

District 2-S2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2020
Online via GoToMeeting

Attendees

DG Tony Austin	2 nd VDG Lisa Free-Martin
PCC Pat Brennan	Lion Heather McConnell
Lion Judy Champion	Lion Karen Moore
Lion Sara Coots	Lion Paul Moore
Lion Stedman Douglas	PDG Chris Moorman
Lion Al Gerhardt	PDG Jim Noone
Lion Lucy Gonzales	Lion Rebecca Noone
Lion Liesa Hackett	Lion Marla Reynolds
Lion Neil Lander	PDG Rick Reynolds
Lion Donald Landers	Lion Diana Risha
PDG Ron Landers	PDG Eddie Risha
Lion Barbara Leboff	PDG Mark Roth
PDG Chuck Martin	Lion Syd Waldman

Call to Order - DG Tony Austin called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

Establishment of Quorum –

A quorum was established by Cabinet Secretary Lion Heather McConnell.

Pledges and Invocation -

2nd VDG Lisa Free-Martin led the Invocation and pledges to the US and Texas flags

Lion Marla Reynolds led the group in a song.

Remarks by District Governor –

The International Convention in Singapore has now been cancelled as per Singapore government. The International board meeting will be held in Chicago in April to determine what to do about their convention.

LCI understands we cannot hold our district convention as normal. They are telling us we can use whatever format works for us provided we keep good records, inform all clubs of what we're doing.

The Hilton Houston North cannot hold our convention in April because they are closing the hotel. We have an offer from the Marriott North to move our convention there. Given the uncertainty of the COVID-19 crisis at this time, we have decided to cancel the convention for April rather than moving to the Marriott.

The nomination process can proceed as normal and the clubs can send in their delegates. We need to decide when to close the nomination period.

Since our convention has been cancelled, we will not be able to do in-person paper voting as in previous years. The business session of our convention can be done electronically. However, we need to figure out how to handle voting.

Lion Paul Moore is looking into electronic voting options. Some suggestions have been using Survey Monkey or drive-through voting. We have also been reviewing software called Election Runner. The focus needs to be on maintaining the secrecy of the ballots. We could email a link to each delegate. They would then submit their ballot electronically and it would be anonymous. We could also use the Cy-Fair clubhouse for collecting paper ballots. We could restrict it to only allow 10 people at a time. Or could the ballot boxes be collected by zone chairs and they bring to Cy-Fair? It was acknowledged that not all delegates may have an email address. We need to have a way to tell all district delegates about the changes to the voting procedures. How do we tell members about these changes when many don't have email? We would also need to make sure ballot boxes are sealed. Ballot boxes can be purchased for \$20 each. PDG Chris Moorman said we shouldn't have people driving and traveling right now. He also suggested that clubs need to get delegates who have email.

DG Tony led a discussion about the best way to notify members about the changes we're making to the voting. At this time, email only reaches about 25% of the membership. If we send postcards to all members, the cost would be about \$1,000. If we send the postcards only to club presidents and secretaries, it would cost about \$250. VDG Lisa Free-Martin suggested that the presidents and secretaries should be taking responsibility to communicate this to their members. They know who in their club has email and who doesn't. Lion Syd Waldman agreed that everyone who is a delegate needs to have an email address and be able to submit ballots electronically. DG Tony gave a demonstration of the Election Runner software. The cost to run our election through Election Runner would be \$32.00. Each user has a unique login then takes you to the ballot paper. We won't know who voted for whom, but we will know the results.

The group agreed that voting must be done on Saturday, April 25th. There was a discussion about how long we would give people to vote that day. Lion Syd Waldman suggested we make the day a little longer because people may be working and can't log on. VDG Lisa Free-Martin suggested we keep it to 8am-6pm since normal convention voting would have only been a couple of hours. PDG Chris Moorman made the motion to postpone the convention indefinitely with the option to cancel. VDG Lisa Free-Martin seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lion Syd Waldman then made the motion that the business side of the convention be held on April 25th. Lion Diana Risha seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. PDG Chuck Martin and PDG Ron Landers will verify that delegates are eligible to be delegates and that they have an email address. There was a question about getting our deposit back since the Hilton has offered the use of the Marriott. DG Tony doesn't think this will be an issue. VDG Lisa said the Hilton's website says they're not charging any cancellation fees.

Lion Syd Waldman motioned that we use electronic voting. Lion Karen Moore seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PDG Chris Moorman wanted to know when we would have the meeting for nominating candidates. DG Tony said we can use the Election Runner software for this. Lion Paul Moore suggested if someone wants to be nominated for one of the open director positions, they should notify DG Tony by March 26th, otherwise Tony will find someone to fill those positions. Lion Syd made a motion that we use the Election Runner software for nominating the candidates. PDG Rick Reynolds seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lion Syd Waldman made a motion for the following appointments:

Nominations Chair – PCC Pat Brennan

Credentials Chair – PDG Chuck Martin

Elections Chair – PDG Ron Landers

Lion Paul Moore seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PDG Eddie Risha asked to be the next director of the Lighthouse. DG Tony reminded him to submit a resolution to confirm his nomination.

PDG Chuck announced that the Houston Founders Club has not paid their 1st or 2nd half year dues or their 100% dues. It is not known if the Founders Club has paid their International dues. DG Tony says we don't have much power to do anything about the International dues. We can recommend LCI withdraw the Houston Founders charter if they don't pay these dues. The district has a total of 7 clubs who have not paid their 100% dues. PDG Rick Reynolds said they will be contacting those 7 clubs ASAP. Lion Syd Waldman suggested contacting the zone chairs also. DG Tony said the Founders Club have paid 1st half of international but not 2nd. The club is not in default yet, but they do have the funds to pay dues. They have not been able to meet to get things resolved. Lion Syd Waldman suggested they get together by email, phone or electronic means. The club needs to conduct its business.

PDG Chuck Martin asked if we are going to perform a financial audit this year. DG Tony confirmed we will do a review but not a formal audit.

Lion Sara Coats asked if there was any news on Texas Lions Camp. VDG Lisa said there is a blog on camp website that Steve is keeping up regularly.

Lion Karen Moore suggested zone chairs let us know if there are any members who need help.

DG Tony will look into getting more licenses for GoToMeeting so that more clubs can meet electronically.

The P&S meeting for April will be cancelled. DG Tony will talk to Lucy about possibly meeting electronically.

Lion Al Gerhardt asked how his club should handle bus funding for Texas Lions Camp. PDG Rick said they have not heard whether or not camp will shut down. No decisions have been made at this time. PDG Rick suggested that the Tomball Lions send the check and if we don't use it this year, they can use the funds next year. Lion Al said things are on hold with their club until they see what is going on in the community over the next few weeks.

Lion Syd Waldman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. PDG Eddie Risha seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:57am.