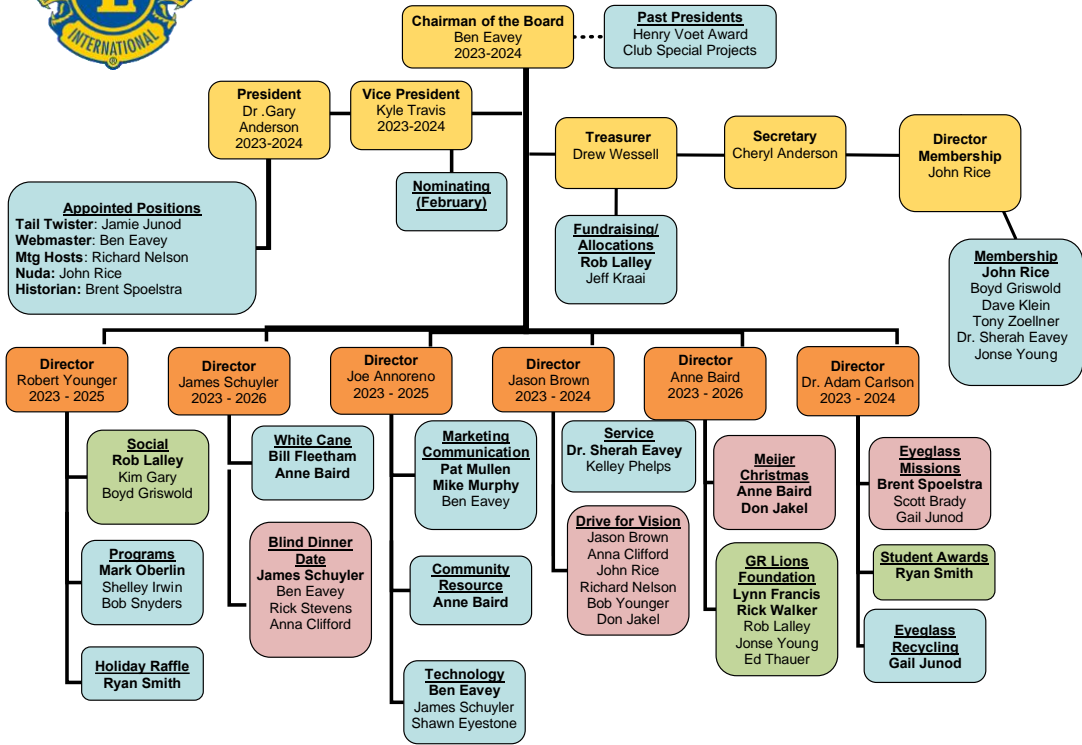




Grand Rapids 2023-2024 Organizational Chart



Grand Rapids Lions Club
Full Board Meeting
May 23, 2023

Attendance: Ben Eavey, Gary Anderson, Kyle Travis, Jeff Kraai, John Rice, Joe Annoreno, Thaddeus Phelps and Drew Wessell

Absent: Cheryl Anderson, Jason Brown, Adam Carlson and Colleen Mulder

Secretary's Minutes: Cheryl sent the minutes out earlier. No changes or updates needed. John Rice moved to approve. Kyle Travis seconded, vote and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff Kraai Financial Report, the funds are right where they are suppose to be at this time of the year. We should break even financially by the end of the year. There was one high cost entry this period. It was the High School Recognition Luncheon and their parking costs. It is a great event and we need to keep doing this for the kids. All the accounts seem to lining up equal to last year.

Charity Fund: Drive 4 Vision is coming up and no money has been taken out yet for this event. The only amount taken out was the the high school gift certificates with a cost of \$1280.

Suggested donations: Not much happening in May or June. We should have approx. \$34,000 to go out to our Lions charities at the end of the year for disbursing. A few years ago we were able to bump up our charity donations. Again this year, we are able to match the donations from last year for disbursement. There was a request for a field trip for visually impaired students at the cost of \$440. The board felt that we should send the \$440 for these students. There are three charities that deserve discussion: Kids Food Basket - \$3million in income from outside donations and they don't spend it all annually. They have a significant amount of money left over in their account at the end of their fiscal year. Jeff felt they probably don't need our help. Brent Spoelstra requested money for the Build a Bed, Sleep in Heavenly Peace Project. We built 60 beds and we are on schedule to build another 60. In order to dress the beds (to buy the mattress, sheets, pillows etc.) it is \$125/bed. GR Lions were asked to consider

paying for dressing 20 beds=\$2500. Gary believes that Grand Rapids could afford to pay for 10 beds at \$1250. However, at the district convention last week, they had a collection of bedding and there was A LOT donated. Gary will follow up with the need for bedding. Kyle suggested the \$1400 surplus money would cover the cost of the bedding for the 10 beds. Gary made a motion to spend \$1250 to dress 10 beds for "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" Project. John Rice seconded. Vote taken and approved.

While looking at the list of charities, Sight Seer Radio's donation of \$1500 could be taken down to \$1000. Jeff Kraai will talk with Rob Lalley about Sight Seer Radio's financial status. We can always give them more money, if needed. Gary has found a different organization that could use our money and it is a food organization to replace Kids Food Basket. Jeff also talked about Meals on Wheels. The surplus of money at the end of the year will continue to go to ABVI. John Rice made a motion to move forward with the changes to the Suggested Donations list that were just suggested today. (lowering Sight Seer Radio, adding Build a Bed-Sleep in Heavenly Peace and omitting Kids Food Basket). Thaddeus Phelps seconded. Vote taken and approved. With these changes we will have a \$691 surplus to end the year.

Update on the new account that is found inside our charity fund, for flexibility spending. There was an initial committee meeting. The committee is in favor of the motion. Jeff will check on the rules of spending money out of this account. Jeff will make sure we are not restricted down the road if we generate too much money. The committee had some legitimate concerns about setting up this new fund but nothing major. We will have to re-write the by-laws for this new acct. as to who serves on the committee, how much can the board spend, the annual spendable. We may have some additional by-laws that need to be addressed with this new fund account being set up. John said there should be a committee to go over all the by-laws. There are several issues that need to be updated. Jeff, Shawn, Rick Walker and possibly Scott Brady will be asked to serve on this committee. The foundation committee newly formed was Thaddeus, Kyle, Jeff and Drew. Gary was curious if the original committee members were contacted. (Lynn Francis, Kim Gary, Mike Murphy, Ed Thauer, Jonse Young and Rick Walker). The donors will have an option as to which of the charities they want their money

to go to. Either the “Charities Corp” or “The Community Foundation”. Jeff has a description and benefits of each account. Gary will have Lynn and Pat speak at the annual meeting regarding this issue. A few minor donations are coming in from Jeune Allard Memorial and per her request, these funds will need to be designated for the mission trips. Drew moved to accept, Joe seconded, vote taken and accepted.

Pres Report – Gary Anderson

Annual dinner at Wallingwood Springs, in Jenison on June 6. There will be no guest speaker as we are not inducting new officers. There will be a summary of the year’s events and service projects with pictures. We will install a new treasurer and 2 new directors. Retiring a treasurer and 2 directors.

Vice Pres Report – Kyle Travis

Kyle’s main concern is where will the lunch meetings be held next year and the location of the venue. Bob Snyder was spear heading finding the new venue due to his connection with Experience GR. Ben expressed to keep the meetings downtown.

Legacy Membership which will be discussed later.

Membership Report -John Rice

Nothing to report at this time. We currently have 76 members. Gary said there is a Lion from the other side of the state moving into the community with Keith & Lynn. Gary has connected all of them.

Director Reports:

Thaddeus Phelps– Social, There is a picnic getting planned for this summer TBA

Drew Wessell– BDD is pushed back to January 2024 as a kick-off event. Venues are being considered but Meijer Gardens looks to be the venue.

Jeff Kraai asked about revisiting VIP Sports Day. Gary offered to call Pat Droste.

Joe Annoreno – Technology, are we getting a camera. Gary found his camera. Ben said there are deals right now at Costco, \$300. We will try Gary’s camera. The other thing is the new email address. Ben is hoping to get a Google free non-profit account.

Marketing – Pat Mullen, Mike Murphy and Ben Eavey were sent an email regarding the GR Lions and their social presence in town. Joe didn't get much feedback but will be happy to maintain, Instagram or linked'n as long as members support these platforms. Shelley has our facebook acct, so possibly sync the two. Will focus on the social platforms to be set up for fall.

Jason Brown – 2023 Drive 4 Vision has 20 teams with \$28,500 pledged compared to last year's 23 teams and \$31,000. Kyle brought up the Colleen Mulder is no longer with GRO. GRO has been a title sponsor over the years and this year. Going forward not sure what will happen with their sponsorship for the 2024 event. Calendar Raffle, is it dead??? It will be taken off the list.

Colleen Mulder – Holiday Shopping, nothing going on. Foundation report has already been discussed.

Adam Carlson – A mission trip is scheduled for Oct 22-28, 2023 in Negril Jamaica. This trip is always a priority for GR Lions members. We are housed at the Couples all-inclusive resort. Always trying to get couples to go, safe the resort room fees. Everyone that volunteers at the eyeglass recycling center is invited, as long as there is room. Eye Doctors get first preference but we have jobs for everyone, not just eye doctors. The mission group size will be approx. 15-20. Last month Gary went down there and set up places with school principals and superintendents. Permission sheets in the past went home to "opt-in. The forms hardly ever came back. Gary was able to now have an "opt-out" sheet instead of "opt-in. This year we are looking at 850-1,000 kids a day.

Recycling Center is open every Tuesday. It hasn't been to popular for volunteers. We will have to get the word out to members, we need help!

******THANK YOU to Thaddeus Phelps & Colleen Mulder for the past two of years of being a director for the GR Lions Club!!!**

Old Business:

Melvin Jones Recipient-Bob Winchester

Rookie of the Year and the Henry Voet Life Time Award recipients have been chosen but will be announced at the dinner.

Lifetime Award had come up at the Executive Board Meeting last month. Keith Crittenden is our only lifetime member still in our club. By-Laws state any lion over 50 with 20 years of being a member are eligible. Which is crazy since half of our members would qualify. LCI has a lifetime membership for \$650 but it is only pertains to International dues and nothing else. This came up because Keith mentioned it to Lynn Francis who then asked Jeff Kraai. The by-laws says the award is given out at the discretion of the board. Gary commented that the requirements need to be defined a little better. Jeff asked the award needs to state if it is for local dues and/or international due. It should be for dues only, not the cost of the meals. It should be an award given to a member who has done a lot, not simply a member. Jeff said it came about for a member over 70 and possibly critically ill. Jeff also said this will also be part of the by-laws change. Kyle said 'at the discretion" should be left in the by-laws. The way the dues are then handled would basically be to change the member to service member status and charge them for the meals. Jeff said to table it now and when the by-law committee meets to work on the new foundation account to include this concern as well.

New Business:

Over the summer, Jeff will work with Drew as he takes over the Treasurer position as we retire Jeff as the treasurer. Jeff started under Phil Wood in 1995.

Next meeting, TBA this summer.

Adjourned

