

**District 5M-2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2021  
Zoom Meeting**

**Call to Order:** DG Anna Wickenhauser called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Glenn Kaufmann

**Invocation:** 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Kathleen Bleckeberg gave the invocation.

**Welcome:** DG Anna Wickenhauser welcomed everyone.

**Roll Call:** Taken by Lion Cindy Walters, showing 43 in attendance, 8 absent, 5 guests.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda Lion Kathleen Bleckeberg; seconded by 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Glenn Kaufmann; **MC**.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to approve by Lion Janet Knakmuhs, seconded by Lion Terry Kvitek, **MC**.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lion Sue Vos sent her report. Motion by Lion Gerald Viskofsy and seconded by PDG Joan Blank to accept the Treasurer's Report, **MC**. Copy is attached at the end of this report.

**Communications:** DG Anna Wickenhauser – LCI new member waiver fee extension and International Convention going virtual.

**Old Business:**

- **2021 MD5M Multiple Convention Report:** PDG Nancy Mathwig and PDG Mike Vos – Many decisions and changes regarding the 2021 MD5M convention, hosted by District 5M2, have been made since the last Cabinet meeting in November. At today's Cabinet meeting and the general business meeting tomorrow, PDG Mike and PDG Nancy were planning to explain the plans for the weekend and how we would need the help of the entire district to make it another great 5M2-sponsored multiple convention.

The host 2021 convention committee has continued to meet monthly via Zoom and went from discussing in-person plans to hybrid plans. At our last full host committee meeting, two weeks ago, the decision was made to have a completely virtual meeting, all on Saturday, May 1, 2021. At this time the assistance we need from District 5M2 is no longer physical assistance, but the willingness to attend the convention virtually. There will be no registration fee required.

We plan to use a similar, but expanded, format as we will see used for this weekend's Saturday session by using the technology available through the Mayo Event Center. Nancy has been in contact with MegaMattProductions and we will be meeting with him in the next couple weeks to discuss our needs. Other changes already in the works are:

- Online raffle room – the MN Lions Childhood Cancer and MN Lions Diabetes Foundations are putting together the details.
- Online voting only – Lion Cindy will be coordinating this process tentatively using Election Runner, the same platform used for the 5M2 voting.
- Service of Remembrance will be pre-recorded and will include those Lions who could not be remembered in 2020 when the convention was cancelled as well as those who have been remembered during the 2021 Midwinter Conventions.
- Hall of Fame and Al Jensen recipients for both 2020 and 2021 will be recognized. Details still be worked out.

- Annual Diabetes, Hearing and Vision Foundation meetings have been changed to a different weekend and online. Watch for additional information coming your way from these foundations.
- Annual PDG Association dinner and meeting will not be held as usual but are being determined by PID Debra and PDG Steve, PDG Association chair and secretary.
- We are hoping to have the three University of MN physicians who were scheduled to speak, give online presentations instead. These presentations will be available to all via links. We have dropped the Leader Dog speaker from the list.
- PIP Frank Moore is still our scheduled international guest. Whether his speech will be in person, via Zoom or pre-recorded is yet to be determined.

A detailed letter with convention information will be emailed to all multiple district club secretaries and presidents by the end of February. Also watch the monthly district newsletters for updates as well as the MD5M website/Conventions.

- **Constitution and By Laws:** PDG Steve Wasserman – Gave a presentation on the proposed changes to the Constitution and By Laws. Housekeeping change in the constitution and recommended change re Sergeant at Arms. By Laws recommended changes include how to replace a DG in the event of a vacancy. The changes are recommended by LCI. There is similar language for the VDG replacement. There are some substantive changes coming down to be a Zone Chair can not be a PDG and only can serve less than 3 years. Cabinet Secretary has to have the minutes sent out within 10 days. Most of the changes are housekeeping changes or changes that have been in alignment with our policies and procedures. PDG Steve made a motion that the cabinet endorse the changes as presented; PDG Joan Blank seconded. Lion Brian Rykhus asked a question regarding the carry over of funds being treated as income or as carry over. PDG Steve mentioned that the beginning balance starts as zero. PDG Brian will check this out with LCI...Lion Rykhus brought it up for its tax implications. **MC.**

#### **Zone Reports:** 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Kathleen Bleckeberg

**Zone 1: Lion Jan Sebesta** – 9 Active Clubs, 252 Members We have an Entry for the Write off coming from Lester Prairie, Bingo in Stewart, and Food packing in New Auburn. On Friday, February 5 she did a drive for Pop tabs and Glasses; collected about 45# of Tabs, and back end of van full of boxed glasses which Lions David and Jan will take to Mankato on Saturday. She passed on Zoom addresses for Cabinet Mtg, and Virtual Mid-Winter Convention. All are looking forward to warmer days, and fewer COVID cases.

**Zone 2: Lion Deb Koehnen** – Zone 2 is has increased by 14 members since the start of the Lions year for a current membership of 478. The gain is due to the 9<sup>th</sup> club, Waconia Hive that chartered in November 2020. I haven't made any club visits due to Covid. I plan to contact clubs if Covid restrictions relax to still get in a few visits. I have met with members of 3 clubs as I picked up their eye glass, cell phone, pop tab, ink cartridge, and cell phone donations. A spring zone meeting has not been scheduled.

**Zone 3: Lion Rose Thies** – Zone 3 Lions Clubs have found multiple ways to exist and thrive in spite of a Global Pandemic. Our clubs have thought outside of the box and offered drive up fund raising meals, helped save our environment by collecting over 500 pounds of plastic that was destined for a landfill and converted it into a bench for their city as well as partnered with a local business to help with donations to LCIF.

Even with ongoing and new activities, we are currently down 11 members for a current membership as of today of 248.

As we are seeing our COVID case numbers decrease and restrictions easing, more clubs are meeting in person and planning activities. It is amazing to see how when you are in person, ideas flow and build to new levels.

I am hopeful that we can finish the year strong and gain back some membership numbers for DG Anna. WOO HOO!

**Zone 4: Lion Julie Beckius** – Zone 4 has 8 clubs with 378 members as of 2/9/21. This is a difference of -13 for the fiscal year. Starting to plan for the Spring Zone meeting, date TBD.

- Club Membership and Board Meetings
  - Virtual = Jordaness, Shakopee Valley, Hamburg, Chaska
  - In-person = Jordan, Belle Plaine
  - Both virtual & in-person = Carver, Shakopee
- Elections – clubs are preparing for officer nominations/elections to be held in April
- Recently completed activities
  - Belle Plaine – stalled with Covid
  - Carver – Pork chop drive-thru dinner, Gazebo lighting in the city park, pull tabs when bars were open
  - Chaska – Roadside clean up, gambling (when allowed with Covid restrictions)
  - Hamburg – Feed my starving children, Peace Posters, Dictionary project, toy drive, Christmas cards to shut ins, holiday light display contest, Santa Day drive-thru, Little Food shelf
  - Jordan – Highway clean up, Peace Poster (with Jordaness), 177 Holiday Food Baskets delivered
  - Jordaness – Peace Poster, Virtual Fashion Show & online action; 1<sup>st</sup> ever Pride Raffle, World Service Day with a new twist in delivering care bags to 234 residents in the senior living buildings; Toy project
  - Shakopee – pull tabs & weekly meat raffles continue based on bar open dates
  - Shakopee Valley - Gifts of Hope, Poinsettia Drive for Southern Valley Alliance, Peace Poster, Meat Raffle, Park and Recreation Halloween Event, Friendship Manor pen pal program, several donations to locals in need (e.g. Berndt family house fire)
- Upcoming activities being planned
  - Belle Plaine – researching options for the annual bowling event
  - Carver – planning for a spring pork chop drive-thru dinner, roadside clean-up + a Shred-It day for city residents, pull tabs, and fingers crossed to be able to hold the D-Feet Hearing Walk
  - Chaska – spring roadside clean up, River City Days (TBD), partnering with Southern Valley Alliance for a bingo event at Schram Brewery
  - Hamburg – drive-thru pancake breakfast, purse bingo, scholarships
  - Jordan – Drive-thru Fish Fry on Feb 19 (and potentially a second one will be planned), Polar Plunge on March 13
  - Jordaness – Drive-thru spaghetti dinner on March 5 (no meat for lent); researching virtual options to host annual bingo; scholarships
  - Shakopee – Annual softball tournament & a disc golf tournament, both planned for June
  - Shakopee Valley – Weekly meat raffles, exploring options for the annual Ham & Turkey bingo, donations for Saber Nation (in-person school dependency)
- Needs from the DG team?
  - Idea sharing for successful events other clubs are hosting

**Zone 5: Lion Lion Denise Wondra** – We have lost 18 members and gained 4 since July. Most clubs are meeting. Some are in person and some are in Zoom meeting, and some doing both. Most fund raisers were/have been cancelled. One club did have a meat and gun raffle 2 weeks ago. One club had Santa event with only about 25 kids take part. There are few clubs with spring events planned if all goes well.

**Zone 6: Lion Bill Vandersluis** –

**Lions 5M2 Zone 6 Report**

**2.11.21**

Club	Members	Remarks	Reference
Eagle Lake Lions Club	14	Meeting via teleconference Successful Porch Pot sales project Help with Toys for Tots Leading 5M2 Convention Planning Contributing to 5M2 Recycling project	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/eaglelakearealions">https://www.facebook.com/eaglelakearealions</a>
Lake Crystal Lions Club	42	Meeting via teleconference Participating in 5M2 Convention Planning Contributing to 5M2 Recycling project	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/lionsclub">https://www.facebook.com/lionsclub</a>
Le Center Lions Club	40	Have not been meeting during Pandemic Drive thru Santa Unable to reach for additional Info	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Le-Center-Lions-Club-11467470527643">https://www.facebook.com/Le-Center-Lions-Club-11467470527643</a>
Le Sueur Lions Club	48	Meeting via teleconference Held Holiday Raffle Seeking interim Secretary Contributing to 5M2 Recycling project	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Le-Sueur-Lions-Club-296629710502018">https://www.facebook.com/Le-Sueur-Lions-Club-296629710502018</a>
Mankato Key City Lions Club	10	Have not been meeting during pandemic, but have Joined Mankato club and zone zoom meeting Participating in 5M2 Convention Planning Contributing to 5M2 Recycling project	
Mankato Lions Club	16	Meeting via teleconference Participating in 5M2 Convention Planning Contributing to 5M2 Recycling project	.....Under Construction
Mankato Sunrise Lions Club	27	Meeting via teleconference Successful October Diabetes Rally Participating in 5M2 Convention Planning Contributing to 5M2 Recycling project	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/MankatoSunriseLions">https://www.facebook.com/MankatoSunriseLions</a>
St Peter Lions Club	54	Meeting via teleconference Contributing to 5M2 Recycling project	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/stpeterlions">https://www.facebook.com/stpeterlions</a>

**Zone 7: Lion Don Novack** – There are 8 clubs in the zone. He phoned all the secretaries and presidents of all of the clubs. 6 of the clubs are planning on dropping off glasses, etc. Pancake breakfast planned in Winnebago. Other activities have been planned as well.

**Zone 8: Lion Meg Tibodeau** – Delivered 15 boxes glasses; 4 cell phones; Approximately 20 pounds of pop tabs; Over 30 ink cartridges, The comments were that glasses were down because collection sites were not open. Gave kudos to Mankato for the job they are doing collecting all of these items.

**Cabinet Reports:** 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Glenn Kaufmann facilitated.

**Can Do Canines:** Tony Oldenburg had no report submitted. Lion Kathleen Bleckeberg reported that the Fetching Ball Gala will be held on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7pm ~ This virtual event will include an inspiring client story, a unique look into the prison dog training program, exciting auctions, and fabulous entertainment. Tails to Tell Presentations are all virtual now. The next one is March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Go to [can-do-canines.org/tailstotell](http://can-do-canines.org/tailstotell) or [fetchingball](http://fetchingball) for more details.

**Constitution & By-Laws:** PDG Steve Wasserman – Completed a review of the 5M2 Constitution & Bylaws, comparing them to the LCI Standard Constitution & Bylaws for mandated and recommended changes.

- Submitted proposed Constitution & Bylaw changes to the clubs in accordance with the notification requirements therein.
- Prepared a PowerPoint Presentation delineating the proposed changes to be presented to the Cabinet for endorsement and the Convention Delegates for ratification.

- There was a mistake in the constitution and bylaws that were submitted to the clubs. It has been eliminated from the report presented tomorrow. His recommendation is that there is a Constitution and By Laws committee; i.e. the next C&BL chair have a committee that includes the 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG and the IPDG. It would be a great learning experience for the 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG.

**District Activities:** PDG Eunice Rucks reported that at the Memorial Service there will be 23 Lions honored.

**Environmental:** Lion Pam Koenen Thanked all of the Clubs who participated in the first Pop Tab Collection for Ronald McDonald House and Shiner's Hospitals. She believes DG Anna has a more accurate total. The information she has from 5 clubs who sent her their totals indicate that Lions in 5M2 collected 112.17 pounds of tabs and \$38 in cash donations. It is her hope we can continue this project and add additional environmental activities for clubs to participate in during the upcoming year.

**GLT:** PDG Nancy Mathwig reported the Global Leadership Team updates since the November Cabinet meeting:

1. Since the November Cabinet meeting, I have attended two MD5M GLT meetings via Zoom. The meetings give us an update on Leadership opportunities within the multiple and LCI as well as an opportunity to find out what each district is doing to enhance their leadership beginning at the club level.
2. The following previously scheduled leadership opportunities have been changed as noted:
  - a. RLLI (Regional Lions Leadership Institute) – scheduled for 3/19/21-3/21/21; location at this time is Detroit Lakes was cancelled due to lack of attendees. A new date later in fall is now being considered, possibly in November.
  - b. ALLI (Advanced Lions Leadership Institute) – scheduled for 3/13/21-3/15/21 in Toronto, ON Canada was cancelled. Based on the LCI website, ALLI for Constitutional Area I, which includes the USA, is now scheduled for 5/14/2021-5/16/2021 in Atlanta. Applications for this training is closed.
  - c. FDI (Faculty Development Institute) scheduled for 2/20/21-2/22/21 in Los Angeles, CA was cancelled. No additional time has been set.
3. Spring Officer Training will be scheduled in the near future and published in the newsletter. Tentative 2021-2022 Zone Chair training date is scheduled for May 15, 2021.

**GMT:** CC Brian Thies, 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Kathleen Bleckeberg– In November, we chartered the Waconia Hive Lions Club. This club has 37 awesome members. Lions Christy Trutnau and Lion Rose Thies are serving as the Guiding Lions. THANK YOU to DG Anna and all those that put in the time and effort to make this a reality.

We currently are -56 members for the District. With COVID restrictions easing, the GMT Team will reach out and assist clubs on Membership Campaigns to engage those clubs with 15 and fewer members as well as find new members for all clubs. We are currently researching and reviewing Cyber Club opportunities for our District.

**GST:** Lion Dar Mondor and PDG Mary Spille – Holidays and pandemic have slowed service activities through the winter months. However, many clubs continued their “Santa” activities in manners suited to the times. The newsletter suggests that some clubs will be able to do drive through meals in the near future. These are more than fundraisers – social value as well. It is also noted that several clubs have begun the new environmental project of collecting can tabs.

We have virtually attended the NAMI sessions held monthly by DG Anna and PDG Joan.

5M GST leader Bernie has kept us posted on ideas pulled from fellow districts and LCI. It is noted that there is hope to bring back “Feed My Starving Children” as a 5M activity in 2021. Reports pulled from LCI suggest that 5M2 clubs reporting service activities is at 60 percent. An acceptable number? We can do better than this. An immediate goal for us will be to add something to the March newsletter as a bit of a pep talk.

Springtime goals are still on our mental lists.

**Historian:** PDG Nancy Mathwig – I continue to submit “Tidbits from the past” for the monthly 5M2 newsletters. I will be sending the hardcopy newsletters to Lion Nate Kells for archiving on the district website once I have used the information from these past newsletters for the monthly district newsletter. The photos from the trifold Hall of Fame recipients board have been emailed to the [5M2LionsInfo@gmail.com](mailto:5M2LionsInfo@gmail.com) address for inclusion on the Hall of Fame awards link.

**Journey for Service:** PDG Mike Vos – The tradition continues! District Governor Anna and I will be conducting the Journey for Service this year starting on Cinco de Mayo (May 5<sup>th</sup>) and continue on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. DG Anna is looking forward to safely visiting all the clubs and will be collecting donations for our District’s service projects. PDG Mike will be sending out the schedule as we get closer to May.

**LCIF:** PID Debra Wasserman – To date donations from individuals and clubs in 5M2 total \$7,624.19, (14 of 66 clubs) LCIF continues to stress personal as well as club donations. Personal donations can be made in a number, of ways, including monthly automatic contributions. Things are still moving a bit slowly at Headquarters with many employees alternating work time between home and the office. LCIF staff have been working hard to provide training to District and Multiple District Coordinators, as well as topical webinars available to other Lions. I continue to share information about LCIF and the work of Lions we support, through monthly Newsletter articles, presentations at District meetings and clubs and the Midwinter Convention. I look forward to receiving a healthy envelope of donations after the Parade of Green this weekend.

**Leader Dogs for the Blind:** Co-Chairs Lions Loretta Klenke and Emmy Koch - The Corona Virus continues to Leader Dog. Currently protocols continue to be in place to protect the health and safety of clients, team members, and other Leader Dog personnel on campus. Tours continue to be suspended. Non-essential personnel continue to work from home. The Veterinary Clinic is opened with curb side service. On campus and in-home services are currently scheduled to return in July.

Prior Lake Lions sponsored a puppy in memory of Lion Dave Velishek. Other Clubs have expressed interest. Lion Loretta is currently waiting to schedule a club visit until the current virus status has improved.

**LEO Clubs:** Lion Hilary Wickenhauser: Nothing new to report.

**Liberty Day:** Lion Denny Hewitt and Lion Dave Sebesta reported The Liberty Day Program for Lions District 5M2 ran into a small snag as the Covid 19 situation changed how many schools as well as many Lions Clubs operated. We did get some participation by Lions Clubs and their schools but many did not get on board this year yet. We still have booklets available and would be happy to get more out this school year so no students get missed.

**Lions Quest:** Lions Janet Knakmuhs and Janet Hall – Nothing to report presently.

**Long Range Planning:** PDG Harry Klenke – Planning has become a task now days. Our clubs have had reinvent their projects. They have shown what our Lions can figure out and do. Our leadership has done what I think has been a fine job with all the obstacles thrown at them. Stick to your long-range plans and things will work out.

**Marketing:** Lion Nate Kells – No report.

**Mid-Winter Convention:** Lion Terry Kvitek and Lion Nate Kells – After 10 months of putting plans in place to hold an on-site convention with a Zoom meeting option at the Mayo Health Systems Event Center (MHSEC) in Mankato, MN; District Governor Anna Wickenhauser made the extremely difficult decision to go only virtual with the District 5M2 Midwinter Convention. Her decision was made due to an increase in reported cases of COVID-19 in MN and across the country and as a result District 5M2 Lions were holding out to register or were hesitant to register at all for an on-site convention. It was decided to hold the cabinet meeting by Zoom on Friday, February 12 starting at 7 PM and to put together a 4 to 5 hours virtual

convention on Saturday, February 13 from 9 AM to 2:00 PM. Lions Club members will be able to access the convention through a live stream via facebook.com or via Zoom. No registration fees are required to attend. The 2021 virtual convention is being presented by 5M2 DG Anna Wickenhauser and her District 5M2 team, 5M2 convention co-chairpersons, Lions Nate Kells and Terry Kvitek and team members from several of the Zone 6 Lions Clubs. A convention team decision was made to enlist the help of Mega Matt Productions - Mankato to help pave the way for a professional and well put together virtual convention. (We had already planned on using Mega Matt for the civic center zoom/ hybrid option.) Several parts of the convention have been prerecorded at Mega Matt's studio and we are pleased with the results. DG Anna along with the technology expertise of Lions John Putnam and Nate Kells will host & monitor the virtual options.

We appreciate the extra effort and time Cabinet Secretary Cindy Walters has put into setting up a new way to hold our elections this year. We have tested it out and it is very user friendly. We are using a platform called Election Runner to ensure accurate delegate voting for our officer candidates, Hall of Fame, Constitution and Bylaws changes.

Through email communications and requests made at the fall Zone meetings, clubs were encouraged to make donations to each area of the Parade of Green and mail checks by February 5 to Lion Michael Olson, the 2021 Midwinter Treasurer. Clubs were also asked to submit photos of their service and fundraising projects and photos and bios of any deceased Lions members from their clubs.

We have set up a collection site at The WOW Zone in Mankato for all clubs and/or zones in our district to drop off their eyeglasses, hearing aids, pop tabs, ink cartridges and cell phones the week of February 8-14 and a crew from the Lions Eyeglass Recycle Center will be picking up the eyeglasses & other recycles on February 14. Lion Bill VanderSluis will assure the hearing aids get to Lion Vern Breamer or PDG Marvin Grimm. DG Anna will deliver the pop tabs to a MN Ronald McDonald House and Lions from Zone 4 will deliver theirs to the MN Shriner's Hospital.

We received a full refund of our deposit from the MHSEC and were able to cancel all other contracts. We have created detailed convention planning documents which are printed in a 3-ring binder and stored on-line in Google – Docs to be able to pass information on to upcoming convention teams for planning either on-site conventions at the MHSEC, hybrid options or if necessary - virtual conventions. The ongoing world pandemic has created many obstacles and restrictions that were unforeseen to all of us and it has certainly made an impact on the way we can conduct and hold meetings and special events. It is our hope that by providing information on our new contacts and resources that this will help others.

**MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation, Inc.:** Lion Gerald Ziskovsky and Lion Chuck Toltzman – Slow times due to covid but the Lions Childhood Cancer board is meeting virtually quarterly and have plans ahead. Plans are going on to do a silent auction online for the multiple convention. We also plan on doing a head shave sometime in spring to raise funds for childhood cancer. We are in the process of getting a website for childhood cancer up and running, it's at [www.mnlionschildhoodcancerfoundation.org](http://www.mnlionschildhoodcancerfoundation.org) it is new and a work in progress. We also have a new award called the Believe Award, each \$1000 accumulated donation qualifies for an award to present.

**MN Lions Diabetes Foundation:** Lion Brian Rykus and Lion Wanda Breimhorst – The December Diabetes Foundation Meeting was held by Zoom. Chair Lion Brian and Lion Wanda attended by zoom. We continue with the fundraising for this year, selling raffle tickets. Tickets are \$10 each. See below. Most zone meetings will be held via Zoom. Brian and Wanda will participate in the sessions. That is also true of Cabinet Meetings.

The Trustees participated in several club meetings by zoom to update lions on the progress the University is making towards finding a cure for Diabetes as well as activities of the Foundation. The Twelfth Annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Research Update is being held virtually this year, Thursday, March 18, 2021 from 6 to 6:45 p.m. Please RSVP online at [www.rsvp.umn.edu/Lions2021](http://www.rsvp.umn.edu/Lions2021).

**MN Lions Hearing Foundation:** Lion Vern Breamer and PDG Marvin Grimm – The Hearing Foundation trustees met virtually on February 6, 2021. The biggest news is that there will be no D Feet Walk at the MN Landscape Arboretum on June 5 due to the unknowns of the COVID. We are planning on a virtual walk in each District. More to come later as we will meet in early March to discuss the plans.

We need funds to meet our obligations with the U of M. So, we are asking all clubs to step up to help raise these funds.

We will be promoting the 2022 walk as an experience to get back together with Lion friends and will work to make 2022 bigger and better.

**MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation:** PDG Harry Klenke and Lion Margie Jacobson - Kidsight is a program that has been affected greatly by the virus. Back in March we went on hiatus. We have had several virtual meetings since then. At the last meeting it was determined we can resume with many limitations. We must wear masks and face shields. We need to check every person (people operating screeners, children and individuals assisting with the screening on site) temperature before we can begin screening. Only three Lions are allowed at the site at one time. We must have antiseptic wipes along and use them on equipment after each child is screened. All Lions must sign a waiver stating that they will not hold the Lions organization libel if they catch the Covid virus. Also, the head of the facility or home care provider must sign a waiver to not hold the Lions responsible if Covid is contracted after screening. Our new policy requires us to go paperless. This means all consent forms would be emailed to a Lion from your club and all results must be emailed back to parents. This means all data must be entered into the cameras prior to the screenings. Data includes each child's name, birthdate, and age prior to entering the facility to begin any screening.

PDG Harry will be purchasing the face shield and thermometers if there is any interest in a Lion's club doing Kidsight screenings before vaccines are adequately given to provide herd immunity in our area. He will also need to purchase antiseptic wipes. (He does not plan to purchase these supplies unless we have someone in the district that really want to attempt this at this time) This sounds like a lot of work just to complete a Kidsight screening. But if a club is willing to attempt it, he will help with whatever he can. My club, the Prior Lake Lion members have decided we will not do Kidsight screenings until we have had a vaccine. We do want to get back at this worthwhile program, but we need to do it safely.

**MN Lions Vision Foundation:** Lion Wendy Goldsmith and Lion Christy Trutnau – Winter MLVF quarterly board meeting was held virtually via Zoom on Feb. 6th

Information Highlights:

- Financial Report by Lion Mary McNillis
  - Donations from clubs and Lions are down this year. We are only receiving \$6000 to \$10000 per month where we normally are receiving \$30000 per month. Parade of Green has been down also. Several factors are probably lower than normal Charitable Gambling and less in person Lions functions secondary to COVID.
- Dr. Van Kuijk submitted his report
  - Gave us an update on the surgery center. New piece of equipment was installed in the OR and they are the first organization to have it installed in the OR
  - They are converting unused lab space into a Lasik suite for education purposes for their fellows and residents
  - There has been an increase in surgeons requesting tissue and Loss of hospital contracts so they are seeking more hospital contract, so they do not have to buy tissue
- Dr Hou- Covid-19 Research Update-
  - Limbal Cell research
  - DMEK research – Most rapid growth of surgery and Warrior Instruments is interested in punch to help with surgery and most likely will be licensing deal and royalty for patent
  - Study with the National Eye institute that is testing viability of corneal tissue older than 7 days is still viable to use compared to those less than 7 days. This would expand the number of corneas that can be used for transplants
  - COVID Study – research on ocular tissue and epidemiology to variants. 20% of donors tissue has RNA of COVID present.
  - Multicenter study on Diabetes and corneal Transplant and looking for grant from us.
- LGS communication report by Lion Jennifer Marshall
  - Tours and Banquets are still on hold due to COVID



- EVision Newsletter was distributed
- They are putting together a slide show of stories of donors and recipients
- Reminded us that they have virtual tools and recorded presentations for us
- Executive Director- Sean-
  - Requests for tissue from surgeons is up and donations are down so they are having to import tissues to meet demand and there is 0% margin in imported tissue. Net zero dollars
  - Working with a consultant and they are looking at ways to do a better job. They looking at considering the use of donor tissue that they may have not in the past, ie Alzheimer patients and diabetic patients. Also looking at how large of a tissue do they need to harvest and still have tissue to distribute to surgeons
  - Working on import agreements with other eye banks
- Community Relations and Legislative Liaison Lion Lyle Goff reported on New bill being drafted to fix the for profit sale of tissue including eye tissue but with very short session and capitol being closed may be next session before it can be introduced. He also states that several states are considering legislation
- Sub Committee meetings of four divisions-
- Legal New By laws are being presented and passed and will need to be voted on at Annual meeting in May. Parkers Prairie larger lot is sold and waiting on offers for second lot
- Finance presented and was approved by board for a grant to DM research and donor tissue of \$25000. As presented at early report donations are down so may have to realign budget
- Public Relations Going to send us a copy of the letter that is distributed to clubs
- Long-Range Planning decided we are going to go ahead with planning for Thanksgiving for vision, Eye Ball and Eye Roll for 2021.
- Going to move forward with State Fair Booth and see if we can get more interactive things to do at the booth to bring people to the booth
- Next Board Meeting will be April 10<sup>th</sup> virtually via Zoom
- We will need a quorum of at least 27 clubs to vote on new by laws at Annual 5M meeting

**Newsletter Editor:** Lion Cindy Walters reported that the newsletter has been out on time each month. Keep the information coming. Please direct any feedback pro or con to her directly, 5m2newslettereditor@gmail.com. Thank you.

**North American Membership Initiative (NAMI):** PDG Joan Blank – Our last monthly meeting was held in December. At that meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Glenn reviewed a power point on an Exit Survey he created. The question was asked “What can we do to keep Lions from leaving and how can we entice them back?” At the time, 39 Lions left the organization (other than transferring) There was 60% participation from Lions who have left. 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Glenn listed reasons for leaving county by county. Lessons learned: There should be a New Member Orientation at the Club level and new members should have expectations explained. It was suggested that at Club Officer Training members should be informed about due structures which can be explained to new members. It was also suggested that “Exit Interviews” be used by each club.

Even though many clubs are not meeting in person or by Zoom and are challenged by the pandemic, there are still hopeful signs in the district such as:

- Seven clubs have added new members.
- The newest club, Waconia Hive, is working on officers and expectations.
- Gibbon has a new FB page.
- Many clubs are thinking outside the box and having successful fundraisers.
- Many clubs are still completing innovative service projects.

Next NAMI meeting is January 17, 2021. Topic: 4 Months left...Where do we see ourselves and how do we get there?

**Project New Hope:** Chair Lion Darlene Wondra - Our retreats for this coming year have been all lined up. Our first one will be June 4, 2021 at the Osprey Wilds in Sandstone. She received a few memorials in

memory of veterans, thank you for donating to Project New Hope. Our quarterly meeting was cancelled due to COVID regulations.

**Public Relations/Protocol:** PDGs Tom and Mary Ferleman and Lion Troy Feltmann – Lion Troy reported that he had nothing to report for public relations. Look for “PROTOCOL PLEASE!!” each month in the 5M2 Newsletter. We are available to answer protocol questions from Lions and Lions Clubs.

**Social Media:** Lion Dave Williams – No report.

**Special Olympics:** Lion John Schuele – No report.

**Technology:** PDG Steve Wasserman and Lion John Putnam – Lion John reported that he has been working with Zoom in preparation for the Midwinter convention as well testing the video camera and wireless handheld microphone that we are using from Mega Matt Productions. I have also been assisting in convention preparation as needed.

**Write Off:** Lion Deb Koehnen – The Write-Off Competition is complete with entries from 3 of the 9 zones in our district. Zone winners: Zone 1 – Kara Lee – Lester Prairie Lions; Zone 2 – Jady Aldrich – Watertown Lions; Zone 3 – Ambria Hoffman – Nicollet Lions.

All three of the finalists have been recorded reading their essays and will be part of the 5M2 Mid-Winter Virtual Convention on Saturday, Feb. 13. Thank you to the clubs that sponsored the Write-off competition and to the zone chairs for selecting a winner from each zone.

**Youth Exchange/Youth Camp:** Lion Jim Walters – The program for this year has been cancelled but we are very hopeful and planning for a successful exchange in 2022.

**Youth Outreach, LCI Essay Contest:** PID Debra Wasserman – No essays were submitted in 5M2. The winning essay in 5M was from 5M6.

**Youth Outreach/Peace Poster:** PDG Diana Kroells – Thank you to all of the Lions Clubs who participated in the Peace Poster contest this year. She received 20 posters to be judged. She had 3 of her neighbors judging the posters - each independently of each other at their respective homes and amazingly enough, they all chose the same top 3 posters. The 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner was Sam Sayer sponsored by the Victoria Lions, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Tori Gratz sponsored by the West Carver Lions and 1<sup>st</sup> place was MaeLynn Thoele, sponsored by the Arlington Lions. Maelynn's poster was submitted to MD5M for judging.

PDG Diana prerecorded the presentation of the checks, certificates, plaque & framed prints to each winner, independently at her home and downloaded them to the production crew for the convention. She tried to maintain social distancing and they kept masks on right up to the recording time. The parents & students were very easy to work with.

Thank you, DG Anna, for giving me the opportunity to learn more about the process of Peace Poster.

### **Comments:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Kathleen Bleckeberg – Embrace the differences and embrace change.
- 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Glenn Kaufmann – Spring zone meetings will be paired again. Please start planning and take the temperature of your Zone whether they need to be virtual.
- PID Debra Wasserman – Made remarks about how happy she is regarding convention time and camaraderie we as Lions crave.
- ID Dr. José Marrero – Gave updates regarding LCI and Insight program for training, etc.
- DG Anna Wickenhauser – Thanked Dr. José and wished that she was able to take him and his wife snowmobiling, to wineries, etc. She is very proud of the work that we are doing as a District and what we have accomplished. As Lions we can adapt and grow.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Lion Hilary Wickenhauser, seconded by PID Debra Wasserman. **MC.** Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Lion Cindy Walters

Upcoming Cabinet Meetings:  
May after Multiple Convention, TBD

7:01 PM  
02/07/21  
Accrual Basis

**Lions International District 5M2**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of January 31, 2021

	Jan 31, 21
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking	55,114.08
Money Market	
Activities Youth	11,011.39
Adult Companion	717.27
Diabetes	2,230.19
District Conventions	2,902.90
Interest Income	2,918.43
International Convention	1,403.23
Journey For Service	1,650.00
Kid Sight	1,961.00
Light on for Life	1,455.48
Multiple Convention	3,303.69
Quest	41,199.31
Special Olympics	1,500.00
Youth Exchange	17,609.66
Money Market - Other	1,246.56
<b>Total Money Market</b>	<b>91,109.11</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>146,223.19</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>146,223.19</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>146,223.19</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	112,685.81
Unrestricted Net Assets	31,294.81
Net Income	2,242.57
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>146,223.19</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>146,223.19</b>

7:05 PM  
02/07/21  
Accrual Basis

**Lions International District 5M2**  
**Profit & Loss**  
July 2020 through January 2021

	Jul '20 - Jan 21
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Activities Income</b>	
Diabetes	150.00
Journey For Service- Income	
Journey For Service- 2020	400.00
<b>Total Journey For Service- Income</b>	400.00
<b>Total Activities Income</b>	550.00
<b>Dues</b>	
<b>District 5M2 Dues</b>	
5M2 Administrative Fund	12,243.60
5M2 Adult Companion Fund	1,074.00
5M2 Intl Convention Fund	2,148.00
5M2 Special Fund-Mid Winter Con	3,007.20
District Club Bond	318.50
<b>Total District 5M2 Dues</b>	18,791.30
<b>MD5M Dues</b>	
GLT/GMT Training & Orientation	558.48
MD5M Administrative Fund	4,627.90
MD5M Campaign Fund	558.48
MD5M Convention Fund	1,074.00
MD5M GAF	1,262.60
MD5M International Parade Band	558.48
Multiple Excess Liability Ins	654.55
<b>Total MD5M Dues</b>	9,494.49
<b>Total Dues</b>	28,285.79
<b>Investments</b>	
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	204.53
Investments - Other	-240.12
<b>Total Investments</b>	-35.59
<b>Total Income</b>	28,800.20
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Activities Expense</b>	
Diabetes Expense	8,000.00
<b>Youth Activities Expense</b>	
Peace Poster Expense	633.29
Write Off	1,332.77
<b>Total Youth Activities Expense</b>	1,966.06
<b>Total Activities Expense</b>	9,966.06
<b>Contract Services</b>	
Accounting Fees	1,287.00
<b>Total Contract Services</b>	1,287.00
<b>Dues Expense</b>	
<b>MD5M Dues-Expense</b>	
GLT/GMT Training Expense	565.01
MD5M Administrative Fund Expense	5,369.98
MD5M Campaign Fund Expense	565.01
MD5M Convention Fund Expense	1,130.00
MD5M GAF Fund Expense	1,039.60
MD5M Intl Parade Band Expense	565.01
MD5M Liability & Bond	1,230.42
<b>Total MD5M Dues-Expense</b>	10,465.03

7:05 PM  
02/07/21  
Accrual Basis

**Lions International District 5M2**  
**Profit & Loss**  
July 2020 through January 2021

	Jul '20 - Jan 21
Total Dues Expense	10,465.03
Mid Winter Convention	3,312.00
Pins	
Governor Award Pins	162.00
Multiple Pins-Snowman	252.00
Total Pins	414.00
Travel Expenses	
1st Vice District Governor Expe	
1st VDG Expense Other	11.95
1st Vice District Governor Expe - Other	513.45
Total 1st Vice District Governor Expe	525.40
2nd VDG Expense	
2nd VDG Expense-other	538.14
Total 2nd VDG Expense	538.14
District Governor Expense	
DG Expense Other	50.00
Total District Governor Expense	50.00
Total Travel Expenses	1,113.54
Total Expense	26,557.63
Net Ordinary Income	2,242.57
Net Income	2,242.57