



Lions Clubs International District 23C Connecticut, USA

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MINUTES of the Monday, June 1, 2026 Meeting **District 23C Cabinet and Lions of Eastern CT District 23C Foundation** **Location: Ionic Lodge, 375 Boston Post Road, North Windham, CT 006256**

Call to order: Foundation President DG Jim Tripp called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

Attendees: DG Jim Tripp, CS Teri Schlosser, DGE Joanne Davis, 1st VDGE Darla Pigeon, 2nd VDGE Sharon Tiezzi, Lion Dave Tiezzi, IPDG Eileen Akers, ZC Christopher Grant, ZC Pam Zimmerman, ZC Lisa Klein, ZC Allen Guiot, GLT Greg Wind, GST Doria Daviau, ZC Kirk Engel, PDG Diana Grise, PCC Hilary Kumnick, PCC Nanette Burdick, Lion Bill Burdick, PCC Frank Rowe, PDG Laura Rowe, LCIF CC Amanda Shanks, PDG Julie Shilosky, PDG Sue Fisher, PDG Mary Krogh, CC Denise Murphy, Council Secretary/Treasurer PDG Ed Fenton.

Agenda items 1. thru 5. Four point opening responsibilities were shared by Lions Sharon Tiezzi, Eileen Akers, Chris Grant, Diana Grise, and Joanne Davis.

6. DG Jim Tripp opening remarks

Governor Jim shared our accomplishments and highlights of the year—particularly having a hand at starting 5 new District clubs and announcing the start of the adult screening equipment purchased by DCG grant and District Diabetes fund.

Belated presentation of Extension award—ZC Chris Grant for Willimantic Latino

Congratulations to our DGE Joanne Davis, 1st VDG elect Darla Pigeon, and 2nd VDGE Sharon Tiezzi. Click for full Governor's report [HERE](#).

DGE Joanne Davis provided a few words about her motto—Joy is Service, Service is Joy.

DG Jim thanked the Willimantic Latino Club for hosting a lovely dinner and presented them with a check.

7. Last Meeting Minutes: Foundation Secretary Teri Schlosser said they were emailed and asked for any corrections. Motion made to accept by 1st VDGE Darla; seconded by 2nd VDGE Sharon.

Correspondence/Good of the Order: CS Teri Schlosser, PCC

CS Teri assured Cabinet that donations were made in memory of the past recent 3

PDG/PCC's who passed. \$100 to Camp Rising Sun in memory of PDG Jan Miller; \$100 to Lions Low Vision Center for each of PDG Steve Novic and PCC Frank Mauro.

8. Treasurer's Report: Foundation Treasurer MaryJane Malavasi presented by CS Teri in her absence; Audit usually done in July after year end balances. Click [HERE](#) for financial reports as of end of May.

9. GLT Report: Lion Greg Wind reported training hours for District 23C throughout the year. 100% of ZC and club officers training for the year goals met. Also encouraged training at

Saturday's DLI. Only 26 have signed up to date. Full GST report [HERE](#).

10. **GST Report:** GST Doria Daviau 75% of clubs reported service this year...82% Lions/53% Leos. State Convention cereal donation went well. Red Cross Blood drives encouraged. Portland Lions will have one on Jun 3, 2026.

11. **GMT Report:** 2nd VDG Darla Pigeon busy visiting clubs about retention. Stop the drop flyer out from GAT team.

12. **GET Report:** PDG Michele Wyatt no written report; also working with 23A and 23B to start clubs

13. Zone Chair Reports

ZC Kirk—working with one club to fill officer positions.

ZC Pam—all clubs had DG meetings, completed 4 zone meetings to educate them on Portal, District website. Stable clubs but room to grow; monthly communication sent out. Guest speaker GST Greg. One club at risk and Guiding Lion has been assigned. Complete report can be accessed here: [ZC Pam Report HERE](#).

ZC Chris—Talked to most of presidents in zone; DG visited all of them. Wants to participate in his clubs' service projects

ZC Sharon—difficult for ZC meetings.

ZC Allen—Comstock Club ambitious and all clubs working fine.

Forming, storming, norming, performing

14. Link to [Leo Liaison Report](#); PDG Diana sent in a report 4,400 hours of service from Shoreline Leos Awards Night. She installed officers, encouraged Leo-Lion. She also conducted EO Smith lion officer installation and has been working with advisors to enter Leo officers in portal. August 5-9th is the Leo Forum in Maryland.

15. **Marketing/Communication:** GLT Greg/GST Doria—GLT Greg displayed all 4 Lion Marketing yard signs, 3 of which have been distributed to clubs. The 4th sign is an example to include QR code that leads potential members to inquire about membership on the MD23 website.

Steve Daigle negotiated under \$3 a piece for the 3 signs;

We can order the 4th new sign—1,000 more signs at \$3. Ed Fenton reported that \$3300 left of \$10,000 grant for signs; meeting this week to determine how many to order of each.

16. Committee Reports—

A. ALERT – Red Cross Blood Drives—Maria Gladue no report

B. Camp Rising Sun—PDGs Keith Lemire & Bill Allen

Letter to clubs—limiting visitors for Lions Day—Sunday instead of Wednesday; more to come; July 15th fundraiser sponsored by CRS

C. Diabetes—CC Nancy Macdonald

Nights of Giving—receiving donations; Clara Barton Camperships encouraged. \$3200/week.

D. CB&L/Policy & Protocol—DGE Joanne Davis & PDG Keith Lemire—no report

E. Amazon—PDG Mary; Deliveries every 6 weeks

F. Humanitarian—PDG Mary n/a

G. Hunger & Homeless—PDG Mary; refrigerated truck to TPC to help clubs p/u food for club communities (lobster rolls!) E Hampton Lions planning a dinner for seniors; Creating a form for clubs to assure they will keep and to whom will be benefitting; June 25-28th. Motion made by Darla to use up to \$1,000 to rent a refrigerated truck; Clubs will pay for a food delivery to offset rental cost. Motion carried.

- H. Pediatric Cancer & “Shave for the Kids”—PDG Laura report click [HERE](#)
- I. State Convention Report— PCC Teri reported 33 District 23C delegates voted for our DG/VDGs and MD23 budget.
- J. CT Bureau of Educ & Services for the Blind/CRIS— PDG Eileen; Happy that we received funds for readers. Looking for advisory board members for Services for the Blind—quarterly meetings. Please consider putting name in to be appointed by State reps
- K. CLERF—PDG Michele Wyatt & ZC Kirk Engel—Sight Saver Day participation was low; discussion on why? Marketing better; maybe Midwinter distribution of CANS!
- L. Environment—Tom Sinkewicz—no report
- M. Finance—CT MJ Malavasi, PCC Diane Bielski, PDG Mary, PDG Keith Lemire, DGE Joanne Davis;
Leo/Lion Pin designed; we need \$170. Motion made up to \$200 to use for State Leo/Lion pin; Allen motion, Sharon seconded; motion carried
- N. District Administrator —PCC Frank; Helping clubs out on Portal, putting in officers.
- O. Info Technology; Pam Zimmerman reported Constant Contact is up and running; 58 members on list: 10 bounced and 48 went through; 24 clicked on it. Click [HERE](#) for complete Constant Contact report.
- P. Journey for Sight—Mikayla Van Dam; no report. Eyeglass Collection & Extravaganza – SVDG Darla Collected 43,440 and 500 hearing aids. Click for [Eyeglass Collection Report](#)
- Q. [Hearing Preservation – PDG Sue’ report](#)
- R. [KidSight USA – PCC Nanette Burdick](#) report; [Kidsight Data HERE](#)
- S. LCIF – Amanda Shanks surpassed goal and almost reached our stretch goal. Reaching out to Leos to impress upon them how important our Foundation. Busy with Melvin Jones Fellow Breakfast; Visited a dozen clubs accepting LCIF donations. Working on a LCIF store for 23C; Merch with 24% going to LCIF. Telethon June 7th and IVP Mark Lyon is our MC. Click [HERE](#) for full report.

—PDG Mary reported grant money may be used for visually impaired...CRIS Radio received \$29,000 Limited Yard Goats tickets available for Thursday July 23rd savannah banana \$110.00

- T. Lions Quest no report
- U. Low Vision Center of Eastern CT – PCC/President Frank Rowe Annual mtg on Friday.; Guest speaker is Renee from Eastern CT Center for the Blind—looking for partnership with METAVISION.
- V. Long Range Planning—PCC Frank Rowe, DGE Joanne Davis—no report
- W. Peace Poster and Essay Contest—Michelle Smith no report
- X. Social Media – PDG Michele Wyatt looking for assistance to post 23C on Facebook.
- Y. Service Dogs—Geltman/Kumnick—no report; NE FIDELCO Lion Advisory visiting clubs when asked. Lions of NE have 7 Lions Logo Vans for FIDELCO Dogs.
- Z. Pin Trader Scholarships— Lion Bill Burdick : Nanette reported—Pin trader’s state convention meeting voted on officers: PDG Steve Daigle is president for next two years.
- AA. Promote CT/Lyon Pride PDG Dr. Keith Lemire/PDG Denise Dudek absent
- BB. Click for [Veterans Outreach](#) report—VDG Darla and CC George Finlayson; 894

veterans serviced in convalescent homes in District 23C—outstanding job meeting goals of district.

20. Old/New Business

- GRANT for Adult Screening Equipment (LEHP)--Dr. Keith, PDG & DG Jim; Goal is to use equipment by Veteran's Standdown. For minutes of urgent Foundation meeting to approve purchase of equipment Click [HERE](#).

- LEO-LION pins—expense approved; see above

21. Closing Thoughts - VDG Darla Pigeon

22. Adjournment 9:30

**Respectfully Submitted,
Cabinet Secretary Teri Schlosser**

Next Cabinet Meeting: Monday, July 27th East Hampton Lions Hosting

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To Mention/Discuss :

- Lions Low Vision Center(LLVC) of E. CT Annual Meeting; Friday, June 5, 2026, 6:30p.m.
- District Lions Leadership/Learning Institute (DLI)—Saturday, June 6th – RHAM High School
- New England Lions Council (NELC) Spring Meeting—June 6, 2026
- Opening Eyes—Vision screening at Special Olympics Meet (June 5-7) Volunteers?
- Middlesex Pride Lions Charter; Friday, June 12, 2026 (RSVP by June 5)
- Governor Jim's Testimonial – June 13, 2026 6:00 Westbrook Elks Club; **RSVP's needed this week**
- CLERF Annual Meeting; Monday, June 15th
- HONG KONG LCICON JULY 3-7, 2026

