

District Newsletter

August
2024

DG Raleigh Peck
1st VDG Corinna Christensen
2nd VDG Jon Kimble
montanalions.org

What's Inside the Newsletter?

P. 1-2 DG Raleigh Peck Message	P. 9 Endorsed Projects
P. 2 IP Fabricio Oliveira Message	P. 10 Memorial Form
P. 3 GET Report	P. 11 Special Notices
P. 3-4 GST Report	P. 12 Websites
P. 5 LCIF Report	P. 12 Contact Information
P. 5 Plus Optix Report	P. 13 Club Anniversaries
P. 6 MT Sight & Hearing Foundation	P. 13 District Meeting dates
P. 7-8 Club Spotlights – Ennis, Winnett	P. 13 USA/Canada Forums/LCI Convention Dates
P. 8 District Facebook Page	P. 14-17 Minutes-July 13 th Cabinet Mtg

“Where there is a need, there is a Lion” District Governor Message - Raleigh Peck

Hello Montana Lions,
I pray you are all staying safe from the heat, storms and fires. Remember, helping those in need is what us Lions do. If you have the means to provide assistance, please try and find a way to help those who need it.

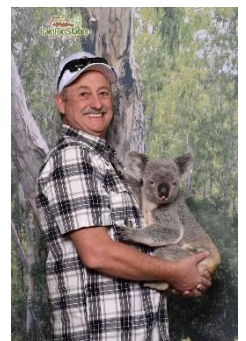


July was pretty busy for your new Governor. The international convention in Melbourne Australia was incredible. I was sent a day early for our final day of governor training. The parade was incredible, we walked with the Rocky Mountain Group early and got to watch the majority of the parade when we were



done. I was really impressed with the China groups and their dragons. We enjoyed several great speakers and some great training sessions. Deb and I spent 12 extra days making new friends and having a great time with 41 other lions on a Collette tour of New Zealand and Australia. We visited ChristChurch, Queenstown, Cairns and Sydney, with a trip out to the Great Barrier Reef. I even got to hold a koala bear.

The district still needs three zone chairs. Zone 2, Hot Springs, Superior and Plains. Zone 5 Helena and Gold Rush, Townsend and White Sulphur Springs. And Zone 10 Nashua, Wolf Point, Scobey, Plentywood and Culbertson. I promise, it's really not much work, with just 2 to 4 hours a month you can help improve Lionism in Montana.



Lastly, I encourage everyone to login to the Lions Portal. There is so much great info and training for you to learn about being a great Lion. And PLEASE let me and the governor team know of any charter nights or other celebrations. We just love to attend these events.

WE SERVE
Governor Raleigh



President's Message

Make Your Mark with International President Fabrício Oliveira

Dear Lion,

Growing up in Brazil as part of an entrepreneurial family, I learned how important it was to have a vision and a plan to achieve it. And I also learned how important community is to each of us who call it “home.”

That’s the spark that led me to Lions. I saw something special in Lions—an opportunity to give back to the community that had been so good to me. As Lions, we have the opportunity to leave a lasting mark every time, and everywhere, we serve.

That’s why “Make Your Mark” is my message to Lions and the world.

So let’s make our mark by inviting others to join our clubs. Let’s make our mark by serving more people than ever before. And let’s make our mark together.

It is my honor to serve as your international president.

At your service,

Fabrício Oliveira
International President

GET Report – IPDG Brian Gertiser

Global Extension Team, August, 2024

As we continue our mission to serve our communities, expanding our reach through new branches is crucial. If you know of an area that could benefit from the presence of Lions Club service, but might not be ready for a fully-chartered 20 member club, consider initiating the process to start a new branch. With just five passionate applicants and five straightforward steps, we can grow our service and our impact.

Here's a refresher on how you can lead the charge:

1. **Gather Your Team:** Identify five other dedicated individuals who share our commitment to community service. This could be enthusiastic new members eager to join our ranks or a current Lion looking for a change of pace.
2. **Contact District 37:** Reach out to IPDG Brian Gertiser and the Global Extension Team for the support and resources you'll need. Our district leadership is ready to provide guidance at every stage of the process.
3. **Organize Your Club:** Establish a regular meeting place, set clear goals, and plan your inaugural service project. These foundational steps are crucial in building a strong, cohesive club.
4. **Official Registration:** District 37 can assist you with the necessary paperwork to formally register your new branch with Lions Clubs International. This ensures your club is recognized and can operate effectively within the global Lions network.
5. **Celebrate and Serve:** Once your club is officially chartered, celebrate this milestone and begin your service activities. Your efforts will immediately contribute to the betterment of your community.

By fostering the creation of new Lions Club branches, we continue to uphold our legacy of service. If you're ready to take this step or know applicants who are, reach out today. Let's work together to bring the Lions' spirit of service to even more communities across Montana. Get more information about starting a club branch at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/club-branch>

For more information contact IPDG Brian Gertiser, GET leader; 10680 Bridger Canyon Rd, Bozeman MT 59715; 406-539-0992; 2bjgert@gmail.com

GST Report - PDG Dennis Kopitzke

Global Service Team

Global and Montana Service - August, 2024

Club leaders are asked to take time to review (GST) global service on the newly revised LCI website. The site provides information in the Member Resource Center associated with our global causes: childhood cancer, diabetes, disaster relief, humanitarian projects, hunger, vision and youth.

District 37 Endorsed Service Projects should be given consideration when clubs are looking for service projects to support. Projects are listed below:

Diabetes . . . Now What: PDG Dennis Kopitzke; Box 1266; Forsyth, MT 59327; 406-853-8695; djk_7491@rangeweb.net; Leanna Schwend, Box 289, Forsyth, MT 59327; 406-351-2117; leannaschwend@gmail.com; www.sugarbeatenterprise.com

Florence Crittenton Home: Lion Danielle Vincent; 1205 Daybreak Street; Helena, MT 59602; 406-202-1348; [craftycpa@gmail.com](mailto:crafty CPA@gmail.com); www.florencecrittenton.org

Leader Dogs for the Blind: PDG Jim Johnke, Box 206, Winnett, 59087; 406- 928-3311; jrjohnke@gmail.com; www.lionsclubs.org/

LCIF – PDG Lary Garrison: 703 Conway St., Billings, Montana 59105 H. 406-896-1746; C. 406-855-6997; lionlarygarrison@gmail.com; **PDG Michael Tobin (Peggy)** PO Box 408, Sunburst, MT 59482; H. 406-937-1215; C. 406-450-2780; miktob1951@gmail.com

Lions Gift of Sight: PDG Dan Sturdevant, Box 275, Clancy, MT 59634; 406-439-9297; sturdydan@gmail.com; www.opthalmology.umn.edu

Montana Association for the Blind: Lion Rhonda Cochrane, 1802 West Park, Anaconda, 59711; 406-490-2669; rhondacochrane67@gmail.com; www.mabsop.org

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation: Lion Jessica Falcon; Box 1925, Columbia Falls, MT 59912; 406-253-1737; lionjessicafausey@gmail.com; www.mtlionsshfnd.org

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind: Lion Mark Willmarth; 220 38th Avenue, NE, Great Falls, MT 59404; 406-899-6110; mark@visionwcstmt.com; www.msdbmustangs.org/about-us/foundation/

Montana Youth Diabetes Alliance: PDG Mike Collins; 40 Meadowlark Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901; 406-871-4176; mikeacollins@bresnan.net

Service Tool Kit: The tool kit provides: quick start ideas, Club Quality Initiative instructions; club and community needs assessment, development of local partnerships, fundraising guide, and why service reporting matters.

In the coming months information will be provided on specific club service projects that might be of interest to other Montana Lions Clubs.

For more information contact PDG Dennis Kopitzke, GST leader; Box 1266, Forsyth, MT 59327; 406-853-8695; djk_7491@rangeweb.net



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

District LCIF Co-Chair

August 2024

From August 15th to the 18th PDG Mike Tobin and I will be in San Antonio, Texas for CA1 LCIF Strategy Sessions. We will arrive Thursday afternoon and return Sunday morning.

What are the benefits to District 37? There are several that will make a difference for both us and District 37. First, Mike and I will meet with the LCIF staff, some of them new, that we need to work with in getting and closing grants. Secondly, Mike and I will learn of changes in grants, their benefits and requirements. Thirdly, Mike and I will meet other LCIF Coordinators from across the United States and learn what many of them are doing with applying for grants and doing for fundraisers.

There is no need for these sessions without the LCIF structure. There are no grants for Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Recovery, Major Disasters, District and Community Impact, Hunger, Leo Service, Lions Quest, Matching, and Sight/First Grants without the financial support of Lions around the world. 34% of District 37 Lions Clubs and 4.5% of individual Lions in District 37 made a contribution to LCIF during the 2023-24 Lionistic year. If you or your club did not contribute last year please give serious consideration of contributing this year.

No donation is too large-and no donation is too small. District 37 contributed \$34,408.09 last year. The nine cents came from a donation box at the convention in Havre. I am sure someone put the change from their pocket into the box.

Mike and I want to thank every Lion that made a donation to LCIF in the past, or will give a donation to LCIF in the future, whether it is a one time or recurring donation. You or your club can send a check to LCIF, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA or at donorassistance@lionsclubs.org or by calling 1-630-203-3836.

Yours in Lionism,

PDG Lary Garrison, 703 Conway St., Billings 59105 lionlarygarrison@gmail.com,
406-855-6997

PDG Mike Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst 59482, miktob1951@gmail.com,
406-450-2780

PLUSOPTIX

PlusOptix Update – PlusOptix screening totals for school year Aug 2023 to May 2024: 37,132 screened with 4,546 refers.

Thank you for a great school year.

Lion David Falcon, District 37 PlusOptix Chair
314 9th St. W., Kalispell, MT 59901; H. 406-253-1726: lion.dfalcon@gmail.com

MT Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation Statistics

Please find below the statistics from January 1, 2024 to July 29, 2024.

Applications Received: 29

Assistance Provided: 10

Total Cost of Assistance Provided: \$18,744.00

Applications Received From: Augusta, Bozeman, Bridger, Choteau, Clancy, Clinton, Corvallis, Darby, Dillon, East Helena, Fortine, Great Falls, Hamilton, Helena, Libby, Livingston, Missoula and Stevensville.

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation Fellowships

Foundation Fellowship: Foundation Fellowships can now be purchased by individuals. Foundation Fellowships are used to recognize outstanding Lions and other deserving individuals. The Board of Trustees of the Foundation endorses this Fellowship. The Fellowship award includes a lapel pin and a mounted certificate and may only be bestowed by a Lions Club on an individual or group of individuals with a donation of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) to the Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.

PID Fellowship: The PID Dave Hajny, PID Tom Lehman and PID Gary Tschache Fellowships are now available. The fellowships recognize the contributions to Lionism made by PID's Dave, Tom and Gary. The new fellowships are a great way to provide recognition for a deserving Lion. Fellowships can be purchased for five hundred dollars (\$500) to the Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.

Life Membership: A Life Membership to the Foundation, which includes a lapel pin and pocket card can be bestowed by an individual, group of individuals, Lions Club or can be purchased by an individual with a donation of one hundred dollars (\$100) to the Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.

Memorial or Honorarium: Remember a loved one or honor that special person by donating to the Foundation. What better way to remember or honor someone than having your donation live in perpetuity? Your Memorial or Honorarium donation is never spent; only the interest earned on these assets will be used to further the purpose of the Foundation.

CLUB SPOTLIGHTS

ENNIS LIONS CLUB HOSTS SUCCESSFUL JULY 4TH PICNIC FUNDRAISER

Ennis, MT – July 4, 2024 – The Ennis Lions Club is proud to announce the success of our annual July 4th Picnic Fundraiser, which brought the community together in celebration and raised significant funds for local initiatives.

From start to finish, the event was a whirlwind of activity as Lions members worked tirelessly to feed the parade-goers. For two hours, the team operated at full throttle, serving up delicious meals with efficiency and a smile. Attendees enjoyed a mouthwatering selection of pulled pork, hotdogs, and pizza, each meal accompanied by chips, watermelon, and a choice of soda or water.

The picnic was more than just a feast; it was a lively community gathering filled with joy and entertainment. A quirky one-man band, dressed in patriotic apparel, provided a unique musical backdrop that kept spirits high and added a festive flair to the day.

The success of this event is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Ennis Lions members, friends and family. Their commitment to the community was evident in every aspect of the picnic, from the speedy service to the warm interactions with attendees. The funds raised will go directly towards initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life within our community.

"We couldn't be more pleased with the turnout and the support we received from everyone who attended," said Lion Corinna Christensen, Co-Chair of the Ennis Lions Picnic. "Our Lions team worked incredibly hard, and it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and full bellies. Together, we make a real difference."

The Ennis Lions Club extends a heartfelt thank you to all our sponsors, business partners, and volunteers who contributed to the event's success. Sponsors and business partners include 3Rivers Communications, Hi-Country, Northwestern Energy, Harrington's Pepsi, Wheat Montana, Madison River Propane, The Ice House, Pure West Christie's Real Estate (Brandy & Kristie) Willie's Distillery, Signs West, Ennis Mercantile, Miner Wines, Tavern 287, Ennis Pharmacy & Yesterday's. Your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

For more information about the Ennis Lions Club and our initiatives, please visit ennismtlions.com or call/text 406-601-8850

About Ennis Lions Club The Ennis Lions Club is dedicated to serving the local community through various initiatives and events. We strive to make a positive impact and improve the lives of those in our area through volunteerism, fundraising, and community service.



WINNETT LIONS JULY NEWS

The Winnett Lions had a busy filled July: Winning first prize in the All School Reunion Parade, serving breakfast (aka donuts) for the Run Run and having 100% attendance at our July Meeting! We will also be finishing our Main Street Beautification Project with hanging flowers and new benches.



DISTRICT 37 FACEBOOK PAGE

We all know that Lions serve from the heart, and now we want to see YOU in action! Whether you're planting trees, organizing a food drive, helping out at a community event, or any other service activity, we want to showcase the amazing work our Lions are doing. We're looking for candid shots of Montana Lions actively engaging in service. We appreciate the posed group photos that commemorate events but we want to see how you have captured the real moments that show the spirit of Lionism in action!

How to Participate:

1. Snap candid photos of Lions in action during service activities.
2. Share your photos via message to the District Facebook Page (<https://m.me/MontanaLions>).
3. Include a brief description of the activity and the names of the Lions involved.
4. Bonus points for Lions wearing Lions Club logos on hats, vests, shirts, etc.!

Let's fill our media with the heart and soul of our District's service efforts. Remember, a picture is worth a thousand words—let's show the world the impact of the Montana Lions Clubs of District 37!

DISTRICT 37 ENDORSED PROJECTS

Diabetes- Now What? – PDG Dennis Kopitzke, djk_7491@rangeweb.net;
PO Box 1266, Forsyth 59327; 406-346-1488.

Florence Crittenton Home (Helena) - Lion Danielle Vincent; 4410 Crimson Ct, Helena, MT 59602; 406-202-1348; craftycpa@gmail.com;
www.florencecrittenton.org

Leader Dogs for the Blind - PDG Jim Johnke, PO Box 206, Winnett, 59087; 406- 928-3311; jrjohnke@gmail.com; www.lionsclubs.org/leaderdog
and DG Michael Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst, MT 59482; 406-937-1215; miktob1951@gmail.com

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) – Co-Chairs
PDG Lary Garrison, 703 Conway Street, Billings, 59105; 406-855-6997; lionlarygarrison@gmail.com; www.lcif.org
PDG Mike Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst MT 59482; 406-450-2780; miktob1951@gmail.com

Lions Gift of Sight, (Actively Endorsed) - PDG Dan Sturdevant, PO Box 275, Clancy, MT 59634; 406-439-9297; sturdydan@gmail.com;
www.opthalmology.umn.edu

Montana Association for the Blind – Lion Rhonda Cochrane, 1802 West Park, Anaconda, 59711; 406-490-2669; rhondacochrane67@gmail.com;
www.mabop.org

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation – Lion Jessica Fausey, PO Box 1925; Columbia Falls, MT 59912; 406-253-1737; lionjessicafausey@gmail.com; www.mtlionsshfnd.org

NEWEST ENDORSED PROJECT:

Montana School for the Deaf & Blind Foundation – Lion Mark Willmarth, 220 38th Ave NE, Great Falls MT 59404; 406-899-6110; mark@visionwestmt.com;
<https://www.msdbmustangs.org/about-us/foundation/>

Montana Youth Diabetes Alliance – PDG Mike Collins; 40 Meadowlark Drive, Kalispell, 59901; 406-871-4176; mikeacollins@bresnan.net

MEMORIAL FORM

Also available on the district website at <https://www.montanalions.org/events/> and can be submitted directly from the website

The chairs for the Memorial/Necrology Service at the District's annual convention are the 1st and 2nd Vice District Governors. During the service they will be recognizing deceased Lions' service and years as a Lion, where we will be asking a club or family member to assist by receiving a memorial rose.

We are asking each club's help in securing information about the deceased Lion. We would like to have members of the club or family members in attendance for the service, as well.

Please take a few minutes to complete the following:

Deceased Lion's name: _____

Club's name _____

Number of years as a Lion: _____

Service projects involved in: _____

Club Offices held: _____

District Offices held: _____

Awards: _____

Please include the Lion's photo. Return no later than March 31st.

Submitted by: _____

Phone: _____

Thank you!

SPECIAL NOTICES

2024-2025 CLUB OFFICERS

As of July 1st, if your club officers for this new Lion year have not been entered into the Lion Portal, you will need to contact Lion Peggy Tobin at pegtobin54@gmail.com or call 406-461-4206.

DISTRICT 37 CLUB OFFICER TRAINING VIDEOS

These videos are all accessible via the district website, www.montanalions.org under "Training/Resources".

All Club officers: Trainer PDG Mike Collins
Club President: Trainer PDG Mike Tobin
Club Secretary: Trainer Lion Peggy Tobin
Club Treasurer: Trainer PDG Mike Collins

Short videos about how to do specific secretary or treasurer tasks:

With the release of the new LionPortal, we have added links to some of the short videos provided by LCI – specifically Service Activities, How to Edit Members and How to Assign an Officer to replace the videos below which are outdated.

Activity Reporting in MyLion (23 minutes)
Monthly Membership Report in MyLCI (15 minutes)
Designating officers for in MyLCI (10 minutes)

Filing your 990-N (e-Postcard) (9 minutes)

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Any Lions club member can submit information associated with any type of Lions project or general club information. **You can submit Club News ANYTIME via the website under News/Submit Club News.** Here's the link <https://www.montanalions.org/submit-club-news/> You are also welcome to email your news (hopefully with photo) to: Lion Peggy Tobin at pegtobin54@gmail.com.

WEBSITE UPDATES

The new "Tri-Fold Generator" is now available for clubs to create their own club brochures using a tri-fold format that your club can use to share your information to prospective new members. You will find it under Training/Resources on the website.

The club-level website is still being offered by Montana District 37 at NO COST! If you don't already have a domain name, Deanna can provide one for a cost of \$20/year after the first year. If you are interested in getting a website for your club, please contact Peggy Tobin at pegtobin54@gmail.com or call 406-461-4206.

DISTRICT WEBSITE & AVAILABLE LINKS:

Visit the district website at www.montanalions.org to find a wealth of valuable information regarding almost every aspect associated with the operation of the district. In addition, the “Links To” on the district website will take you to the websites below:

LCI website - Look for: general information, service projects, membership, club improvement, online training, media and news releases, and LCIF.

LionPortal –NEW The newly released access point to your Lion Account (for Members, Club Officers, District Officers, Activity Reporting and all things Lion).

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation*: Information regarding programs and sight, hearing and/or speech impairments.

LCIF* (Lions Clubs International Foundation) – Information regarding the Lions Clubs International Foundation and all of the focus areas – Vision, Youth, Disaster Relief, Humanitarian, Diabetes, Childhood Cancer, Environment and Hunger.

Lions University – Find out about year/round training provided by the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.

***Please note that the district website also provides a “Donate” button to donate to MT Sight & Hearing Foundation AND the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).**

DISTRICT OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

DG Raleigh Peck; 1575 10th Ave. SW, Sidney, MT 59270; H: 406-488-7447;
C: 406-480-5000; raleighgpeck@gmail.com

1st VDG Corinna Christensen; PO Box 295, Ennis MT 59729;
C: 406-570-6742; 406corinna@gmail.com

2nd VDG Jon Kimble; PO Box 1583, Seeley Lake MT 59868;
C: 559-352-1455; jkimble@wellhead.com

District Secretary/Administrator; Lion Peggy Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst MT, 59482;
C: 406-461-4206; H: 406-937-1215; pegtobin54@gmail.com

District Treasurer: Lion Steve Dogiakos, PO Box 631, Choteau, MT 59422;
406-203-4679

AUGUST CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Baker	08/29/1946
Ennis	08/30/1948
Huntley Project	08/30/1954

UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETING DATES

MLS&HF Board Meeting	October, 2024 - Great Falls, MT School for the Deaf and the Blind
District Cabinet Meeting	October, 2024 - Great Falls, MT School for the Deaf and the Blind

DISTRICT 37 ANNUAL CONVENTION

2025 District Convention will be held in Helena at the Delta (Colonial Inn) Hotel May 2-3, 2025

UPCOMING USA/CANADA FORUMS

USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUMS CAN BE RELATED TO ALL AREAS OF YOUR LIFE – NOT JUST LIONS

2024 – Louisville, KY
2025 – Atlantic City, NJ
2026 - Memphis TN
2027 – Huntsville, AB

LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE

2025-Mexico City – July 4-8;
2026 Hong Kong – Jul 3-7
2027 Washington DC – July 2-6
2028 Singapore -June 23-27
2029 Minneapolis, MN
2030 San Antonio TX
2031 – Helsinki Finland

MINUTES – July 13, 2024 – CABINET MEETING
Peggy Tobin – District Administrator/Secretary

Montana District 37 Cabinet Meeting, July 13, 2024; 10:30 AM; Great Falls, MT School for the Deaf and the Blind

Attendees:

In Person: DG Raleigh Peck, Lion Steve Dogiakos, IPDG Brian Gertizer, PDG Mike Collins, Lion Dave Falcon, PDG Dan Studevart, Lion Jessica Fausey, IPD Dave Hajny, Lion Peggy Tobin, IPID Ben Apeland, PDG Mike Tobin; Lion Marie Hajny; Lion Monte Weisner-Kalispell Sunrisers; Lion Bob Graves, Zone 8 Chair, Choteau, Lion Carl Vendor- Shephard

Via Zoom: 1st VDG Corrinna Christensen, 2ndVDG Jon Kimble, PDG Dennis Kopitzke - GST, PDG Richard Gessling (until 11:30) - GMT, Hondo Barr, Zone 13 Chair; Margaret Baylinson, Zone 3 Chair

1. Call to Order by DG Raleigh Peck at 10:45 AM
 - a) Pledge of Allegiance
 - b) Invocation: Dan
 - c) Introductions – all attendees introduced themselves noting their club and position
 - d) District Governor - Opening Remarks –DG Raleigh discussed Mission 1.5. His big push this year will be Club Branches where only 5 members are required.
2. Minutes: Motion by Steve D, second by Mike T to approve the April 21, 2024 minutes as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Financial Report: Steve reviewed the financial reports ending June 30, 2024, noting that the District is in a decent financial position with over \$200,000. He noted that we were about \$2,000 over in the budget for 2023-24 (website was also over by that amount). He recommended that we review the current year budget to ensure that we have a balanced budget as currently the bottom line is a \$-24,000. Mike T. recommended that the governor’s team review the budget. Richard noted that we need a GAT (action team) line item in the budget.
Steve moved to adopt the resolution 2024-01 for banking. Ben asked if the funds are staying in Stockman or moving. Steve will be moving the funds in Stockman to 1st Bank of Montana which has a local branch in Choteau. Mike C seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Dave H recommended that since we have a new treasurer, that Raleigh and Peggy work with Steve to develop good processes to ensure that payments are all valid and correctly paid. Motion by Mike C, second by Dave F to approve the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Additions to the agenda are noted in Item 8 below. Raleigh commented that he hasn’t completed the district committees.
5. Old Business
 - a. LCIF – outstanding grants – Mike T. requested the cabinet’s approval to close out the Plus Optix Grant. Steve moved to approve the closing of the Plus Optix grant. Mike C. seconded the motion noting that he would like to see a summary when we are voting on grants. Motion passed unanimously. Mike T also reported that Glendive is submitting two grants - a matching grant to upgrade the Pool’s bathrooms to be ADA compliant and one for hunger (not matching) for new appliances for the food bank. Mike T reported that the LCIF district giving is 25% higher than the prior year.
 - b. Club Health Assessment – May Report –Brian noted that to date we are positive.

- c. Club Officer Training – Mike C. reported that we have not yet redone the videos but Peggy had Edge provide links to three of the Lion Portal “how to” videos under the Training tab for club secretaries. We will have training at the Convention in Helena. Mike C. has applied for attending the Faculty Development Institute (FDI) in Chicago. He hasn’t been accepted as yet, but if he is invited to go, he’d ask for reimbursement for the registration and travel. Peggy was asked about the secretaries who have not updated the officers for the current year. She reported that she emailed approximately half the clubs who hadn’t reported in the system as of June and we are now down to eight clubs that have not started the process. Mike C. also reported on the Leadership Retreat to be held in September in Choteau.
 - d. Addition to the Policies - 3rd Vice District Governor – Raleigh reviewed the proposed Article 2 Section A1 to add a 3rd VDG to the District (see attached). Discussion followed regarding budgets. Richard moved to approve bringing on a 3rd VDG program as a pilot program adding \$1500 from reserves to fund the position. Motion was seconded by Mike T. Motion passed unanimously. Steve moved to add Article 2, Section A1 to the policy manual. Seconded by Dave F and motion passed unanimously.
 - e. Review/Update to Policy Article 7 - Endorsed Projects – Proposed changes were reviewed (see attached). Richard moved to accept the amendments to the endorsed projects and was seconded by Steve. Motion passed unanimously.
 - f. Updates to District 37 Facebook Page – Jessica sent out a request and Steve was the only one that responded. Brian recommended that a “help wanted” for assistance be in the August Newsletter. Steve also has some ideas for how to find others to assist Jessica.
6. New Business
- a. 2024 Convention Report – Brian reported that we haven’t received a final report from Havre.
 - b. 2025 District Convention – Dan reported that the 2025 Convention will be May 2-3, 2025 at the Delta (Colonial Inn) in Helena. Dan confirmed that there is \$3,000 of seed money available from the District. Ben agreed to assist and reported that ID Anthony Paradiso from New York (a sitting judge) has been selected and notified. Dan has both Helena clubs and Townsend club onboard to assist with the convention.
 - c. Montana Glasses – Raleigh noted that there’s a question of whether this is a district project or not. It was confirmed that several Walmarts have quit taking the glasses and John is no longer going to be a collection point. Ben noted that when you collect 300 pairs of glasses, the club should put that on their club service report. Peggy will link the post that tells how the clubs can forward the glasses directly to Seattle to the Donate Page. Corrina offered that if any clubs aren’t willing to forward the glasses to Seattle, Ennis will offer to collect the glasses. Peggy moved to make Collecting Glasses as a District Project. Steve seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
 - d. Website security – proposed changes to directory – Peggy reviewed the options that Edge has provided in providing more security for the Directory page – the first option was discussed over a year ago – have a login/password that would be provided to current members but that option didn’t seem to provide much security band because it would be difficult to disseminate the login information to the appropriate folks. The other option is to have a “registration process for anyone who wants access to that information. The registration would go into a “que” and be reviewed and either approved or rejected. Once registration is approved, that member would be able to access the directory. This upgrade would cost \$500 as Edge would have to set up additional parameters to make it work. A third option is for everyone to use the Lion Portal and just have a listing of our current officers with no contact info. Richard moved to approve the \$500 to Edge to create a registration for members. Steve recommended a fourth option that we could just remove the email information off of our website as they can be accessed through the Lion Portal by every member. Peggy noted that Deanna said that could be done without

taking the emails out of the database. Richard retracted his motion. Steve moved to remove all emails from the website and have “contact forms” for all of the district team members as needed and Mike C seconded the motion. Motion carried with Dave H abstaining.

7. Officer Reports

- a. DG/VDGs Club Visitations – Raleigh reported that they have not started visitations as 3rd VDG had not been finalized. He noted that Gary Bissell will be put into the 3rd VDG position.
- b. Administrator’s Report – Peggy reported that since the convention, she has been working with several secretaries on the new Lion Portal. Five of the clubs on her initial list had in fact entered their officers, but the portal report did not include them (even though 23-24 had all 59 clubs). She has emailed technical support but hasn’t received a response. The website directory has been updated with 2024-2025 officers for all clubs that updated their officers in the new Lion Portal. The website directory has also been updated to reflect all current district officers. She will be providing Edge with the new lists for International officers and directors along with updating the “our organization” section as soon as she has Jon’s bio and photo and LCI has updated the 1st year International Directors. Peggy updated her contract to reflect the duties that have evolved with the development of the website. Mike T added that if the governor’s team will request that the club secretaries that update any information LCI also pass that information on to the district secretary.

c. Zone/Region Reports

Margaret – Zone 3 – Reported that most of the clubs are on vacation. Columbia Falls just completed a celebration for Don Lawrence. They also do summer concerts in the park and are getting ready for Heritage Days where they will have a float in the parade. Sunrisers sponsor “Firecracker Baseball” where they make \$2-3,000. Adrian in Eureka is still working on a playground that they’ve been installing and she has encouraged him to officially complete the paperwork for a Leo’s club. Working on details for all of the zone clubs to have a booth at the fair.

Raleigh introduced Zone 13 Chair, Hondo from Ennis and Zone 8 Chair, Bob from Choteau. Bob reported that Choteau completed their parade and they sponsored a concert at the new band shell. Their trip of the month will kick off in August. Sunburst is setting up a 501C3 utilizing the EZForm.

8. Committee Reports

- a. GMT – Richard reported that he has done Bozeman Gallatin Empire, set a date for Missoula Southside and is setting a date for Butte Mile-Hi. July 17th he will be at the new club members induction for Joliet. He has also been working with George Chenowith in Livingston.
- b. GET – Brian is working with George Chenowith in Livingston to get a club branch going there and Brian is working on their Tri-Fold. Havre is working on Chester and Raleigh asked Brian to work with Zone 8 Chair, Scott. Brian is also hoping to work with White Sulphur Springs in the Shields Valley area. Bozeman Heritage Christian School is interested in a Leo Club. Adrian has agreed to be the Leo Chair.
- c. GLT – See above – Leadership Retreat is in Choteau September 20-21. Will hopefully do zoom training for the portal and will do training at the convention.
- d. GST – Dennis reviewed his report (see attached). Dave H. requested that Dennis provide his reports so he can submit them to the Global Service Team officers.
- e. LCIF – Mike T reported that this is his and Lary’s last year but he told Corinna that he would be willing to do another tour. Corinna asked if they coordinate visits with governor’s visits. Mike said it’s good to do just an LCIF visit and not interfere with the governor’s visit.
- f. Plus-Optix – no report for the summer.

- g. IPID Ben reported that the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums can be related to all areas of your life – not just Lions. Ben asked for the following schedule be put on the website:

2024 – Louisville, KY

2025 – Atlantic City, NJ

2026 - Memphis TN

2027 – Huntsville, AB

He also provided the LCI Convention schedule:

2025-Mexico City – July 4-8;

2026 Hong Kong – Jul 3-7

2027 Washington DC – July 2-6

2028 Singapore -June 23-27

2029 Minneapolis, MN

2030 San Antonio TX

2031 – Helsinki Finland

9. Next meeting: Oct 12, 2024 at 10:30am – Great Falls, Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind

10. Adjournment – Dave H moved and Ben seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:00pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Tobin

District 37 Administrator/Secretary 7/13/24