



GR Lions Club Exec Board Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2023
Via Zoom @ 8:01pm

In Attendance: Chairman Ben Eavey, Pres Gary Anderson, , Secretary Cheryl Anderson, Treasurer Drew Wessell , Membership Chair John Rice,
Directors: James Schuyler and guest Jeff Kraai

Absent: Vice Pres. Kyle Travis

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Ben Eavey
2. Approval of Secretary's report from Cheryl Anderson
John moved to accept, Drew seconded, vote and approved
3. Treasurer's Report: Drew Wessell
 - a. Open a charge card for the GR Lions Club. Gary stated anything that makes it easier for the treasurer, especially with sifting through the statement picking out personal & club stuff, Gary thinks this is a great idea. Drew will pursue.
 - b. Club Insurance: In the past it has been \$700/year but Drew needs to get an updated amount. Ben commented that the \$700 is a lot for our Lions Club b/c our group doesn't have a big need for it. Gary commented that Lions International covers events. Jeff Kraai stated that this insurance covers the Boards actions. John commented sees the merits of having it. Having it always in place before it is necessary would be good and to bid it out. Drew will pursue this with Jason Brown and others.
 - c. General Fund (lunch & social) assets are at \$37,585.02. In line with last year. Profit and Loss: (dues and wages) \$2,040.22 The bank is now using quickbooks, Drew will see if he can get a copy free from the bank. Everything seems to be in line. Net Income \$1, 905.57
Outstanding dues from 11 members (see list on the treasurer's report) Gary will reach out to a few of the members to verify they still want to remain members.
Charities: We had delays on Drive 4 Vison money but all came in and we made all the payments of about \$30,000 to ABVI and Cherry Health. Nothing new has really come in lately.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Gary and seconded by John Rice, vote taken an approved.
4. Flexible Fund: Flexible Foundation. GR Foundation is permanently endowed and will kick off abut 5% every year appox \$40,000. This new fund will allow 25% of the funds to be used for up to every 5th year. If they funds are used, then you need to wait another 5 years to spend another 25% of the money again.
The board can spend this money on anything they want that they that feel is a special project. Jeff put together a two-page guideline on the Operating Guidelines, i.e.: How are we going to invest the money? Who is responsible? What is the

reporting aspect? We already have some Lions that have designated money in their will or trust to go to the GR Lions Foundation after they die. If they made this request to donate money and do not change or specify to be put into this new fund, the funds specified prior to the 2022-23 Lions year will go into the only fund we had set up at the time, which is the The GR Lions Foundation. Now the Lions will have to make a choice between the two foundations. Gary stated that the GR Lion members built up the million dollar foundation but we can't touch the money, only the interest it kicks off each year. It isn't our money to take out and use except for the interest. Gary felt that a foundation that we could "touch" if needed for a special/emergency fund would be beneficial. Jeff Kraai commented that this fund would be pretty flexible and has wide ranges as to where we can put the money if needed. However, this money is not to be used for an annual type project. It is for special needs or an emergency project at up to 25% of the principal. We already have a \$1000 donor and money from Drive 4 vision which would give us a start up of approx. \$1,888. We are going to force the donor to make a choice to select which foundation to put their donation into? There are now 2 options to pick from. Not to disrespect the guys that created and funded the original foundation. This was a huge task and a great deal of work but we needed to have a little more spending power and this foundation will give us that option after a few years of building it up, An article for the Nuda has been created. By Jeff which should explain what is going on with the old and new foundation, We just have to decide on a name. Drew suggested a name that caters to the members. After much discussion, it was decided to call the new foundation: The Grand Rapids Lions Charities Flex Fund. Jeff Kraai brought up that Drew may have a conflict of interest with work/Lions, the by-laws may have to be rewritten for this matter. Especially if investing a large sum of money. Still working out the logistics for this new fund. The name and sub-committee people will need to be voted on by the full board next month.

President's Report: Gary Anderson

1. New members need to be inducted at the next meeting. Gary will contact all 3 to be inducted.
2. Henry Voet: He has not left town but how do we get the recipient to the meeting to be presented his award. A special request from Gary to come to a meeting to receive his award. John Rice will present it if we can get him there.
3. Getting ready for the vision mission to Jamaica in less than a month. 19 people going and 1000 kids a day.
4. Setting up the Issa Foundation Children/Adolescent Health Center, hoping to meet with people down there. This is a pilot program to put in a lab, train the people and leave giving them an eye center.

Membership Report: John Rice

1. 3 new members and 1 drop (Shawn Andrus-left downtown) Jeremy Knoester, Dr. Meagan Baker & Osman Koroma.
2. Google Address: We have to claim the name. Ben will investigate for next month.

New Business - None

Old Business:

1. Shirts – ordered a French blue and they created Navy instead. French blue can be worn with anything. Navy is limited with the color pants. The company said they will reduce the cost by 24%. Gary said the navy does look classy. The French blue stands out in a crowd. Gary commented that we should keep them. Cheryl will contact everyone that ordered a shirt and see if they want the navy or if I should order them the French Blue.
- 2.

Next Meeting is the Full Board on October 24, 2023

Adjourned 9:04pm,
Respectfully Lions Cheryl Anderson
GR Lions Secretary