

NORTH CAROLINA LIONS FOUNDATION, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting

Marriott Airport Hotel
Greensboro, NC

February 11, 2024
9:00 AM

Call to Order

The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Immediate Past President Skippy Jackson.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Second Vice President Allen Swaim.

Invocation

The Invocation was given by First Vice President Wayne Faber.

Opening Remarks

Immediate Past President Skippy Jackson welcomed everyone to the meeting. He visited with President Steve McLaurin at the hospital on Friday.

Introductions

Immediate Past President Skippy Jackson introduced our International Family in attendance PIP Sid Scruggs, PID Harvey Whitley and PID Lacy Presnell.

Reading & Approval of Minutes

Secretary Anne Metts stated the minutes had been published online and reviewed by the Board of Directors.

MOTION was made to accept the minutes as published by Treasurer Curtis Erickson and second by Board Representative at Large C. Neal Alexander. Motion carried by voice vote.

Roll Call

Secretary Anne Metts stated Officers and Board Members present: First Vice President Wayne Faber, Second Vice President Allen Swaim, Immediate Past President Skippy Jackson, Secretary Anne Metts, Treasurer Curtis Erickson, Council Chair Rahim Shomari, Executive Director Carlton Metts, DG Susan Fernandez, 1st VDG Dawson Hart, 2nd VDG Eileen Artavia, DG Kathy Poirer, 1st VDG Mike Edwards, 2nd VDG Steve Cline, DG Susan O'Brien, 1st VDG Judy Keck, 2nd VDG Jaunita Brown, DG Carlton Metts, II, 1st DG Ana Elliott, 2nd VDG Gene Goetz, DG Lorraine Dixon, 1st VDG Jim Tobolski, 2nd VDG Dwayne Turner, At Large Board Representatives George Suggs and C. Neil Alexander.

At Large Board Representatives present by zoom: Jim Turner, Eddie Weaver

Not Present: President Steve McLaurin

Quorum is present.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

Immediate Past President Skippy Jackson appointed PDG C. Neal Alexander to be Parliamentarian.

Remarks by State Council Chairperson

Everyone is working hard in their districts. All Districts have held their midwinter conventions with great success. Everyone is working on increasing membership throughout their districts.

Respectfully submitted by,
CC Rahim Shomari

Camp Director's Report

Summer Camp Planning is in full Swing.

Recently I met with 6 different employees of IFB from the various facilities from across NC. Each are excited to promote our facility within their IFB Facility. There was a meeting in January at LIB in Kinston where we spoke on Camp Dogwood leaving those employees ready to attend this summer. I have met with a VIP group in Monroe and scheduled to meet with another in Wilkes. My hope is to recruit new VIPs for Camp.

Governor Moorhead is scheduled to be at the Camp the week of June 9th.

This week an email went out asking Zone Chairs for permission to speak to their zones. Hopefully this will help excite Lions across the State and promote the facility.

Dogwood on Lake Norman - January brought in revenue of \$10,837.56. This does not include expenses for the Long-Range Planning weekend. Currently as of the end of January we are \$47,950.92 over the same time last year.

This past week we hosted [Lake Norman Wedding Professionals](#) from the areas surrounding Lake Norman. This gave us the opportunity to show off our facility and meet others in the industry.

Eye Glasses - Last fall myself and Carlton were invited to visit the Eyeglass Recycling Center in Upland Indiana. Here we learned the procedure this particular facility has been following. You see we have given the Eyeglass Recycling Center in Indiana the opportunity to make money off the procedures he had us following to sort glasses for him.

We sorted glasses into the following categories:

1. All metal
2. All plastic
3. Combination frames
4. Sunglasses
5. Prescription sunglasses
6. Readers
7. Broken

From here he took metal frames; removed the lenses. These were then sold for scrap metal.

Sunglasses and prescription Sunglasses are separated where the designer frames were being sold.

Since our last meeting in November, I have spent many hours emailing and speaking with Lion Recycling Centers across the United States. Centers in Washington and Arizona both send their metals to California for smelting. Arizona also mentioned to me that they send their sunglasses to Missouri. Here are the glasses he wants us to pull out and send him.

Serengeti, Rayban, Oakley, Alpina, Persol, Oliver people's, Tom Ford, Cartier, Gucci, MJ Maui Jim, Dita, Prada, Costa, Costa Del Mar, Randolph, Randolph re, American optical aviator the paddle ones, all most any aviator with paddles clear or yellowed, Revo sunglasses, Carrera Porsche Design, Rudy Project sunglasses, Chanel, Tiffani & co, Salt sunglasses, Carrera sunglasses, Mykita sunglasses, Saint Larnet Paris sunglasses, Jean Lafont Paris sunglasses, Thierry Lasry Gambly, Spy, Jacques Marie Mage, IC! Berlin sunglasses, Mascot, Gentle Monster, Chrome Hearts, Vuarnet, Garrett alright, Christian Dior sunglasses Barton Perreira.

Ray ban kids glasses just helps pay the shipping.

To help pay for shipping glasses Versace, Dkny, Coach, Nike, BLGARI, Harley Davidson, Dolce Gabbana, Michael Kors, Kate spade, Carrera, Balmain, Tory Burch, See, Charolina Herrera, Burberry, Fendi, Arnette, Armani, any new eyeglasses with some sort of tags or paper stamp.

The older glasses like 1940,1950, 1960, men's and women's 25 cents each.

Message from recycler: You're going to have to trust me on the help pay for the shipping glasses, there will glasses in there that I will pull out and pay you \$3.00 on.

Speaking to other facilities they are smelting their metals also. I did find one center that said they would take our glasses but we would have to cover the shipping to him. He would not tell me his procedure.

My recommendation is to follow the Lions handout. It says glasses that are not suitable for reuse are recycled for scrap with the earnings benefitting local Lion projects. (this comes from LCI pamphlet Usable Glasses Can Make a Difference)

My recommendation is to....

- 1) Sort all sunglasses- sell designer frames if we can.
- 2) Give all non-prescription sunglasses to farms etc.
- 3) Distribute reading glasses where and as needed.
- 4) Smelt all metals.
- 5) Keep plastic glasses for distribution to optometrists and missionaries requesting them. These will not be sanitized or categorized.

My suggestion is to put a box of readers' glasses in the local libraries and insert a card about your club with each pair of glasses.

After attending the midwinter conventions and seeing that a few participants became ill and needed assistance, I suggest that each hotel should be asked if they have an a1c/monitor and if there is anyone trained to monitor these individuals. We do have this equipment at the camp and we should carry to hotels if needed.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Thomas
Camp Director

Motion to accept Camp Dogwood Report by 2nd VDG Eileen Artavia and seconded by DG Susan O'Brien. Motion carried by voice vote.

PDG Herb Justice, held a drawing for the LCIF Raffle. One half of the funds goes to LCIF and the other half to the winner of the drawing. PDG David Smoot was the winner of \$207.00.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Carlton Metts reported on the Activities for Off Season Usage, Hearing Aids received, Canes, and Eyeglasses.

He gave an updated report on Investments, Awards, MSU Kidsight, VSP Vouchers, Use of Camp and Contributions.

Motion to accept Executive Director Carlton Metts' report was by DG Susan O'Brien and seconded by DG Susan Fernandez. Motion carried by voice vote.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Long Range Planning was presented by C. Neal Alexander, LRP Chair. He stated they met in December and January at Camp Dogwood. His recommendation from the Executive Committee is to accept the Long Range Planning. SEE ATTACHMENT 'A'

Recommendation to accept was approved by voice vote.

Property wanted - presented by Executive Director Carlton Metts
The property adjoining the MSU Building is owned by Mr. Sammy White. He contacted Carlton and informed him he would like to build a new home on the adjoining property for his son. When the property was originally divided, his Mother owned the property. He would like to square up the property line. This would be helpful for us since we are considering building a new eye glass recycling building behind the MSU building. The Executive Committee would like to recommend that the Board give approval to contact Mr. White and proceed.

Recommendation to proceed with adjusting property line was approved by voice vote.

1. **Communications** – None
2. **Nominations** – Paul Silverman

Candidates for NCLI positions should provide a notice of intent and verification of membership in good standing from your respective club secretary by April 15th 2024. This election will be held at the 4th NCLF meeting on the weekend of May 3rd 2024.

I am currently in receipt of nominating credentials for PDG Wayne Faber as President of NCLI, PDG Alan Swaim as 1st Vice President of NCLI, Lion Anne Metts for NCLI Secretary and PDG Curtis Erikson for NCLI Treasurer.

I currently do not have a letter of intent or verification of membership in good standing for the position of 2nd Vice President.

Report Respectfully Submitted by PDG Paul Silverman 02/05/2024.

3. **Treasurer's Report -**

NCLF Treasurer Report/Budget & Finance report 2/11/24

PDG Curtis Erickson NCLF Treasurer

YTD Numbers

UNRESTRICTED REVENUE:

Brighter Visions; -53189, BV 3000 -45753. 3001 Mem/Hon -7436

Camp; -10405, 3205 camper fees -41876, 3280 sale of assets +26500

Other revenue; +99665, Investments- 3300-3304-3348-3349 +125881, 3310 vision van fees -10283, Awards- 3315-3316-3317 -16266

Total: +36,070

RESTRICTED REVENUE: + 21,299.30

PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED REVENUE: -2,416.69

Total Income: + 54,953.23

UNRESTRICTED EXPENSES:

Programs: -1927

Vision Van: -2490

Camp Dogwood: -24054

Matching Funds: -3032

Public information: -2541

Board Expense: -3009

Salaries and Taxes: -12782

Benefits: -2662

Office: - 7433

Total Unrestricted Expenses: -59849

RESTRICTED EXPENSES

Maintenance: +34989, A/C 4600 +5392, Lawn +4576, Other 4608 +5525, Pest 4610 +1229, Plumbing 4611 +10366, Waste Treatment 4614 +9182.

Other: +5152, Camp Raffle 4700 -6090, Camper fee 4709 -1530, 4710 TR expense + 12773

Total Restricted Expense: 40141

Grand Total Expense: - 19707

Net Gain/Loss: +74660

Overall good report but need to keep pushing Brighter Visions, Camp Dogwood, and Use of Camp contributions. Investments rebounded this quarter with excellent returns. Need to continue the trend for the rest of year.

MOTION was made by At Large Board Representative C. Neil Alexander to accept Treasurer's Report and seconded by DG Susan Fernandez. Motion carried by voice vote.

4. Recommendation from the Executive Committee

No other recommendations.

5. Committee Reports

Clinical Eye Research Report

February 11, 2024

After the November 12, 2023 NCLF meeting, NCLF President Steve McLaurin forwarded an email to me he received with information from Susan Ervin, UNC Health Foundation about UNC Ophthalmology. The research and clinical department provides care to more than 56,000 North Carolinians yearly. Their research teams are working on research programs and advancing a better understanding of eye disease. These endeavors help generate new ideas, treatment and technologies for eye disease. There are also programs for clinical residents and laboratory fellows which help train the next generation of ophthalmologists and ophthalmology researchers. The teams are studying Retina diseases including age-related Macular Degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa and diabetic retinopathy.

In regards to cornea disease, there is stem cell research which has promising results including molecular therapy to heal corneal wounds without scarring. Research teams are studying corneal transplant rejection and ocular surface disease, which accounts for 10% of visual impairment and blindness worldwide.

The details of the research will be given to the board for review to see if it meets the criteria for obtaining a grant from NCLF.

It is important, however, that we continue our fundraising efforts to have available funds to meet the needs for grants when requested.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph A. Poirier, PCC
State Clinical Eye Research Chair

NCLF MSU/KSU
By Curtis Erickson
Co-Chair
Vision Screening Report 2/11/24

Event Name: _M-31 vision screenings 23/24 YTD

Location	Screened	Referrals	Referral %
31-L	11135	1392	13%
31-I	7069	1198	17%
31-O	7900	1036	13%
31-N	5413	579	11%
31-S	875	237	27%
State	32392	4442	14.00%

Camp Dogwood Properties

White Building

The lattice on the bottom of the screen porch are rotten. Needs replacing. Not asking anything to be done until Long Range planning meets to discuss.

Well House

Well house needs a new roof. We have material just waiting on time to do this in house.

Asphalt Drive

Starting to see a lot of grass growing up through parking lot. Maintenance has been trying to keep down by pulling and spraying with weed killer. Tammy has gotten quotes on resealing. After looking at all quotes the Properties committee make a recommendation to approve the asphalt sealing for \$24,701.40. **Asking budget and finance to approve this recommendation.**

Landscape

The landscape around the property needs some work. The fence line around the waterfront needs to be worked on. The fence closer to the gas pumps is really in need of some work. The fabric to stop the weed growth has seen its better days and need to be reworked. The weeds have overtaken this area. Good place for varmints.

Vehicles

We really need another vehicle. The vehicle we have now that we use to drive across the state to all the meetings has over 208,000 miles on it.

Asking if we have the funds for this at this time?

The below items are being looked at by Long Range Planning but will keep on report until resolved.

Bus

The bus needs a roof over it. We recommend building a 20x 40 Building next to the maintenance Building to accommodate the Bus and the Boats. To get them out of the weather. The sun and weather will damage these vehicles. New Building fund? Have quote for \$8,200 for a 20x40x14. Now waiting on Approval from Board.

Steve working on funds to build a building for eye glass recycling and the bus. This will be brought up at our long-range planning meeting beginning in December.

Dock at Water

Will need to be replaced within the next few years due to getting weathered.

Roofs on Buildings

The roofs will have to be replaced on

- Duplex 1-2—30.66 Squares total cost \$9,044.70
- Duplex 3-4--- 31.00 Squares total cost \$9,145.00
- White Building--- 87.33 Squares total cost of \$25,762.35
- Udavich---102 Squares total cost \$30,090.00
- Lineberger--- 96 Squares total cost of \$28,320.00
- Main Office--- \$65,513.00

Total roof repair _____\$167,875.05

Submitted 02/5/24
PDG George Suggs
Properties Chair





Public Information Chair Report – 2/11/24

Prepared by: PDG Paul R. Bledsoe, Past President NCL, Inc.

Thank you very much for your continuing effort to support and promote our NC Lions Foundation. We offer extraordinary programs and services that enhance the quality of life for those citizens with disabilities in NC.

On the information front, we will have new brochures beening printed for your district. They should be available soon. Soon. The KidSight statewide program. The KidSight program has been remarkable with extreme success throughout the state, approx. 40K children have been screened in our state. This attention getting services has captured a lot of attention, and importantly, it's great program in helping grow our membership and community outreach.

I hope you are reading and passing along to all your clubs our monthly foundation's Digest newsletter.

Please note the artwork... This is the new QR code for your use to direct everyone to our nclf.org website. Use your handheld device, scan the code, and/or click the prompt and it takes you to the home page of our web page. Everyone will land on the home page to our feature, "Donate Now". Or, visitors can use the pull downs to learn more about the foundation and our programs and services. Try it!



Please note the link below to download printed material for education and passing along vision awareness in our state. You will find the latest stats and information when it comes to making sure children and adults are screened and have regular visits to their eye professional. As with most health issues, prevention is a key to healthy and clear eyesight. This information and education is a part of our overall education and information material for member use.

Also included newspaper 1/4pg layouts, flyers for printing and handout, example, KidSight flyer and newspaper ad for promoting an event.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MgqkCb194knkVLG1u9VUKYqG_lKiDo1G?ths=true

We will have more material available soon including a PPT and general brochure that will be print ready, just add your club's name or district.

Note an example of the files on page 2 of this report.

Full page flyer for recycling...

Make a Positive
Difference
in the Lives
of People Who
Lack Access to
Vision Correction.

Donate Your Used
Eyeglasses.



- **Accessibility to vision correction:** Many people around the world lack access to proper eye care and cannot afford eyeglasses. By donating used eyeglasses, you provide individuals with the opportunity to improve their vision and quality of life. This is particularly significant in developing countries where access to eye care services may be limited.
- **Empowering individuals and communities:** Improved vision has a transformative effect on people's lives. It enables individuals to engage in activities such as education, work, and daily tasks with greater ease and efficiency. By donating used eyeglasses, you empower individuals and communities by giving them the tools to pursue their goals and lead more fulfilling lives.

We gladly accept your eyeglasses for recycling.



visit: nclf.org

The current Brighter Visions Video for presentations is available at <https://vimeo.com/736961622>

Thank you, PDG Paul Bledsoe, PP NCLI / Public Information Chair

Report of the Sight & Hearing Conservation Chair
February 11, 2024
Lion Paulette Gasperson, PCC

On December 9th several Lions went to Miracles in Sight in Winston Salem. Those attending were DG Cathy and her husband PDG Joe, DG Loraine and her husband Tommy, DG Carlton Metts II and DG Susan O’Brien and her husband Michael. They were welcomed with a lunch and a tour of the labs showing them what they do at the Sight. We are so lucky to have the largest eye bank here in North Carolina. Some that wanted to go were sick or on vacation, so we hope to make a trip in the spring. It is so important for us to promote organ transplant. Miracles In Sight helps restore sight for men, women and children around the world. They work with hospitals, hospices and other facilities to recover corneal tissue from those who have chosen to donate organ tissue and eyes on their passing.

District Chair Connie Sue had training on Vision Van (Kids Sight) Saturday February 3 at the Newton Library from 10-12 they had 25 attend (10 clubs, 3 zones and 2 Districts) she said it went good and she was excited about the turn out.

District Cathy helped with three elementary school sight screenings in December and continues to submit “keys to sight and hearing conservation” to the District newsletter most months and provide the information brochures when requested.

It is time to find High School Seniors with Blind parents to get a grant to help them in college.

Paulette Gasperson, PCC
State Sight & Hearing Conservation Chair

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE REPORT

Lion Anne, Good morning we had a meeting scheduled for February 3 2024 but only two Lions signed up to attend so Lion Tammy and I canceled the meeting. Lion Tammy and I will go over the work list and we can work it out if we can get the Lions of North Carolina to show up for Volunteer week. I already have Lion Nathan Medlin to look after the power washing and if you have a power washer and if you are not able to run it please bring it with some garden hose and we will try to get someone to run it. Bill Mathers has told me that he would look after the painting and I have three Lions that have told me that they would do the screening on the porch at the White Dorm. We also have Lions that will look after sorting the glasses, Second Vice Governor Steve Kline has told me that he would bring his tractor with a bucket on it so that we can do the mulching in the flower beds and anywhere else that is needed. I plan on Lion James Hood operating the tractor if Lion Steve doesn’t have time to run it. And I am sure like in the past we will have more jobs to come up to do after we go over the list as we all ways do. Remember Volunteer Week is April 4 – 10, 2024. The first meal will be supper on April 4, 2024 so we can come in on Thursday, April 4th and be able to go to work on Friday.

Thanks,
Robert H, Carroll PDG

MOTION was made to accept all reports under Second Vice President Allen Swaim by 2nd Vice President Allen Swaim and seconded by District Governor Lorraine Dixon. Motion carried by voice vote.

Brighter Visions Report on Behalf of Chris Headley
02/11/2024

Good Morning Everyone!

We are now in February and that is 8 months into our Lion's year. As of now we are at 51% of our overall goal of \$625,100. This total is counting Individual and Corporate donations that we are looking for as well as the \$501,100 that the Governors committed to at the Budget hearings last April.

The Breakdown of the Districts goes like this:

District L-45%-22 Clubs showing 0 Contributions this year so far.
12 Clubs however have given 100% or more

District I-76%-2 Clubs showing 0 Contributions this year so far.
9 Clubs however have given 100% or more

District O-47%-21 Clubs showing 0 Contributions this year so far.
10 Clubs however have given 100% or more

District N-70%-21 Clubs showing 0 Contributions this year so far.
6 Clubs however have given 100% or more

District S-63%-23 Clubs showing 0 Contributions this year so far.
8 Clubs however have given 100% or more

We are at a slow time as far as cash flow goes. Typically, at this time of the year, the Conventions have passed and the rush to get in all contributions before the end of the year has not started. So, I am asking that if your club or District has funds set aside for Brighter Visions and are waiting on a good time to send that money in, now is a great time to go ahead and send it in. If you have it, don't wait till the end of the fiscal year.

As always, I want to thank those clubs and Individuals that have already given. It is your contributions that make our motto possible for without the funds it is impossible to serve those in need!

Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen Artavia on behalf of Chris Headley, State Chair

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Camp Dogwood State Chair Report February 5, 2024

We have a “gorgeous” facility located on beautiful Lake Norman for the visually impaired. The camp is the BEST in the southeast. I’m sure we’re all proud of this. We need to keep our camp in a condition we can continue to be proud of.

Raffle ticket sales is the primary fund to support maintenance needs of Camp Dogwood. 100% of the ticket sales goes to maintain the camp. Last year the raffle brought in just over \$80,000 after expenses BUT expenses were over \$200,000, causing us to dip into the Joyce endowment fund.

Members of district S have the largest amount at \$14,681.00.

This year’s Goal is 150k. We are at 60% of the year but have met 38% of our goal. We have some work to do! Please send in your ticket stubs and money in promptly.

You can see in the totals listed below that each district more than doubled their contribution in the last 3 months. If each district kept the same momentum in the next 4 months, we’ll hit our goal of \$150,000.

We can do this!

Ticket Sales:

Update as of May 5, 2024

District	Members	Raffle Sales As of Nov 3	Raffle Sales as of Feb 5	Raffle Sales Last Year
L	727	\$2,820.00	\$ 6,808.00	\$17,844.70
I	890	\$100.00	\$10,441.00	\$18,837.00
O	1,045	\$562.00	\$15,538.00	\$25,374.00
N	963	\$810.00	\$ 3,340.00	\$17,999.00
S	920	\$5,467.00	\$14,681.00	\$23,281.00
Totals	4,545	\$9,759.00	\$56,369.95	\$103,335.70

38% of goal

Highest giving clubs:

Club	District	Members	Total	Books
Lake Lure	L	27	\$1,350.00	5.00
Salisbury	I	39	\$2,000.00	5.13
Vass	O	46	\$1,430.00	3.11
Lumberton	N	17	\$2,400.00	14.12
Edenton	S	38	\$2,195.00	5.78

Another issue my committee has been tasked with is to investigate the possible change of the Camp Dogwood name. This is a BIG change that will affect many aspects of our facility. For most of us the word CHANGE is difficult, it makes us uncomfortable because we may have to do something different, learn something new or develop new skills. But often improvement requires change. On many occasions I've been told, it's always been that way. We need to get passed this paradigm and "Look to the future".

The word "Change" involves the past. But let's look to the future with a name that defines our future!

I have two requests of our members:

1) When you think of a new name, don't think of the past but of the future of our facility for the visually impaired. A name that helps us appeal to younger VIPs, and will sell the facility to people who may not want a "Camping" experience.

2) Talk to your fellow Lions about a new name, gather opinions and share them with me or your camp dogwood committee chairperson. Let's do all we can to fill all of our beds with VIPs and increase our VIP weeks.

I welcome the opportunity to come to your club to talk more about Camp Dogwood.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lion Gene Goetz
Second Vice District Governor
Camp Dogwood State Chairperson

Recommendation to change the price of the Camp Dogwood Raffle Tickets for 2024-2025 is one ticket for \$5.00, 3 tickets for \$10.00 and 7 tickets for \$20.00. Recommendation was approved by voice vote.

Constitution and ByLaws Committee

The members of the Constitution and Bylaws committee are working on several items which will take some time to get it in a presentable format for discussion.

We have revised the State Promotion Chairperson Selection Procedure in hopes of attracting a Lion that would be interested in Promoting the Lions of North Carolina.

That concludes our report.
Dale Dupree. PCC. C&BL Chair

Fellowships and Partners
Report

February 11, 2024

We have completed all the mid-winter conventions now and several awards were given to individuals for recognition of service to lionism. Our total to date raised is \$7,800.00. Please continue to present these programs to the clubs in your community and recognize members and local citizens in your communities for their service.

As of this quarter the following has been awarded:

- District L None
- District I One William L. Woodard Partner-in-Service at the Supporter Level, one Jack Stickley Fellow and one Progressive Jack Stickley Fellow
- District O One Sid L. Scruggs Beacon of Hope at the Lighthouse Level
- District N Two Sid L. Scruggs Beacon of Hope at the Lighthouse Level, one William L. Woolard Partner-in Service and two Jack Stickley Fellows
- District S One Sid L. Scruggs Beacon of Hope at the Lighthouse, one at the Steps to Service and one at the Lamp Lighter Level and three William L. Woolard Partner-in-Service at the Founder Level

Remember if you have received a NCLF Ambassador Award and did not receive a plaque but would like to have one at no cost to you, please contact Brittany at the NCLF office. She will be glad to handle it for you.

The Fellowship and Partners district chairs are ready to come and present a program to your club. Please call or email them to schedule a club visit.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Metts
State Chairperson

Pin Recycle Program—Over \$ 170,500.00!!

By: Lion Dave Butler, PCC for Lion Lou Creel, PDG

President Steve, Fellow Lions and Guests. I am making this report for NCLF Past President Lou Creel. Since my August report for Lion Creel, there has been a very good change within this program that I can report on today. We are still seeing some returns from the donated pin collection of Lion Bill Jordon, a member of the North Carolina Lions Pin Trading Club from South Carolina, Lion Dave Butler raised \$31.00 at the District 31-L Fall Convention. Between Lion Lou Creel and Lion Gene English, they raised a total of \$623.00 at the Virginia Pin Swap and District 31-N/S Convention. Also, Lion Lou received a \$100.00 donation from an individual he had promoted the great work this program was doing. There are still some pins left in the collection that will bring in some additional funds at future sales.

Again, all donations should be sent to Lion Lou Creel!

Thanks, again, to everyone who has played a part in the phenomenal success of this project for our North Carolina Lions Foundation Eye Research Programs.

REMEMBER! IF IT WASN'T FOR EYE RESEARCH, MANY OF US WOULD BE BLIND TODAY AND MOST OF US WOULD BE FACING A LIFE OF BLINDNESS IN THE FUTURE.

YES THE TOTE BOARD HAS HAD ANOTHER NICE CHANGE!!!!

Amount raised to date is: \$ 170,593.59 .

Thank You

BUDGET & FINANCE REPORT

Refer to Treasurer's Report for February 11, 2024 report.

MOTION made to accept Committee Reports under First Vice President Wayne Faber made by First Vice President and seconded by Second Vice District Governor Juanita Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.

Other Business:

DG Lorraine Dixon made her announcement that she will be running for 2nd Vice President of NCLF for 2024-2025. She will be sending her paperwork to PDG Paul Silverman this week.

Budget Hearings will be held at Camp Dogwood on April 5-6, 2024. Make your reservation at 828-478-2135 and ask for April, Extension 250.

Our next Council and Board Meetings will be held on May 3 – 5, 2024 at Camp Dogwood, Sherrills Ford, NC. For Reservations call 828-478-2135 and ask for April, Extension 250.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Metts

Executive Secretary

ATTACHMENT 'A'



Long Range Planning

December 2023-January 2024

Camp Dogwood

January 14, 2024

Committee Members

District 31-L	George Suggs Curtis Erickson
District 31-I	Donald Cobb Paul Bledsoe
District 31-O	Laraine Dupree Terrie Grooms
District 31-N	Skippy Jackson Vince Schimmoller
District 31- S	Gene English Ron Beltran
NCLF President	Steve McLaurin
NCLF Executive Director –	Carlton Metts
Facilitator	C. Neal Alexander, Jr.

January 14, 2024

Today, December 9, 2030, The North Carolina Lions Foundation (NCLF) located in Sherrills Ford, North Carolina in Catawba County. It functions as a 501.c.3 non-profit and is incorporated under the laws of North Carolina. Camp Dogwood is part of the campus located on the shores of Lake Norman. The Camp continues to serve the blind and visually impaired. During the off-season, the Camp facility is used as a conference center and venue for weddings, family, and business gatherings. This income helps to offset the operational cost of the Camp.

The organizational and committee structures have been reviewed and updated to meet the changing needs of the NCLF and the by-laws remain in place to guide the organization. A Leadership committee is in place to ensure future leaders are trained and developed to carry out the mission of Lions and the organization. Committees function effectively and meet quarterly in person or virtually.

An on-going five year financial and capital plan guides the NCLF to ensure decisions and actions are aligned to ensure they are sustainable and in the best interest of NCLF. An active Investment committee is fully functioning. Evaluation of the Brighter Visions campaign and other fundraising venues have been completed and adjustments are on-going.

Programs and services offered by the NCLF support the needs of the blind and visually impaired throughout the state are continually reviewed for effectiveness and sustainability.

Over the years, communication has improved with the Lions throughout NC. Minutes of Board meetings are shared in draft form for timely communications. Executive Committee minutes are shared with the Board to help prepare them for Board meetings. There is complete transparency in communications to keep the Lions informed.

Fundraising is the life blood of Lions support whether at the club or at NCLF level. A holistic approach has been developed in a multi-year plan that includes club fundraising, foundation grants, individuals, etc.

A site plan is in place that assists in the use of current structures, life, and the future need. Thanks to a grant from the South Iredell Lions Club a new facility has been dedicated.

A long-term venue study has been completed to look for ways to fully utilize the Camp facilities for maximum value (including Monday-Thursday use) to cover operating costs.

The changing landscape in technology has required the NCLF to stay abreast of the changes needed. A living technology plan has been developed and implemented to address virtual communications with the Lions. The plan also addresses software and equipment requirements. A database has been developed and utilized to identify the skills, abilities, and contacts of the Lions membership.

A Long Range Planning Committee is in place functioning to maintain the plan and evaluate upside/downside events affecting Lions internally to Lions Clubs International and/or in the environmental/political arena in NC or nationally.

North Carolina Lions Foundation, Inc.
Long Range Planning
Objectives and Actions

1. NCLF has a strong financial plan in place to address multi-faceted components by December 31, 2030.
 - a. The NCLF has a strong financial plan to raise a minimum of \$850,000 from the public by December 31, 2027. President; Executive Committee; and Budget and Finance Committee.
 - b. Fund-raising programs will be reviewed for effectiveness and modified as necessary including grants, corporate partners, and events by June 30, 2025. Executive Director.
 - c. Develop a maintenance schedule for replacement of kitchen equipment, grounds equipment, and residence hall needs and other maintenance repairs of \$20,000 or more by June 30, 2025. Camp Director and Properties Committee chair.
 - d. The NCLF will retain an outside firm to study and recommend a capital fund drive to include identifying potential donors by December 31, 2026, Executive Committee and Budget and Finance Committee chair.
 - e. Increase Monday through Thursday Camp usage by June 30, 2024. Camp Director. Short Term.
 - f. Camp Dogwood raffle tickets will be revamped including the use of QR code messages by June 30, 2024. Executive Director. Short Term
 - g. Brighter Visions materials will be updated and enhanced to ensure broader understanding of Brighter Visions by June 30, 2024. Executive Director. Short Term.

2. Education programs are being implemented to further the knowledge of NCLF by December 31, 2027.
 - a. Implement creative and marketing efforts that will reach all residents of North Carolina including Lions and businesses including a Camp open house for community residents, churches, religious retreats, and weddings/bridal shows by July 1, 2026. Camp Director.
 - b. NCLF promotional materials revised, and new materials developed, and utilization of all media outlets explored by December 31, 2027.. Public Information chair.

3. A long-range technology plan is in place to allow NCLF to respond to the changing environment of technology and networking to fulfill the long term needs by December 31, 2025.
 - a. Investigate wi-fi band width costs to upgrade services by December 31, 2025, Executive Director. Short Term.
 - b. Upgrade in-house audio/visual needs throughout the Camp for most utilization of meeting space areas by December 31, 2025. Executive Director.

4. A leadership committee is in place to enhance NCLF leaders to be trained and developed annually by July 31, 2025.
 - a. The make-up of the Leadership committee shall be Lions who have served as an NCLF officer, NCLF committee chair or NCLF Executive Director with at least 5 years of experience by June 30, 2025. Executive Committee.
 - b. Establish a standing Leadership Committee with appropriate by-laws amendments by June 30, 2026. By-laws chair.
 - c. Review and evaluate existing committees, identify need for new committees (Long Range Plan) or committees that have outlived their mission on an on-going basis every two years by July 1, 2026. Executive Committee.

5. A facility plan is in place to ensure sustainability of the future facilities, programs and services and future expansions to enhance revenues by December 31,2026.
 - a. Conduct a feasibility study by an external firm to determine types of facilities, upgrades, renovations, furnishings, and new items needed at Camp by December 31, 2026. Executive Committee, Executive Director, Camp Director, Budget and Finance Committee, and Properties Committee.
 - b. Review the Camps infrastructure's ability to support expansion by December 31, 2026. Executive Director, Executive Committee, Camp Director.
 - c. Have a plan in place for the use of the South Iredell Lions donation by December 31, 2024. President appoints an ad-hoc committee. Short Term.

6. Expand eyeglass recycling program for profit by December 31, 2025. Executive Director.

Action	Date
1.f.	6/30/2024
1.g	6/30/2024
1.h	6/30/2024
5.c.	12/31/2024
1.b.	6/30/2025
1.d	6/30/2025
4.a.	6/30/2025
3.a	12/31/2025
3.b.	12/31/2025
6.0.	12/31/2025
4.b.	6/30/2026
2.a.	7/1/2026
4.c.	7/1/2026
1.e.	12/31/2026
5.a	12/31/2026
5.b.	12/31/2026
1.a	12/31/2027
2.b.	12/31/2027