**Nebraska Lions Foundation**

**November 1, 2024**

**Grand Island, Nebraska**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bob Arp at 15:31. Lion Bob Arp led the Pledge of Allegiances, Lions Pledge, and gave the invocation.

The roll was taken by Secretary Nicholas Dobesh showing 16 voting trustees present, seven absent, and one seat unfilled. Voting members reported on club visits which they attended. There were 54 Lions in attendance as well as ID Joanne Ogden and her traveling companion PDG Angela Sharbot.

**Minutes:** The July 20, 2024, meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Idajane Martinez, seconded by Allen Darell to approve the minutes as published in the E edition of the Lions Newspaper and the MD 38 Lions Website. Motion carried by the usual sign of the Lion.

**Treasurer Report:** Lion Donna Darell provided treasurer reports to 6-30-2024, which showed $77,176.87 in our checking account and $1,536,859.54 in investments, for $1,643,665.43 in assets when totaling checking, investments, and equipment (minus depreciation). There has been a $900 down payment on the Disaster Trailer. Full details of trailer sale in Disaster Trailer Report.

**Committee Reports**

**Assistance:** Three members in attendance. There were 6 requests from 4 different clubs for a total of $3,500 approved. (Pleasanton - $1,000 – Child Cancer, Millard - $200 – Cataracts, Broken Bow - $500 – Traumatic Brain Injury, Broken Bow - $500 – Bone Cancer, Broken Bow - $500 – Bilateral deafness, Sutton - $1,000 – Burkitt Lymphoma).

**Camp:** Eight members in attendance and 1 guest. Debbie Grimes has visited four camps in Nebraska as potential sites for hosting “Project New Hope” (PNH), a military family retreat. Motion by John Braisted, seconded by Evelyn Springer to pursue using Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland, NE as the site for the retreat, motion carried. First expenses need to be determined, and second a workable date needs to be found. Dale Johansen from PNH in Underwood, MN, shared information about sponsoring a “Military Family Retreat”. One of the main points emphasized by Dale was camp participation is normally low to begin with, but grows each year because of word of mouth. Dale gave a brief overview of to the whole NLF, and would be giving a more detailed briefing at 09:30 on Saturday, November 2, 2024.

The NLF Camp Committee will continue to offer NE Lions Clubs one half (50%) of the amount they expend for a diabetic youth to attend a diabetes camp. Information will be coming in the “Nebraska Lion”.

**Disaster Trailer:** One member in attendance. A quick update on the sale of the Disaster Trailer. NLF Chair Bob Arp had email all the voting members of the NLF to determine whether to sell the Disaster Trailer yielded 19 votes to sell, 0 votes to not sell, and 2 No response. An offer has been made on the trailer and a $900 down payment has been made, and hopefully the remainder will be received this week.

**Financial Investments:** Seven members in attendance. Slight increase in general fund since June. Approved $50,000 increase in endowment fund since June. Asset allocation continues to be balanced as we wish it to be. No changes recommended. May want to consider a short-term CD for excess funds in 1st National checking account.

**Focus on Health:** Six members in attendance. Since food insecurity affects health, and since the committee wanted to do more to benefit Western Nebraska, we chose to support Northwest Community Action Partnership for $500. If services a mobile food pantry that covers 4 NW Nebraska counties (Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, and Sheridan).

**Hearing:** Three members in attendance. Received several “Thank You’s” from Hear U and Paragon Service Dogs. Would like to order Postcards, door hangers, and magnets that notifies individuals that someone is deaf or hard of hearing. Bob has original order, committee would like to make some changes. Today’s Collection Over the ear – 20, In the ear – 5, multiple batteries/parts.

**MSU:** Nine members in attendance. Excellent start to the year 7,250+ students screened in Sept, and 10,044 in October. A total of 19,671 students in 130 schools for the year. A referral rate of 14.5% on hearing, and 10.1% on vision. New brochure for the MSU designed, would like to take it to the Public Relation (PR) committee. Allen motioned to take it to the PR committee and have 2000 printed by Mid-winter. There is a need for a 3rd driver for west of Kearney and north of North Platte area. Hopefully that lives out there. Encourage more OSHA and public screening for the Non-school Calendar.

**Opening Eyes:** Three members in attendance. Next Opening Eyes scheduled for May 23, 2025 at Creighton University. Organizers at Special Olympics will confirm the time after they get back with us and new volunteer application forms will be created and information will be posted on the MD38 website.

**Resource Development:** Two members in attendance and two guest. Horses are available if needed for the State Convention Horse races (See Nick or Phil Dobesh). Total Peach and Pear sales were $748,047, which netted the NLF $72,831. No additional information on NLF shirts or pins at this time.

**Sight:** Three members in attendance. Discussed moving 2 KidSight cameras (Omaha Surise to Columbus Noon and Plattsmouth to Bellevue), approved by committee. KidSight statistics so far this year is 3,150 screened and 473 referrals with a 15% referral. Reminder there is grant funding for needy children. Radio Talking Book, the Executive Director is available to do club presentation. (Bekah Jerde, [rjerde@rtbs.org](mailto:rjerde@rtbs.org), 402-572-3003) Lion Donna Darrel said they presented at Millard, and it was a very good presentation.

**Youth Program:** Four members were in attendance. PCC Tom Vitamvas made a proposal for the 2nd and 1st VDG’s take on the All State Golf. All Star Golf needs “How to Run All-State Golf Tournament” Guide. Tournament is set for June 23 – 24, 2025 (Monday-Tuesday) at Medowlark Hills (Kearney, NE). A list of eligible girls has been identified.

Youth Leadership Camp – Game & Parks and Timberlake have been contacted about potential locations. Timberlake quoted $90 per camper using 30 attendees, with a 20% deposit. Will continue to look at venues and detailed plan. Looking at Spring-Summer of 2026 as resuming the Lion youth leadership.

**Youth Disaster:** No members in attendance. Columbus brought 24 backpacks (needs blankets yet). Call Jeanne Grantzinger or Broken Bow Club president if you need any.

**Old Business**

1. NLF shirts were discussed, but no new information about from Lion Chris Gentry (absent). Idajane asked about the NLF pin as well. It was being looked at by Lion Chris as well.
2. Peaches and Pears sales, Lion Donna Darrel gave a more detailed brake down of sales (see attachment).

**New Business**

1. 2025-2026 officer nominations (Looking forward) – will do official/additional nominations at the next NLF meeting.
   1. Chair – Lion Kal Lauster
   2. Chair Elect – Lion Nicholas Dobesh
   3. Secretary –
   4. Treasurer – Lion Edward Dunn

Announcement: Pin traders meeting following the NLF meeting, and Pins are for sale in the atrium.

Next Meeting: March 29th in Broken Bow, NE.

Meeting adjourned at 16:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas Dobesh

NLF Secretary