

**Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday Sept. 24, 2019 at 7PM at the Lions Den**

Members: 12

Guests: 7

President Becca opened the meeting at 7:02PM. Lion Paul Berry led the pledges to the flags. Lion Merrell gave prayer. Tail Twister Keith fined the President and Treasurer each \$1 for “kibitzing” and not getting the meeting started promptly at 7PM. Both complied. Guests were introduced, our diabetic campers and families, and friends of Lion Brad, Sandy and Jane.

President Becca said this is an exciting meeting; we love it when our Campers come and share their experiences.

Camper TJ said he was there the week of the sickness, and so many kids were sick and in the infirmary, that only 12 children out of about 36 were left in his bunkhouse. He was affected, with nausea and vomiting. The illness seemed to stem from one child who had been sick the evening prior to coming to TLC, but came anyway, and then infected many other children with the problem. TJ loved swimming and art projects. This was his 4th year to attend TLC, and he wants to go back every year.

Lauren, daughter of Lions Randy and Laura, also attended during the week of the sickness, but she and her bunkmates were not affected. This was also her 4th year to attend and she loves hanging out with the friends she has made at Camp every year. She loves the Camp Out, music, art, archery, swimming and LOVED the zip line. She wants to continue to attend Camp every year.

Joshua said this was his second year to attend Texas Lions Camp. He also got sick also and spent 2 days in the infirmary. He said he got to “egg” his counselor. He loved archery, swimming, music, and the zip line. Josh said he loved going there because he “doesn’t feel like I have diabetes when I am there.” His mom said last year, his first, he went to Camp kicking and screaming, but when she went to pick him up at the end of the week, he was kicking and screaming not wanting to leave. All parents said they felt very comfortable leaving their children in such experienced hands. They feel like they actually get to sleep through the night when their children are at TLC as they don’t have to monitor their blood sugars during the night.

Lion Sandy read a letter from Camper Jakob who could not attend this evening. The following is what he wanted us to know about TLC:

A note from Jakob for Texas Lions Club Cy Fair

My name is Jakob and I am 15 years old and have Type 1 diabetes. This past summer was my last chance to go to Texas Lion's camp and I want to say thank you for sponsoring me to go. I went for the first time last year and this year was even better than the last. Camp is really important for the campers going because it teaches us more about our disease while still allowing us to be kids. Most importantly it reminds us that we are not alone in the world. It was great to be somewhere that everyone around me had to deal with the same challenges I face. I met a lot of new friends including a counselor named Kaito who happens to be deaf. He taught me some sign language over the course of the week and I am inspired to continue to learn more and hopefully go back when I am 18 and volunteer as a counselor.

I really can't say enough about all the volunteers and med staff and the program itself. Its so important that it continues to go on and be accessible to kids like me and kids with other diseases/disabilities. If there were anything I could change about it, it would be that it was offered for longer than age 15. Thank you again for sending me. I really appreciate it and will never forget my time at Texas Lions Camp.

Sincerely, Jakob S.

Our Club has received a donation of \$1000 from the estate of the late Fred Bankston, a former member of this Club. The donation was forwarded to the Texas Lions Camp.

Milly's daughter has given us some of her Lions clothing and you may have anything that interests you. Her husband, Mickey, was our Club's second president. Milly died in June.

Lion Dorothy Casey has Stage IV lung cancer. She is currently hospitalized, and will be moved to hospice. Her daughter, Anne, says Dorothy loves to get cards. It is too early to tell about sending foods or visiting. Please keep both Lions Dorothy and Bud in your thoughts and prayers and pray for ease for both of them.

Lion Paul Berry is taking over the Magic Show from Lion Bud. President Becca has sold 50 tickets, and has more to sell. Tickets are normally \$15 each, but we have some to sell to our special friends for \$5 each. The Magic Show will be held Tues. Oct. 22 at 7 PM at the Berry Center. This is a usual meeting night, but we need Lions to come to the Berry Center around 6:15 or 6:30 to handle ticket sales, greet patrons, collect tickets at the theater door, then greet and thank everyone after the show.

At our next meeting we will have a brief presentation on how to become an election judge/monitor for the upcoming elections. We will have a Camp presentation at our next meeting.

The Bob Dowden Dinner will be Sat. Oct. 5. Our Club has purchased 1 table plus an additional 7 seats, and we still have a few seats available. If you would like to attend, please let Lion Sandy know ASAP. Get your auction items in as soon as possible, contact the person listed on the District Monday Memo. Lion Keith has developed a spreadsheet for our Club to handle the check out process. We will probably have baseball that night, so Lion Chuck will try to borrow another credit card machine from our vendor. We will also be using phone chips.

Lion Chuck discussed a request for Humanitarian Relief Funding for a woman who has worked our Concession stand several times. She had sudden blindness in one eye and partial blindness in the other, and was taken immediately to the Dr. The next day she was taken to a specialist in Houston, where she received shots in both eyes to stop the bleeding. Two days later she woke up with tingling on her right side, and went to the hospital where she was diagnosed with having a stroke. She is currently paralyzed on her right side, and in a local rehab center. Motion was made by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Keith, that we donate \$1250 and request matching HRF monies to help with her medical bills. Motion passed.

Lion Julie discussed upcoming room rentals. She has secured dates for 9-28-2019 and 12-5-2019, and a tentative rental date of 10-12-2019. She will keep any referring Lion in the information loop on referrals sent to her.

President Becca discussed the Cheer Basket program. She explained to our guests that we started giving out 30 baskets, and then 60, then 80, and we are aiming for 100 this year. Baskets and a large bag for each family contain turkey, fresh fruits and veggies, and several staple foods. Scouts arrange food drives, help sort and pack the baskets, and deliver them. This year they will be delivered the Sat. before Christmas, Dec. 21. She said, "Delivering the baskets is life changing for these kids."

Pictures of our campers were taken, and then guests who desired were dismissed.

Secretary reported that the minutes of the last meeting were emailed to everyone, and no corrections were requested. Motion to accept as written was made by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Julie, and passed.

Treasurer's report was given. All bills are paid. There was approximately \$1000 spent on plumbing repairs, with both Insta-hot water heaters in the main bathrooms replaced and the outside water filter removed.

Lion Julie reported on membership. Lion Chuck reported that his guest, Yolanda, is currently on a cruise. Another guest, Corey, had a school activity with his son tonight. President Becca would like to send Thank you notes to guests, and email pictures if we have any. Lion Merrell will make up small Thank you cards with the Lions logo. It was suggested we get a Guest Register book so that we have contact information for guests.

President Becca said she was contacted by a local elementary school needing volunteers to do the state mandated 10ft. vision screening. Several Lions are on the Global Registration through Cy-Fair ISD. Lion Merrell reported that she has been contacted to assist at Frazier and Labay schools for this testing.

Lion Paul Berry gave a report on the membership committee consisting of himself, Lions Merrell, Julie and Jennifer Nguyen. He thanked the other committee members for all their help and input into this project. They have been working on this for several months. They came up with a specified mailer to be sent to residences in Jersey Village. The 5x7" card will be designed, printed, and mailed by Alpha Graphics, targeting households 45-80 years of age. Approximately 1400 mailings will be sent out. The typical success rate is 10%. We need to greet, laugh, and have fun at our meetings. We could have special orientation meetings held here with a District officer, like PDG Mark Roth, doing the orientation. New members would be paired with seasoned Lions as mentors. The cost of this program is \$725. Money is available in the Membership budget. Motion was made by Lion Paul Berry, seconded by Lion Keith, that we hire this company for this membership drive mailing. Motion passed. Lion Chuck suggested that we put a link to our web page and/or facebook page to the mailer. It would be great to have the yearend progress report of the Club to share with potential members. Lion Sandy will email to Lions Merrell and Julie the year end review prepared for our new officer installation in June.

Oct. 14 is Spirit Night for our Club at Willie's Ice House and Grill, at Jones Road at Hwy 290. Bring friends and family for a great meal, great fellowship, and support your Lions Club.

We have been invited to do a vision screening at the Preston Wood Community on Sat. Oct 5. This is an outside event, with no indoor accessibility. Lion Bob has researched and cannot come up with a way to do the vision screening with our PlusOptix camera in sunlight. We could have Lions members man a booth and hand out information.

Lion Brad discussed the Concession stand schedule. Regular league games start next week, with evening games on Mon, Tues. and Thurs. There will be a tournament this weekend. He will contact the VFW Hall to see if they could provide workers since they run a similar concession stand. Cy-Fair Women's Club has agreed to work Tues. nights when we have meetings. The more Lions we can get to work our project, the less money we have to pay to other organizations, and the more money we have for our charities. We took in \$2500 last Sat. and part of Sunday. Lion Keith says the Cy-Fair Women's Club charges \$5 for the same size nachos, and \$3 for hot dogs. Sausage on a stick was discussed as a substitute for pizza, which is often wasted and not a good seller. Lion Keith has found sausage not on a stick for \$1.11 each, and we could purchase skewers through Amazon and place in the meat ourselves at a greater discount than purchasing the pre-skewered sausage. They would be initially heated in the oven, and then placed in waxed paper in the pizza warmer. Suggested sales price was \$4. We could also consider bratwurst sausage in a bun. Lion Keith will investigate and order to start.

Lion Chuck showed a stuffed lion in a blue hoodie that says Spokane, saying the little fellow jumped in our basket at the USA-Canada Forum last week, and wants to make our Club his new home. The forum was wonderful, with over 70 different classes/sessions to choose. There were over 1,650 Lions in attendance. Next year the USA-Canada Forum will be held in Louisville, KY, close enough for members to drive.

Lion Brad will be doing Kids Meals bags before Thanksgiving, as kids will be out of school that week, and will need the food.

Lion Keith motioned that we allocate monies to be donated to persons in need from the recent flooding of the Houston area. We have in the past donated \$500 to Clubs in Fla. and NC for hurricane repairs. Motion was made by Lion Keith, seconded by Lion Chuck that we allocate and send \$500 to help with flood repairs. Motion passed.

With no further business, President Becca asked Lion Chuck to dismiss us. He said, "All rise. 3 roars on 2." Meeting adjourned at 9:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary