

Hello Lions.

I hope you and your families are happy and healthy. Over the last several months, your board of directors has been working on many different matters to keep the business of our Club moving forward, and responding to issues as they arise. One such issue was the need to review and potentially amend our constitution and by laws.

Our Lion Boss activated our Constitution and By Laws Committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, and several issues were examined and reviewed. The attached Constitution and By Laws are the result of several hours of review and discussion, and are intended to address some specific concerns affecting the club. They include:

1. The need to better spell out the procedure for any club employees, including hiring, dismissal, and performance review;
2. The protocol for issues concerning the election of our officers, what happens where there is a vacancy, and how election ties are decided;
3. Preservation of the traditional openness of our meetings while also accounting for the need to discuss and consider sensitive issues; and
4. The updating of certain elected offices and duties to match changes from Lions Clubs International and the most recent District leadership structure.

The proposed constitution and by laws largely do not change the last version of those documents, which were passed by the Club 10 years ago. In that same 10 year period, our Club was in a relative period of calm, and concerns over the details of how our office and employees are managed was not an issue. It is everyone's best interests that these procedures, while traditional and well understood, be written down for future members and leaders to have access to.

It is required that proposed changes to our constitution and by laws be submitted to the Club membership at least 14 days prior to a vote to consider their adoption. The Board of Directors has approved of the amendments. Now they are being sent to you.

A vote will be taken on the approval of the amended constitution and by laws on June 30. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about the proposed changes, please do not hesitate to contact me, and I will be happy to discuss them with you, and the rationale behind the Board's decision to recommend these changes.

Yours in Lionism.

PDG Terrell Thompson
Chair, Constitution and By Laws Committee