

**Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday June 26, 2018 at 7 PM at the Lions Den**

Members: 11

Guests: 4

President Keith opened the meeting promptly by using an improvised gong, since ours was stolen by DGE Karl Johnson at our last meeting. President Keith used the glass top to the cake saver as a gong, and it worked very well. Lion Paul led the pledges to the flags. Lion Julie gave prayer. Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Julie, requested that we not sing a song tonight, therefore we didn't. Guests were introduced, Rebekah, daughter of Lions Chuck and Sandy, and her friend Abby, and our speakers, Michael McCulloch and Sandhya Rao.

President Keith presented Lion Bob Rugur with a Jack Weich Fellowship Award. This award benefits the Texas Lions Camp, and was presented to Lion Bob by the Club for his service this past year. President Keith then pinned the Jack Weich Fellowship pin on his collar.

Lion Mazher introduced our guest speakers, Michael McCulloch and Sandhya Rao of iBUG Today, which empowers the blind through accessible technology. Michael said he retired as an aerospace engineer at NASA. Both he and Sandhya are members of the Heights Lions Club. He is training to hike in Machu Picchu in Peru. Sandhya said she grew up in Houston, attended Rice University for both her bachelors and masters degrees in Law. She does research and writing for attorneys in Houston. She told a cute lion and cheetah joke.

iBUG Today is a nonprofit organization that uses various technologies to help the blind and visually impaired to function in today's fast paced society. Michael said that in 2010 he taught himself how to use an I-phone with GPS technology, and in 2011 began a users group to help others learn and navigate through various free apps for these phones. They believe that all blind and visually impaired should have free access to any technology available to them. I-phone has a voice-over program that reads and talks to the user. They hold monthly meetings in the Heights West Gray area to assist others with learning this technology. They started a conference call on Mon. nights, and now people from all over the country call for assistance and support. iBUG has a Jump Start Program where an experienced user mentors a newly blind person to all of the apps and devices available. iBUG has currently 350 members, but with the conference calls, they have touched the lives of over 4000 blind individuals. In Houston, the group goes to musicals, where they have a back stage tour and get to touch and feel the props and costumes, and someone gives ongoing commentary through earphones of the play or musical or opera they are attending. The future plans of iBUG include collecting used I-phones which can be refurbished for little cost and given to blind users on fixed income who cannot afford to purchase the devices. They hope to start expanding the program and personal groups to throughout the state and nation. They explained that I-phones work better than android phones because the apps are less varied and easier to use. They demonstrated a Seeing AI app that can read anything and give them important information about the product. Now they can read menus in restaurants, read food labels, directions, etc. They passed out flyers and business cards.

Minutes of the last meeting were "passed around electronically". Motion to accept as written made by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Mazher, and passed without correction.

Lion Chuck will present a year end budget report and offer the upcoming year budget at the next meeting.

Lion Chuck discussed the frozen beverage machine which Lion Becca has previously discussed. The machine costs about \$2100. It can make 7 gallons of two different flavors only.

It does take up to 60 minutes for the machine to start and freeze the mixture once it is turned on, and takes about the same amount of time to clean. If it will be used the next day, it can be set to standby mode, and no cleaning or emptying of the machine is necessary at that time. It is unsure if any mixture contained in the machine when it is shut off and cleaned can be kept and reused, or if that is then wasted. Lion Becca was not there to discuss the machine and answer questions. It was questioned if this is what we want, since it greatly limits the flavors offered from the current 4 of our sno cones to just 2, and if the cost of the machine and time to set up and clean is worth it. President Keith said he would try to check out the machine at a store on Brittmore.

President Keith asked if anyone has checked out our new website since it has been taken over by Lion Randy. Lion Chuck said he has, and that the site still needs updated, that the links to the officers, etc. need correcting.

Lion Merrell reported that we have one building rental scheduled for Oct.

Lion Chuck reported on the title search for our building and land, since the tax records do not show us as owners. The paid title search shows that we, the Cy-Fair Lions Club, Inc. own the building and the three baseball fields as we have been previously told. Lion Chuck will take this title search information and try to get the tax records corrected.

Lion Mazher reported that our library book donation program is ready to begin. We notify the library of whom we want to honor with a book, they will purchase the book and place a label in the front stating it was donated by the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club honoring this person. The process should take 2-4 weeks we have been informed.

We had another successful Willie's Spirit Night last night. Several Lions members, friends, and campers and families attended. Thanks to all to came out, and especially to Lion Julie for setting these up for us.

Lion Bud reported that he has spoken to Mr. Gambino who will try to secure a date in Sept. for our Magic Show. Lion Bud explained the dates we would not be available due to Lions meetings. Lion Bud has asked Lion Jennifer Finch to work with him on this project, and she has agreed.

President Keith received a marketing research email for people with hearing loss. Persons can contact them at 1-800-544-1484 and request an interview. Monetary compensation may be available to them.

There will not be any baseball games at our fields this weekend and probably not next weekend either.

No one from this Club is going to the Lions Clubs International Convention in Las Vegas.

The Bob Dowden Dinner will be Sat. Oct. 6 at the Lone Star Convention Center, in Conroe. President Keith encouraged all to attend this great function benefitting the Texas Lions Camp.

Lion Chuck discussed four members of our Club who have requested to be dropped, or are delinquent in dues despite several reminders. Gary Ginn and wife Christi request to be dropped has his medical bills do not allow extra funds for us at this time. John Donato said he wished to be excluded from our Club when asked to turn over the website duties to Lion Randy. He is also delinquent in dues. Dr. Sherrill Morris has been delinquent and notified several times requesting payment, but none has been received. She no longer lives in this area. Motion to drop these 4 made by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Sandy, and passed.

Jennifer Nguyen was installed at the last meeting, but is not present tonight. Abby has worked our concession stand and has indicated she would like to join. Information regarding membership and dues were given to her by Lion Chuck.

Lion Chuck met with Curtis Cooper, the Cy-Fair Sports Association Vice President for Facilities about things that need to be done by the Cy-Fair Sports Association to clean up our property, since they lease from us and are responsible for that. The limbs need removing by the metal sheds, limbs and brush has not been adequately removed from our fence line with Lab Corp. Mr. Cooper was upset that the people hired for that job did not do it adequately. New scoreboards still need to be placed on our fields, although they have been purchased. The shed at the end of our driveway still needs extensive work and painting. Lion Chuck learned that the Queenston facility owned by the Cy-Fair Sports Association is in contract for sale, which should free up monies to complete projects on our fields. The Cy-Fair Sports Association had a company out to quote to tree limb trimming, and Lion Chuck asked for a quote to trim the trees around our building, which amounted to \$300. Motion by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Bob that we spend \$300 to have the trees cut back from the roof of the building, and properly trimmed up, passed unopposed.

Lion Merrell reported that on a recent commercial airline flight she saw an advertisement on the TV screens about Lions Clubs International and what we do. She was very impressed.

Lions Chuck, Sandy and Mazher will go to Conroe Noon Lions Club tomorrow to retrieve our gong which DGE Karl stole at our last meeting.

With no further business, Lion Bob dismissed us at 8:30 PM with a hearty Lions Roar.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary