

Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday April 9, 2019 at 7PM at the Lions Den

Members: 12

Guests: 3

President Mazher opened the meeting promptly. Lion John Peterson led the pledges to the flags. Lion Paul Yackley gave prayer. Guests were introduced: Lion Paul Moore of the Conroe Noon Lions Club, and his wife Lion Karen Moore of the Woodlands Lions Club. Both are elected Directors for the Lions Eye Bank of Texas. Amanda Mims, guest of Lion Merrell, is a local realtor and interested in becoming a member. She is married, has one daughter, and moved here from Florida in 2005.

After our meal, Appointed Director Paul Moore explained that his term is to fulfill the last year of one vacated last year. Lion Karen was elected by District 2-S2 Lions to serve two-year term on the Lions Eye Bank of Texas Board. Their terms overlap, with Lion Paul's expiring on June 30th of this year, while Lion Karen still has a year to serve. The Lions Eye Bank of Texas began in 1965 in District 2-S2. Districts 2-S4, 2-S1, and 2-A3 are now part of the Lions Eye Bank of Texas, covering the entire eastern portion of the state. Baylor College of Medicine operates and manages the medical side of the program, while the Lions portion is to promote and educate the public, and stress the prevention of blindness. It is hoped that by 2040 corneal blindness can be eradicated. Lions can spread the word about corneal donations. Only a very paper thin cornea is removed, the eye is left intact, and does not alter the appearance of an open casket viewing. Even though a person has signed papers, and has DONOR on his/her drivers license card, a family member MUST give permission for the corneas to be harvested and used. The Eye Bank is the processing center for human eye tissue in this area. Corneal transplants are the most common transplant procedure. The first transplant took place in Austria in 1905. Over 1400 transplants were done through the Texas Eye Bank of Texas last year. Lion Paul passed around paper glasses so that everyone could see what a person with corneal damage sees. The cornea is completely clear, and without a blood supply, so although tissue typing must be done, transplantation is easier with corneas than other organs. Persons ages 2-72 are eligible to donate corneas. It is imperative that you let your family members know your wishes, as next of kin approval is required. Most religions approve of corneal donations and transplants. There is no cost to the donation or recipient families through the Lions Eye Bank of Texas, however if a person has insurance, that will be requested.

Minutes of the last meeting were sent out by Lion Julie in the absence of the Secretary. Motion to accept the minutes as sent was made by Lion Bob, and seconded by Lion Paul Yackley.

Treasurer's report was given. Dues statements were sent out electronically today. Please pay promptly.

Lion Chuck sent out an email requesting members to suggest charities and amounts to donate, using funds from our concession stand. Some suggestions offered by the members were Kids Meals, Texas Lions Camp, LCIF, See to Succeed, purchase another vision screener, new tile for the meeting room floor, etc. Lion Chuck will send out to all members the list of charities thus far recommended, and members are to rate them in their preference, and include an amount to be donated. There was discussion about doing KidSight Vision Screening in conjunction with delivering the Kids Meals, but this was not thought to be feasible. The District sponsored Goalball, which is a game similar to soccer but specifically for the blind, needs \$5000. Motion

by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Sandy, that we donate \$1000 to this new project was made. Discussion was requested, and votes taken, with 3 opposed votes. The motion carried. There was then further discussion on the lack of preparation prior to the vote. President Mazher informed that this project was discussed at the past 2 meetings, was listed on the agenda sent out to all members, and has been discussed. Some members wanted to limit our spending to the Lions core values. Some members were concerned that we need people to serve our Club, not for our Club to serve their personal goals. The Tomball Lions Club is requesting donations to purchase bedding for Hurricane Harvey victims. This request was tabled.

Lion Merrell discussed the membership brainstorming ideas, and discussed the need for volunteers to work the ideas/jobs to attract new members. Just joining an organization such as the Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce will not bring members, we need Lions to attend those meetings and promote what we do. The cost to join the Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce is part of the current Administration budget.

President Mazher again discussed lawn maintenance. Lion Becca is not present. Lion Chuck came and weed-wacked and pulled weeds back by the A/C units. Mulch has been purchased for around the trees and bushes but the weeds need pulled first. This needs to be done, it has become quite an eye sore, especially with tournaments having out of town teams and guests on our property. President Mazher will contact Lion Becca and stress the importance of her completing this job that she has agreed to do several months ago.

Lion Brad discussed the Kids Meal project. Food and paper bags have been purchased. Lion Merrell has started decorating some lunch bags that she had at home. We will meet at the Lion's Den next Tues. April 16 at 7 PM, to assemble the bag lunches for needy preschool children. Bring any craft type things you might have at home. We will set up an assembly line, and some people can decorate bags while others pack the bags. Lion Brad is to find out if we can insert a note saying this bag was donated and packed by our Lions Club.

President Mazher discussed a Zone project to provide items to children and families awaiting bone marrow transplants. He sent out a list of needed items with this meeting's agenda. Bring your donations to our next regular meeting.

Lion Brad needs the administrative password to our Face Book page. Lion Sandy will try to locate.

Baseball was cancelled on Mon. and Tues. due to the children taking STAR testing. There will be a tournament this weekend.

Sat. April 13 will be the fun get together at the Blaies' home. Lion Julie said to "come with your happy pants on". There will be silly, fun games, and just getting to know others better. Come around 5:30PM. Lion Bob is the chef for the main meal. All Lions, guests, and prospective Lions are invited.

At the District Convention at the end of the month, delegates will be asked to vote on one of two potential International Director Candidates. It was suggested that we vote for Past Council Chair Ernesto "TJ" Tijerina.

The next Willie's Spirit Night will be Aug. 12. We have not yet received monies from our last event with them. Lion Julie will follow up.

Lion Chuck reported that yearly insurance for the building and property has gone up to \$5211/year. Only \$4500 was budgeted, and he will need Board of Director approval to cover the cost. There was discussion on possibly increasing our deductible to decrease the premiums, and contacting other agencies for quotes. Lion Bud knows someone we should contact. We will table this discussion until other quotes are received.

Renting of the meeting facility has been requested by the Fairbanks Library for Thursday afternoons 3-5 PM from June 6 through Aug. 1 for their summer reading program. There will be no arts and crafts done in the building, and they have agreed to pay a cleaning fee. Lion Julie reported that the Houston Metroplex Veterans Lions Club had wanted to rent our facility and yard for a dog show for veterans, but there will be a full baseball tournament that day, and it was felt best not to have dogs around all the children.

President Mazher read a thank you note for the donation of prescription bottles.

Lion Julie will handle meals for the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned by Lion Paul Berry after a hearty “ROAR on two.”

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary