the increase charged by the Tournament of Roses for the Float Entry Fee was made by Council Treasurer Drew Sasser, 4-L4.
DG Hank Trueba, 4-L5, seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the continuation of the CalRefresh Ad Hoc Committee for the 23-24 Lions Year was made by DG Zenny Yagen, 4-C5.
DG Christy Kroell, 4-A2, seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the continuation of the Youth Protection Ad Hoc Committee for the 23-24 Lions Year was made by DG Rich Cervantes, 4-A3.
DG Lily Harris, 4-L2, seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

PDG Eduardo Oviedo

- PCC Denny Grotrian reported that the committee will be working with all committees to collect data and create a strategic plan for the multiple district.

LIONS YOUTH OUTREACH

Lion Margaret Lee

- Providing 2 leadership camping events, 1 in the South at Teresita Pines in October and 1 in the North/Central area in April.
- TLC plan – Teaching, Leadership and Communications and Marketing.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

PCC Logan McKechnie

- Bring the current Constitution and Bylaws in sync with the Standard Constitution and Bylaws.

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Motion to accept the clarification of Section 4.2 of the Policy and Procedure Manual. Deletion of the term “status quo” and the correction to “Not in Good Standing”. Further, explanation of application of Not in Good Standing and full and partial payments of MD4 Dues by Sub-Districts. (Actual Section 4.2 attached to end of the minutes) was made by DG Claudia Miller, 4-A1.
DG Scarlett Ku, 4-L2, seconded the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

PDG Josephine Louie

- Sent notifications to all committees to submit budget requests.
- On Aug. 1 and Aug. 2, we held budget hearings and completed the budget hearings this morning.
- The proposed budget will be prepared in Santa Barbara in September for presentation to the council.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

PDG Manny Sanchez

- Thursday completed the training of the 1VDG’s and 2VDG’s.
- Reach out to FDI and LCIP certified lions to spread out and get more training down to the districts and clubs.
- Will have Regional Lions Leadership Institute and working on holding either and Advanced Lions Leadership Institute or Faculty Development Institute (or both).

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

PDG Juanita Nichols

- Start on-going communications with district GMT’s and district governor teams.
- Monthly zoom meetings of district GMT’s and district governor teams.
- MD4 Membership Growth Grants available. Applications are available from the GMT members.

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM

Lion Kathy McCracken

- Encourage area to report. Currently 37% reporting.
- Project Care for 2023 July-September is currently going on.
- Encourage the clubs to report outstanding service projects for the Service Award to their District Governor so they can submit to the MD GST for review and possible submission.
- Leos are included in the Service Awards.

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USA/CANADA FORUM (*Hosted by MD4*)

PDG Linda Griffin

- Price has increased.
- Silver Legacy is full.
- The committee is still looking for volunteers. (2-hour shifts)
- Reached over 1,600 registered and the stretch goal is 2,000.
- Registration and Strides walk pick up is at the Silver Legacy.
- All registered rooms will get \$10 food credit.
- Strides registrants will get \$10 food credit for use in the food court.
- Collecting plastic bags for a park bench that will be dedicated to IP Dr. Patti Hill.
- Host Committee has the need of Portuguese interpreters and need to cover their room costs.

PREVENTABLE BLINDNESS AD HOC PLANNING COMMITTEE

PCC Bob Stewart

- Presented a proposal to the council to start a screening for several preventable eye diseases.
- The council has asked for a single pilot district proposal for C3 to be resubmitted within 3 weeks.

Recess

Reconvene – 9:15am

CC Craig Durand presented PIP Douglas Alexander with a Melvin Jones Fellowship as a thank you for attending our August Organizational Council of Governors meeting.

CONVENTION MANAGEMENT

PDG James Fong

- PDG Kevin Patel has submitted his resignation from the committee and asked for the council to submit a replacement.
- February 2024 Convention will be held in Riverside, February 24-26.
- Contracts have been signed for the Riverside Convention Center, Marriot and Mission Inn & Spa.
- The committee is working closely with Julie Kaye from Helms Brisco negotiating the contracts for food and beverage at the Riverside Convention Center.
- Requested 2nd International President AP Singh to be the guest.
- February 2025 Convention will be held at the Visalia Convention Center. Host Chair is PDG Betty Morris, 4-A2.

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MD4 CONVENTION 2024

DG Hank Trueba

- Hotel links are available. Mission Inn or Marriot
- Roaring on Route 66 is the Theme.
- Registration will be coming soon.

Motion to appoint PDG Pat Dimond, Lion Sharon Mendelson, PDG John Schroeder and PCC Logan McKechnie as the Credentials and Elections Subcommittee of the Convention Management Committee was made by Council Treasurer Drew Sasser, 4-L4.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HOSPITALITY

Lion Josephine Fong

- Lion Kerry Holguin has resigned from the committee and the committee requested the council to appoint a replacement.
- The 2024 International Convention will be held in Melbourne, Australia – June 21-25, 2024.
- Month of June is the beginning of Winter.
- Convention activities will be at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Center.
- Sub Class 601 Visa required. Can be obtained from the Australian ETA App. Android phones are currently not supported at this time.
- LCI is not assigning delegate hotels. Need to select your hotel from the list provided by LCI to ensure shuttle service. The committee recommends the Melbourne Marriot Hotel.
- MD4 Breakfast will be held Saturday, June 22 prior to the parade at the Melbourne Marriot Hotel pending the Council's approval.
- The parade will be rain or shine.
- Committee seeks approval for the following items:
 - The pin design.
 - The parade uniform – recommending the same Red Shirt with a black turtleneck, black pants, black shoes.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS & IT

Lion Gopa Kumar

- Victor Martinez reported there will be a table at the USA/Canada Forum, the License Plate program is still going, and 2 more inflatables have been purchased.
- The goal is to create a marketing page on the MD4 website.
- Planning to purchase 4 more inflatables to increase the number to 10.

Motion to appoint Rob Hyatt to the MD4 Marketing Committee to complete the service years 2021-2025 was made by DG Claudia Miller, 4-A1.

DG Rick Carnal, 4-C2, seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

MAGIC YARN PROJECT

IPDG Linda Barbara

- MD4 Convention had Magic Yarn as a service project.
- 2 District Conventions also hosted Magic Yarn as a service project.
- Since February 114 yarn wigs have been distributed.
- There is a high demand from hospitals for these wigs. (2000+ requests in the US)
- Will be attending the Magic Yarn Convention in September and presenting what the California Lions and Magic Yarn stand for and will be inviting the Ohio District Governor to participate.

STUDENT SPEAKER

Lion Michael Coffaro

- Presented 5 topics to the Council.
- The topic selected is “For a Better World – What Would you Change?”.

Motion to accept the proposed topic, “For a Better World-What Would you Change?” as the 2023-2024 Student Speaker Contest topic was made by DG Zenny Yagen, 4-C5.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

YOUTH EXCHANGE

IPDG Doug Campbell for PDG Thelma Batilo

- Just completed this year’s exchange with 14 students.
- Planning for next year’s exchange immediately following the convention in Australia.
- The goal for next year is 40 exchange students.

HUNGER & GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Lion Eleanor Britter

- Hunger takes care of infectious diseases.
- MD4 won 3rd Place for the White House Food Distribution this year.
- Invited Hunger Chairs to the zoom call the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7pm.
- Identify how to streamline vision screenings and exams work.
- Supply equipment for all 5 pillars of the LCI initiatives.

PEACE POSTER and ESSAY CONTEST

Lion Diane Quinlan

- Posters and Essays need to be sent to Lion Diane Quinlan and NOT the MD4 Office.
- Dec. 9 at 11am at the Garden Grove Lions Clubhouse will be the Peace Poster/Essay Contest reception. Judges have already been arranged for the Essay Contest.
- Send an email following the meeting to the Council with my information.

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ROBERT G. SMITH WALK TO CANCEL OUT PARKINSON'S

Lion Vicki Smith

- April 6, 2024, in Roseville, CA
- Thanked all those assisted and participated.

USA/CANADA FORUM

PDG Linda Griffin

- Pins are available.
- Want to hit 900 Lions from California.

VIRTUAL FALL COG HOSTED BY DISTRICT 4-L4

DG Drew Sasser

- Funny Hat Contest.
- October 26-28, 2023.
- Reports need to be sent to Council Secretary a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the meeting.
- Lunch will be provided to Governors that attend in person.

SCRAPBOOK WINNER

Lion Lynda Durand

- 4 Entries – Sonora Lions Club, Yreka Lions Club, Jurupa Lions Club and Carson Lions Clubs
- Winner is the Jurupa Lions Club – 4-L5

LEO LIAISON

Leo-Lion Shriani Patel

- Stressed younger members bring new perspectives.
- Asked for meaningful opportunity to share ideas.
- Create events and meetings with intentions.

DG Benjie Fernandez gave the benediction.

CC Craig Durand adjourned the meeting at 10:59am.

Respectfully submitted by

Elisa Coyle

Council Secretary, Elisa Coyle

POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL
SECTION 4.2

4.2 Per-Capita Tax

- a. *Multiple District Four (MD4) per-capita taxes (dues) will be billed semi-annually, and a billing statement will be sent directly to the District Treasurer and District Governor.*
- b. *Periodically, each District Governor will be sent a report of delinquent per-capita taxes from the district.*
- c. *The district shall be responsible for the billing and collection of MD4 dues along with the District's dues from each of its Clubs. The District Governor is responsible for overseeing billing, collection, and payment of the money due MD4.*
- d. ***If the district is unable to submit full payment of all MD4 dues within 90 days of billing, the district will pay what it has collected and provide MD4 with a list of the delinquent clubs not included in the partial payment. It is the district's responsibility to collect delinquent dues and submit payment within 90 days.***
- e. *If a District does not pay MD4 within 90 days of billing either a full payment, or a partial payment with delinquent club list, ALL Clubs in the District will be designated **not in good standing**.*
- f. *When a District submits full payment of MD4 dues ALL Clubs in the District will be designated as "in good standing". When a District submits a partial payment only the clubs listed as delinquent will be designated as **not in good standing**.*
- g. *To be a Club in good standing Lions Clubs International (LCI) dues and invoices must be paid and outstanding balances within LCI set policy, and all MD4 dues, as well as the District's dues must be paid within set policy.*
- h. *All delegates to the Multiple District Four Convention must be from a Club in Good Standing. Delegates are:*
 - i. *Club member delegates so designated, and,*
 - ii. *ALL Lions with international titles that have delegate status which does not count against the Club's delegate formula.***

*** Examples include but are not limited to: District Governor, Past District Governor, Council Chair, Past Council Chair, International Director, Past International Director, International President and Past International President.*

