



Dell Rapids Lions Club

We Serve

DELL RAPIDS LIONS CLUB – OFFICIAL MINUTES OF REGULAR CLUB MEETING 6:30 p.m., Thursday, January 4, 2024, at Pizza Ranch

President Robert Wiarda called the meeting to order. 18 Lions in attendance: Allen Brown, Ruth & Wayne Coffaa, Carolyn Drew, Tom & Connie Earley, Marlowe & Sue Hovey, Tom Ludens, Virginia Miller, Jody Morrow, Peg Nelson, Kathy Rindels, Zach & Carmen Rogen, Darrold & Dianne Williams.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: Motion to approve by Tom L., seconded by Marlowe; m/c.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion to approve by Darrold, seconded by Marlowe; m/c. Activities Account: \$5,984.11
Business Account: \$4,203.68
Less the Lion Tamer's Drawing of \$460.00 = \$3,743.68
Less the New Member Account of \$414.64 = \$3,329.04

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank-yous received from: End It Dell Rapids for our \$50 donation; The Banquet for our donation of hats, mittens, gloves and scarves; and VOSH for our \$100 donation. Information and registration form for Emerging Lions Leadership Institute (ELLI) to be held March 15-17, 2024, in Mahnomen, MN. New members were encouraged to apply. The Business Account will pay the \$100 registration.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Carmen reported. (see attached)

OLD BUSINESS: 80th ANNIVERSARY: Sue reported a committee of 7 was formed: Tom L., Tom E., Darrold, Dianne, Carmen, Carolyn, and Sue. They met just prior to this meeting. Two possible dates were chosen. Dianne to check with Gov. Dennis Daugaard: 1) Would he speak at our event? 2) Is he available on one of our possible dates? Choosing a venue will follow. – PANCAKE BREAKFAST: It was the consensus of those present to have a breakfast in the spring. Sue to check with Kristine Fiegen at St. Mary's for available dates, avoiding Easter and First Communion. – MEAT RAFFLE: Several volunteers for the next day's raffle. – MEMBERSHIP CHEVRONS: Robert presented chevrons from Lions International to members celebrating milestone years of membership: Wayne, Ruth and Jody (15); Darrold, Blaine and JoAnn (20); Connie and Marlowe (25); and Ray Pederson (55). – CHAMBER WELCOME PACKETS: Sue adapted an informational pamphlet on our club, had it copied, and dropped off 90 copies for inclusion in future welcome packets. Motion by Carmen to reimburse Sue \$19.12 for copies, seconded by Marlowe; m/c.

NEW BUSINESS: CLUB FEATHER FLAG (BANNER): Sue presented info on an idea Carmen had suggested. Custom Ink: 8-foot, knitted polyester, sectioned flexible pole, ground spike and metal cross base, carrying case,

printed 2 colors on 1 side; estimated at \$315. Suggestions: Include our club's website address; get additional quotes on 2-sided flag.

PROGRAM: Mayor Tom Earley reported on the State of the City: Steve McFarland has been hired as the new City Administrator, replacing Justin Weiland who took a similar position in Tea. Steve comes from Spearfish. He held this position previously in Estes Park, CO, and also has hospitality experience from running resorts. Sheldon Jensen has been hired as the Community & Economic Development Director, a newly-created position. His expertise will be invaluable, working with the City and the Dell Rapids Economic Development Corp. Tom shared architectural plans for the renovation of the previous Wells Fargo Bank as the site of the new City Hall. The current City Hall was built as a fire station in the late 1950s, and was remodeled during Scott Fiegen's administration in the late '80s or early '90s. Wishing to expand their own facility, First National Bank has purchased the adjoining property where City Hall now sits for \$205,000, and the City purchased the vacant Wells Fargo building for \$500,000. Architecture Inc. was hired to design the renovation, and Empire Construction's \$3 million bid was accepted. Another \$500,000 will go into materials and equipment for a catering prep kitchen, located in the lower level, to serve the event center that will adjoin it. That area will seat 150 and will be accessed by stairs and a newly-constructed elevator. The event center and liquor license will provide additional income to the City. Tom described the completed facility as a real bargain, comparing these costs with estimates on new buildings for Brandon (\$12M) and Madison (\$10.5M). Renovation began by completely gutting the building, including wiring. Teller stations and furnishings were auctioned off, netting the City \$47,000. The main-floor vault will become a conference room. Offices will be created for the City Administrator, Community & Economic Development Director, Finance Officer, City Auditor, Assistant City Auditor, Chamber of Commerce, and Sheriff's Deputy. All offices will be in a secure area, with electronic card access only. When complete, City Hall will maintain its presence on Main Street, and expand its services to the community. A move-in date will hopefully be set for sometime in August.

LION TAMER'S DRAWING: Allen had the lucky ticket, but passed up \$475 in favor of the Jack of Spades. Motion to adjourn by Tom L., seconded by Zack; m/c.

Sue Hovey, Secretary