

District 16B Reorganization Meeting Minutes

Saturday August 21, 2010

Maple Shade Lions Club

32 Attendees

Meeting began at 10:15am, introductions were made and the usual meeting formalities proceeded with the Flag salute, prayer by Reverend Fred Richardette, one verse of America and Lions Toast with water

District Governor Rosemarie Townend reviewed International President Sid Scruggs III vision "Beacon of Hope" that will focus on four key areas: Youth, Vision, Hunger and the Environment.

To support this vision, District 16B will have club project awards as the year progresses:

1st Quarter: Best Sight Project and Best Green Project.

2nd Quarter: Best Cultural Project and Best Hearing Project.

3rd Quarter: Best Art Project and Best Diabetes Project.

4th Quarter: Best Unique/Innovative Project and Highest Number of Projects.

Cabinet Treasurer Mel Bray provided a Treasurer's report and presented the 2010-2011 budget. Motion to approve the budget, CC Jim Hynes 1st, PDDG Don Bray 2nd, vote passed.

Cabinet Secretary Paul Cousineau provided a quick update on PU-101 and stressed the importance of reporting membership to International monthly. A quick demo of the Lions International web site was provided.

The membership/clubs report was provided by PDDG Don Bray. We ended last year with 1166 members, short of the 1200 we need. Also stressed the importance of reporting membership monthly. The MERLO team is working on extension in Neptune, Matawan, Toms River, Rumson/Fairhaven and Sea Bright. Last year we added two clubs, the Brookdale Community College club and a club in 16D that has 37 members and a Leo club. Other areas, Tinton Falls, Long Branch and Bayville. Negotiating with colleges for new clubs, some are Trenton State, Monmouth, Rider. We are working on a Twitter membership drive for Leo and Lions clubs.

There is a district Web site now, Robert Burlew from Jackson is the IT chair for the web site, clubs can send him material for the web site: rcbjr@optonline.net.

PR chair Jennifer Keyes-Maloney provided an update on PR. She suggests still using newspapers, they need copy. A social networking site has been built for 16-B on Facebook. This is a good way to promote events. She suggests that we make activities and events convenient to promote more participation.

Don't forget the PR kit that is on the 16B web site.

VDG Mike Marrazzo provided a report on MERLO. The committee member commitment is three years. PDDG Don Bray is the lead for membership, orientation and extension, Lion John Giordano is the lead for retention, CC Jim Hynes and CT Mel Bray are the leadership leads. Dates for this year's MERLO meetings will be announced, there will be at least four meetings this year. The reason we focus so much on membership is the more Lions we have, the more we can get done in our communities. Goals and objectives for the committee is forthcoming.

General Announcements from DG Rosemarie Townend:

Sept 23-25 is the USA/Canada Forum in Milwaukee, WI. There are three motivational speakers at this year's event. Next year it's Sept 22-24 in Anchorage, AK.

Photos from the Tom's River circus event are on the 16B web site, very innovative event.

This year the International Convention will be in Seattle.

The Lions Environmental photo contest will continue this year, more details forthcoming.

The International Web Site has information about how to do community needs assessments, this is a great resource for clubs.

The Eye Banks are now functioning with no wait time for corneas for transplant. The Eye Banks have a new program for recruiting organ donors, "I Joined". Lions can sign up through this program or the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission. Remember, if you are an organ donor, please notify your family regarding your wishes so there are no issues when the time comes.

CC Jim Hynes provided an update on LERF and the recent purchase of an endoscope for doing special eye surgeries.

The directory will be available at the next District meeting.

DG Rosemarie Townend presented CT Mel Bray with the International President's tie, and CS Paul Cousineau and VDG Mike Marrazzo with Patriotic Lions ties.

Sunday Sept 5, Brick is hosting a bus ride and Yankees game, \$60 each.

Sunday Sept 26 10am-2pm is the Katzenbach BBQ, rain or shine. All Lions are encouraged to attend and assist with the food service at this event. It's a great way to introduce new members to a Lions project.

Saturday Oct 16 is the Tom's River Beefsteak dinner.

Sunday Oct 24 is a the Lakehurst/Manchester Italian buffet and entertainment in Village 5.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.