



# 3<sup>rd</sup> District Cabinet Meeting Minutes



**January 29, 2022,**

**By Zoom**

## **Convention Call to Order and Welcome**

Our District Governor Barbara Thompson (Pleasant Garden) called our meeting to order today promptly at 10:00am. We were greeted, as usual, with her very warm, upbeat, and sincere remarks. Our Lions were thanked for taking time to attend this important meeting.

## **Housekeeping**

2nd VDG Susan O'Brien gently and politely reminded us of some courteous rules that we should obey on the Zoom format. Muting was most emphasized!

## **Invocation**

Lion Jimmy Butler once again delivered an inspiring invocation in his very respectful manner.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

1st VDG Lacy Petty patriotically lead us in the Pledge.

## **Report from the Nominating Committee**

IPDG Paul Marth was called to present his report from the Nominating Committee and announced that the Nominating Committee consisted of Rumsey Helms (Alamance Community), Juanita Brown (Siler City), and Paul Marth (Greensboro). Three (3) candidates had appropriately submitted their *Intention to Run for Office* letters. The candidates are:

- 1 - Judy Keck, Julian Lions Club, for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor.
- 2 - Susan O'Brien, Waxhaw Lions Club, for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor.
- 3 - Lacy Petty, Siler City Lions Club, for District Governor.

In accordance with Article IX, Section 4 & 6 of the International By-Laws, IDPG Paul Marth stated that the qualifications of these candidates have met the needed requirements for their respective offices.

## **Certification of Delegates**

CS Bob Gwyn was recognized to certify the delegates before the election voting. His report verified the following:

- 1 - The Certification of Delegates was closed at 9:00pm on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

2 - Fifty-two (52) delegates were certified either by their club president or club secretary.

3 - Twenty (20) clubs submitted delegates.

4 - A quorum (27) had been met since more than half of the certified delegates were in attendance at the meeting today.

5 - Our Certified Delegates met the requirements of the Constitution & By-Laws, Standard District, Article VII, Section 2 of the Club Delegate Formula.

#### First and Seconding Speeches for District Governor Candidates

IPDG Paul Marth recognized the Lions that would be presenting the speeches for the Candidates on behalf of their respective clubs in the following order:

A - The Nominating Speech for Lion Lacy Petty as Candidate for District Governor was given by Lion Nelson Smith from the Sanford Lions Club. The seconding speech was given by Lion Barbara Ernst from the Siler City Lions Club.

B - The Nominating Speech for Lion Susan O'Brien as Candidate for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor was given by Lion PCC Diane Whitley from the Greater Monroe Lions Club. The seconding speech was given by Lion PID Harvey Whitley from the Greater Monroe Lions Club.

C - The Nominating Speech for Lion Judy Keck as Candidate for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor was given by Lion PDG Susie Dailey from the Guilford County Women Cyber Lions Club. The seconding speech was given by Lion Alisa McNiell from the Guilford County Women Cyber Lions Club.

The election was conducted by "secret ballot" using the polling feature in Zoom which also protects the privacy of votes for a free and fair election.

Article IX, Exhibit A, Rule 7(a) entitled each Candidate to designate an "observer" through their club to oversee the elections procedure.

However, since no candidates were opposed in this election, there were no requests for observers during the voting process.

#### **Election of Candidates**

IPDG Paul Marth immediately received the voting results and consulted with the Elections Committee. He was pleased to announce that at all three (3) candidates had been duly elected to their respective offices.

District Governor Barbara congratulated the new Governors and recognized them to make a few brief remarks.

2nd VDGE Judy Keck (Julian) expressed her appreciation for being elected to her new office. She also stated that she has a Heart for Service and that the

Lions Club has been very important to her family, and they have wanted to serve for a long time. Her families' desire for serving others began back when her grandfather was the mayor of a town in Kentucky. Lion Judy closed by saying that she promises to do a great job. We all agree and there is no doubt that she will indeed serve our district well.

1st VDGE Susan O'Brien (Waxhaw) thanked all, and she looks forward to continuing the journey in service. She pledged to listen to the wise advice of her peers and mentors to learn as much as she can. Lion Susan acknowledged that everyone is trying to do their best to care for their communities in such challenging times.

We were reminded that the world is evolving and sometimes it is easy to feel like we are helpless and swept up in a powerful tide of change. We were challenged by our 1<sup>st</sup> VDGE to use those forces for evolutionary thinking. She would like to see us embrace new ways to present our message, and our good work, in kind words so that we attract new Lions. We were encouraged to blend the old tried and true ways of doing things with methods that will speak to our successors. Let's be a shining example to all Lions that we are not afraid to set lofty goals and do things outside of our comfort zone. Learning Zoom and starting Cyber Clubs were cited as two fine examples to start with.

In closing her remarks, Lion Susan stated that she intends to help steer this District Ship through the powerful tide of change and guide us into the new 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We are certain that she will follow through on her commitment.

DGE Lacy Petty (Siler City) sincerely thanked all for the opportunity to become our District Governor. He felt privileged to be under the tutelage of IPDG Paul Marth and DG Barbara. Lion Lacy acknowledged that the bar has been set high by his mentors and that it is up to him to maintain the high level of achievements or perhaps push the bar even higher. With the help of many Lions standing behind him, he felt that he could accomplish this. Lion Lacy stated that in the past 100 years lots of changes have occurred and that he is closing the door on the first 100 years of Lionism and opening it on the next 100. With help from all, we will continue to be the best District in the State of North Carolina and be an example for the rest of the nation. Lion Lacy thanked all for their support and he hopes that we will continue our service for many years to come.

District Governor Barbara congratulated Lion Lacy and expressed appreciation for his passion and service to our District. She, like all of us, have no doubt that he will succeed, and she looks forward to serving with him. She also assured him of receiving full support from herself and the Leadership Team. Sincere

appreciation and thanks were extended again to the newly elected governors, and we eagerly anticipate wonderful things from all!

The Called Convention for the Election of our District Governors adjourned at 10:55am.

## **The 3<sup>rd</sup> District Cabinet Meeting was called to order.**

### **Introduction of our International Family and Guests**

District Governor Barbara recognized our Past International office holders that were in loyal attendance, as they always are.

PIP Sid Scruggs congratulated each of the District Governors on their election to their new leadership positions. He offered his full support of them and looks forward to great things continuing to happen.

PID Harvey Whitley echoed what PIP Sid said. Lion Harvey continued by saying that as our Global Leadership Team Coordinator, he looks forward to working with the District Governors as we train over the next year. We were asked to log in on our calendars the dates of the first weekend in February and the first weekend in December for the Multiple District Governors Training. Lion Harvey is glad to help in any way he can.

Council Chair Dale Dupree stated that we have a great group in place. He is ready to help Lions across the State and Country.

### **Special Guest Speaker Introduction**

District Governor Barbara Thompson was successful in getting our distinguished Guest Speaker to join us by Zoom today in lieu of being live at our convention as originally planned.

DG Barbara was privileged to introduce International Director Deb Weaverling from Basehor, Kansas. She has been a member of the Leavenworth Lions Club since 1998. ID Deb has held every level of position in her club from Lion Tamer to two terms as the Club President. She was elected to serve a two-year term as an International Director of Lions Clubs International at the 103<sup>rd</sup> International Convention on June 25 thru 29, 2021. ID Deb has 30 years of experience as a Human Resources Specialist and Administrator. We were also delighted to meet Lion Deb's husband Lion Ron Weaverling on the Zoom presentation. She is the recipient of many awards in Lionism and awards from other Civic Organizations within her local community. They have 3 daughters and 8 grandchildren.

International Director Deb opened her remarks by stating that she was honored to be a part of our Called Convention/Cabinet Meeting. She was impressed with our Delegation/Voting process, and she will share this with her club.

Lion Deb congratulated our elected Candidates and remarked on how their passion for Lions was evident. She further commented that District 31-O is the best in North Carolina and that we have great leadership and Lions. We should all be very proud to have received such a high complement from an International Director!

The presentation was divided into three separate topics, and all were of great interest, 1) Message from International President Douglas Alexander, 2) Membership, and 3) Leadership in Service.

ID Deb expressed appreciation for our International President, Douglas Alexander (Brooklyn Bedford Stuyvesant), by citing how super wonderful he is and how he speaks from the heart. He truly cares about Lions and about what is happening to the organization under his watch. IP Douglas would like for us to communicate about what we do and the services we render. We should partner with other organizations and hopefully they will join with us.

Our Worldwide Membership number of 1.4 million is very old. Tools have been made available to us by International Director Jerome Thompson to assist in membership growth and now it is up to Lions and Districts to get new members. District 31-O membership numbers are good since, we are positive. Leadership is very important, and our success can be mostly contributed to that. Lion Deb reiterated and endorsed the comment that 1<sup>st</sup> VDGE Susan made pertaining to Embracing the Past and Bringing in New Ideas.

A reference was made to the Seal Beach Lions Club in California that has 370 members! This club has managed their membership growth to the point of needing a waiting list to join! One thing they do is support every non-Lion event in their community by having Lions in attendance. They volunteer at these other events and people notice this and ask questions about becoming a Lion themselves. Their two Legacy Events are the Fish Fry and the Parade, and both attract many new members from this small community of 29,000 residents. Lions Clubs are encouraged to consider how they can incorporate this great idea into their own communities to increase their membership.

Lion Deb stated that Service is something we do well as Lions. Some good things have come out of the Pandemic such as drive-by breakfasts, drive-by soup kitchens and drive-by parties. Lions continue to find ways to serve their

communities in safe and meaningful ways to benefit those in need. Overcoming the Pandemic is still a challenge and Training, and Leadership will play a key role in it.

In closing her remarks, ID Deb left us with a motivating and encouraging thought, “just be yourself and speak from your heart. Your passion and enthusiasm will come through”! What a wonderful piece of advice that was.

District 31-O extended many sincere thanks to International Director Deb Weaverling and her husband Ron for attending our meeting and for sharing the vision of our International President Lion Douglas Alexander. We were enlightened to learn more about membership and possibly new and creative ways to improve it. We were captivated by Lion Deb’s charming delivery and there is no doubt that everyone learned something of value that will benefit them.

That invitation for us to learn how to “Hula Dance” from ID Deb is still open and hopefully her 2023 schedule will allow her to come back to one of our conventions for that lesson!

Lion Deb also spoke highly of ID Allen Snider who was elected with her at the 103<sup>rd</sup> Convention. ID Allen will be the Guest Speaker at our postponed Mid-Winter Convention on March 11 & 12, 2022 at the PTI Airport Marriott in Greensboro, NC. He is from Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada and is a member of the St. Davids and District Lions Club.

We sincerely thank you ID Deb and Lion Ron.

### **Administrative Business:**

A - Reading of the prior Cabinet Meeting Minutes

Council Secretary, Bob Gwyn (Greensboro), was recognized to read the minutes. However, before he started, our Past District Governor Paul Marth (Greensboro) moved that we accept the minutes as previously reported. Zone 7 Chairman Wayne Durham (Greensboro Hamilton Lakes) seconded. The motion carried.

As in the past, our District Cabinet Meeting Minutes will be posted on our District 31-O Website.

B - Review of the Treasurer’s Report to date

Council Treasurer, PDG Laraine reported that we have a total combined balance of \$56,339.50 in our Administrative, Contingency/Unrestricted, and Restricted Funds. All Clubs have paid their 1<sup>st</sup> half District Dues and Convention Fees.

Line item #750 was clarified in that it reflects \$600.00 that was our share towards the Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) that was held at Camp

Dogwood back in the Fall of 2021. Each Sub-District in District 31 paid \$600.00 each.

Eleven clubs have paid their District Governor Goals for the year which is very helpful.

An update was presented on the Restricted Funds. Line item #914 now has a balance of \$7,450 for the Convention Registration as of 12/31/21.

Ten (10) people requested refunds for meals that they pre-registered for at the Mid-Winter Convention. This occurred due to the Convention being postponed from the weekend of January 28, 2022, to the weekend of March 11, 2022. The total amount of refunds was \$320.00. One hundred fifty-nine (159) people had originally registered for the live January Convention.

Club Treasurers should have received dues statements from LCI. These payments are all due in January. These payments *should not* be sent to Oak Brook but instead be sent to the following address: International Association of Lions, 35842 Eagle Way, Chicago, IL 60678-1358.

Second Half Dues Invoices will be sent out from the District Treasurer no later than February 10, 2022, and payment will be due no later than March 10, 2022. This will reflect the amount of \$7.00 per member based on a club's membership as of January 1, 2022.

In addition to the expenses that we incur for our Mid-Winter Convention, we will be billed for the second half of our NC Council Dues and our Promotion Dues. The Council Dues will amount to \$3,107.50 and the Promotion Dues will amount to \$565.00. These fees will be based on our District Membership as of 1/1/2022.

Upon completion of CT, PDG Laraine's very thorough and detailed Treasurer's Report, a motion was made by PID Harvey Whitley (Greater Monroe) to accept the report as presented. Lion Chris Ammons (Wingate) seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CT, PDG Laraine pointed out that the LEO Convention is *tentatively* being planned for the last weekend in February of 2022. If that event does take place this year, each Sub-District in District 31 may be asked to pay \$600 to sponsor their annual "Stop Hunger Project". Our current Restricted Account line item #960 has a balance of \$146.31 for the LEO Convention. A suggestion was made to transfer additional funds, up to \$500.00 to supplement the current line-item balance.

IPDG Paul Marth moved that we set aside *up to* \$500.00 from the Contingency/Unrestricted Fund to sponsor the Leo project. 1<sup>st</sup> VDGE Susan O'Brien seconded. The motion carried. It was also noted that these funds would only be used if the convention is held.

### **Old Business:**

A - 2020-2021 Audit Review:

Our 2020-2021 Audit Review has been completed, and everything appears to be in order. A written report will follow that details the results. We are appreciative of the great work that CT, PDG Laraine Dupree has done to obtain this status.

### **New Business:**

A - 2022 Mid-Winter Convention Update

District Governor Barbara gave an update on the Mid-Winter Convention. We originally had 159 people registered to attend prior to the postponing but there were only ten (10) that had a conflict with the new dates of March 11 & 12.

Our Friday Fun Night will Honor our Veterans. Patriotic Dress is suggested.

The Saturday Tail Twister Breakfast will be fun filled.

Two Great Seminars are scheduled for Saturday. One will be a demonstration of State-of-the-Art Aids that assists the Blind and Visually Impaired with Mobility. The second will be an opportunity to learn how clubs have increased their membership through Service. This initiative is called "Bloom" where you are Planted through Service.

There will also be MyLion Hands on Training to learn about entering and tracking your Club Service Projects on the website. Lions are encouraged to bring their laptops for this session.

A Hunger Service Project will also be held right on site at the Marriott during the Convention. Lions and Clubs are encouraged to bring canned goods to the Convention to support The Salvation Army.

DG Barbara shared briefly part of the Biography of our Guest Speaker ID Allen Snider and expressed how excited she is about him coming to visit us. More information will be provided in the coming weeks.

B - State Centennial Convention Update

PDG Susie Dailey is very excited and honored to be the Chairperson for our State Centennial Celebration. Her long journey since the inception is quickly coming to an end and this "once in a lifetime" event is now less than three (3) months away and is scheduled for April 22, 23 & 24, 2022!

The theme for this magnificent celebration is called "Honoring our Past.... Celebrating our Future". We all were strongly encouraged to make

reservations and register early. The main venue for this event will be the Greensboro-High Point Marriott Airport hotel. The weekend will be saturated with activities and there will be something of interest for everyone to enjoy.

Lion Susie highlighted these main events for the weekend, but this certainly is not the full list of activities:

Friday Night event will be a 1922 soiree with the dress code being a period costume from that era. Of course, Black & White outfits would be quite appropriate. Hats were common for all back then as well.

Our PDG Laraine Dupree is currently collecting artifacts for display in the "Lions Museum" at the hotel. This rare display of memorabilia will certainly be of interest to many old Lions from across North Carolina!

Of notable interest, ten (10) Clubs were chartered in North Carolina in 1922. Seven (7) of these are still in existence.

Much appreciation was expressed to the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce who will assist in the promotion of our Special Event.

Many of our newer Lions are volunteering and are asking to help. This outreach from them is welcome and it is great to see their enthusiasm and desire to get involved in this great project.

Ads in the State Convention Program are always welcomed and the deadline to submit your ad is 3/15/22.

Lion Susie will promptly send the Ad and Registration Form to anyone needing one if you have not received them from your Club President. The Registration Form is also on the District Website. A link to the hotel can be found there also.

Our Council of Governors has been supportive of this event, and that is much appreciated.

Lion Susie closed by stating that there will be a parade and it is open to all Lions as a Statewide Event and that there will be no clear delineation between Clubs or Districts. A letter will be coming out with details about the parade.

C - NCLI President PDG Karl Ernst was recognized for an NCLI Update. He stated that Executive Director Durden Dean retired in November 2021 and NCLI is searching for a director for Camp Dogwood.

The next session of the Council of Governors is scheduled for February 11, 12, and 13, 2022 at the Greensboro-High Point Airport Marriott hotel. The roster

will include a recommendation to add a Standing Committee to review the Vision Screening Program in total to optimize its efficiency. Current plans are to maintain our older and larger version of the “Mobile Screening Unit (MSU)” in some limited capacity. This unit will be utilized more for public use and the smaller and newer vehicle(s) will be for screening kids at Daycares and Elementary Schools.

All Lions are invited to attend the Open Sessions of the Council of Governors (COG).

### **Committee and Zone Chair Reports:**

#### **A - Brighter Visions Update**

Zone 7 Chair Wayne Durham presented an update on Brighter Visions and reported that Year-to-Date we are at 51% of our Annual Goal of \$112,000. We still have five (5) months left and our goal is within reach. Fourteen (14) Clubs have reached 100% or higher. Twenty-one Clubs are at 0%. One Club is at 125%! All Clubs were encouraged to submit their checks as soon as they can. Lion Wayne closed by stating that he or PDG Chris Headley (Unionville) will be happy to give clubs a presentation on Brighter Visions. Our District has been divided into two regions for Brighter Visions coverage, Lion Wayne has the top half and Lion Chris has the bottom half.

#### **B - Camp Dogwood Update**

District Governor Barbara shared the following remarks about Camp Dogwood Activities:

The cost for the MSU is \$250 per day. The cost per mile, round trip, is \$0.60. Volunteer Week and Spring Maintenance is scheduled for the week of March 23<sup>rd</sup> thru March 30<sup>th</sup>. Applications are available.

PDG Wayne Faber is our Camp Dogwood State Chair, and he has indicated a need for the removal of some trees at the camp. Clubs are being asked to contribute to this effort if they can and PDG Jim Chandler can also answer questions regarding this project.

The 2022 Applications to attend Summer Camp at Camp Dogwood are now available. The fee per session is \$225.00 for In-State Visually Impaired campers, \$275.00 for Caregivers, \$400.00 for Sighted and \$600.00 for Out-of-State VIPs.

Clubs are also being asked to consider sponsoring a week of bingo or volunteer in the kitchen. Camp Dogwood & Retreat Coordinator Tammy Thomas can assist any club or individual that can volunteer or support the needs there.

## C - LCIF Update

PDG Paul Silverman reported that as of 12/31/21 District 31-O has contributed a total of \$4,940.00 to LCIF. Of that total amount, \$3,690 was donated during the second quarter.

PDG Paul raised the question pertaining to District Credit to PIP Sid Scruggs by asking if District 31-O could get credit from LCIF for donations made by our clubs that went *directly* (without going through LCIF) to disaster relief organizations there in Mayfield, KY after the devastating tornado hit there on December 10, 2021. The answer was that if clubs made direct donations, LCIF *would not* give credit to a District. PIP Sid clarified further by stating that if donations are made to LCIF, a specific club *cannot* be designated. PDG Paul Silverman also pointed out that monetary donations can be recorded on the MyLion Website and the amounts donated for a given Lions Year are accumulated and displayed for a given club. It was recognized and appreciated that many of the Clubs in District 31-O have made generous direct contributions including the Vass and Sanford Clubs. Many thanks to these clubs for making a huge impact in a direct way by partnering directly with a club there in Mayfield, KY. This approach, of course, provides quicker relief and it is personally gratifying and very much appreciated by the recipients as well.

All clubs were encouraged to continue donating to help the community of Mayfield, KY since the negative impact of this event will linger for a very long time.

It was revealed that PDG Paul Silver (Durham) was celebrating his birthday today. We were all delighted to hear Lion Alisa McNeill (Guilford County Women Cyber) sing a delightful rendition of "Happy Birthday"!

D - Several Committee Chairs have submitted fine Written Reports to the Council Secretary for filing. If any Lion needs information regarding a specific report, please contact the Council Secretary and it will be sent to you if it is on file.

## **District Service and Membership Report**

### A - Reporting Service in MyLion

District Governor Barbara was pleased to report that we have seen an increase in the number of clubs reporting their Service Projects. In November we were at 43% and today we are at 48%! Our goal for the year is 60%. The Service Reporting Metrics state the following to date in this Fiscal Year:

Overall Activity Count-612

Overall People Served-78,696

Overall Volunteer Hours-10,831

## B - Membership Goals and Reporting

The 2021-2022 Membership Goals were outlined as follows at the beginning of the year:

Charter two (2) Clubs with 40 new members minimum. Initiatives are in place to do so.

Induct 100 New Members. Y-T-D is currently at 68.

Lose no more than 125 members during the year. Y-T-D currently is 52.

Net Goal for District Membership 1,150. Y-T-D is currently 1,131.

## C - Membership

District Governor Barbara re-stated that one way of achieving net growth in membership is through service. The following clubs were commended for their Y-T-D Net Growth:

Aberdeen, Alamance Community, Broadway, Eden, Greensboro Hamilton Lakes, High Point, Indian Trail, Moncure, Norwood, Oak Ridge, Rockingham, Sanford, Unionville, and Vass.

## **Announcements**

District Governor Barbara expressed sincere appreciation for the support from her team members and other District Lion Leaders during her tenure.

Two (2) new Lions Pins will soon be available. The first pin features the Past North Carolina Presidents. This pin honors the first years of Lionism and prominently displays three (3) Distinguished Lions from North Carolina that advanced to the Pinnacle of Lionism by becoming President of Lions Clubs International! These special Lions were Jack Stickley (1956-1957-Charlotte Central), William Woolard (1989-1990-Charlotte Central) and Sid Scruggs III (2010-2011-Vass). This very Special Offering Commemorative Pin will soon be available. It was not stated what the exact mintage will be, but these pins will surely be popular. Someday these very special pins will be extremely rare and highly sought after by any astute pin collector! The money raised will support our State Convention.

The second pin is also a Special Offering from LCIF and only 35 will be made available to District 31-O. These can also be purchased for \$12.00 each at the upcoming Conventions.

Tickets are available for sale now for the raffle of the Bob Timberlake print entitled "Winter Garden". CT, PDG Laraine Dupree has them available. The price is \$5.00 each or five (5) for \$20.00. The date of the drawing is June 15, 2022.

Pictures of these pins and the Bob Timberlake print will be published in the District Governor's Newsletter.

The drawing for the two \$200.00 Camp Dogwood Gift Certificates will be held at our Mid-Winter Convention that was postponed to March 11 & 12, 2022. All are encouraged to get your stubs submitted to Camp Dogwood.

Benediction

Lion Jimmy Butler delivered our Benediction.

The Cabinet Meeting adjourned at 12:20pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Bob Gwyn-Council Secretary 2021-2022.