



ATLANTIC CENTRAL DISTRICT

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

FIRST QUARTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

HOLIDAY INN, EAST WINDSOR, NJ

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2015

PRESENT: Governor Delores Wright, Governor Elect LaVera Seymour, Assistant Governor Marion Dourte, Secretary Maxcine Collier, Past Governor (PG) Kathleen Manchec, Lt Governors: *Zone 4 Ted Cerwood, Zone 5 Kenneth Seymour, Zone 7 Dallas Smith and Zone 8 Bob Collier*, Essay Chair Lisa Hoey, Finance Chair, Carol Brady, Leadership Development and Club Fitness Chair Gene Riordan, Meetings and Convention Chair Dee Cerwood and Optimist International Vice President (OIVP) Anne Donkers.

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Drummond, Lue Drummond and Patricia Williams

The meeting was called to order at 8:00PM by Governor Delores Wright. She introduced OIVP Anne Dockers who is our guest for the weekend. All attendees then introduced themselves.

Invocation was given by PG and Chaplain Bob Collier. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a toast offered by Governor Delores to Optimists in the US, Canada and around the world.

MOTION to approve the minutes. Kathleen Manchec/Kenneth Seymour Carried

FINANCE REPORT: *Carol Brady*

- Finance Committee recommends to continue using Fulton Bank. Signers will be Governor, Assistant Governor, Treasurer and Secretary.

MOTION to recommend that Optimist International bill clubs for District dues when they are billed for International dues. K. Manchec/L. Seymour Carried

- Bank and Cash Accounts \$30,002.25. Convention Checking 290.19 Total Bank and Cash Accounts \$30,292.44
- Proposed Budget for 2015-16 presented and discussed. Budget will be voted on Saturday.
- Clubs owing Optimist International (OI) dues are Emmaus, Mercer, Valley Forge, Howell and North Plainfield.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT/CLUB FITNESS: *Gene Riordan* A mini comprehensive leadership training workshop presentation on the qualities of a leader was given by Chair Gene.

ESSAY: *Lisa Hoey* This year's topic is *Lead by Example: Reality or Fiction*. She will send out informational packets to all presidents and club chairs by email and regular mail. The deadline for her to be in receipt of all essays is February 26, 2016. The entry fee is \$15.00. Lisa requested that clubs notify her if they are willing to receive essays (no more than 10) from students who do not have a nearby club in which to participate.

ASSISTANT GOVERNOR: *Marion Dourte* Per Governor Delores' request, PG Marion will be working closely with the Lt. Governors. She will keep them updated pertaining to all paperwork that needs to be completed. She suggested that Lt. Governors encourage clubs to have NOW (New Optimists Welcome) meetings. In addition, she distributed copies of various reports that Lt. Governors need to receive from clubs.

LT. GOVERNOR REPORTS

- ❖ ***Zone 4 Ted Cerwood:*** Some clubs are shrinking in membership, but all clubs are active.
- ❖ ***Zone 5 Kenneth Seymour:*** First Quarter Zone Meeting will be on December 5th and will be hosted by Dream Builders.
- ❖ ***Zone 7 Dallas Smith:*** There are 5 adult clubs in the Zone and 2 JOOI clubs. The beginning membership is 160. The first Zone meeting will be on October 19th and be hosted by East York.
- ❖ ***Zone 8 Bob Collier:*** There are 5 clubs in the Zone with a beginning membership of 82. New approaches will be tried to foster communications with the clubs.
- ❖ ***Liaison Zone 3 Kathleen Manchec:*** 8 clubs with a beginning membership of 169. ACPCs will be done by the end of October.

ORATORICAL CONTEST: *Assistant Governor Marion Dourte* distributed pertinent information pertaining to the Oratorical Contest. The AC District will not have Zone contests. There will be one single District contest in which both boys and girls will compete. The oration topic is: *How My Best Brings Out the Best in Others*. The District contest will be held on May 7, 2016. Our District will give three scholarships: \$2500.00 for first place, \$1500 for second place and \$1000 for third place.

Our first place District winner will compete at the Optimist Regional Contest at St. Louis University via live streaming. The Regional Contest is June 23, 2016.

Each Regional Winner will compete in the World Championship Contest for a chance to win a first, second, or third place scholarship of \$5,000, \$10,000, or \$15,000 respectively. The World Championship Contest will be held on June 24, 2016 at Saint Louis University via online streaming.

Anne Donkers added that those students who go to St. Louis will have the opportunity to participate in oratorical and debate workshops. Any student who goes to the competition at St. Louis University will receive a minimum scholarship to attend that university.

A discussion took place about whether we would assume the cost for a chaperone or parent to accompany our winner if he/she elected to go to St. Louis. There was no decision.

COMMUNICATIONS Contest for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing: *Assistant Governor Marion* reported that the topic for this contest is the same as the Oratorical Contest, *How My Best Brings Out the Best in Others*. The chairperson is *Ruth Moreland*.

NEW CLUB BUILDING: *Chair Sue Creswell* will give her report on Saturday, October 3rd.

POLICY: *Chairperson Kathleen Manchec* reported that Governor Delores will be requesting exceptions to the policy for Sections 3 and 18 to be voted on Saturday.

- Section 3 C Guy Templin to continue as Treasurer for another year after having served three years consecutively.
- Section 18 District Dee Cerwood to continue another year having exceeded the three year term limit; Zone 5 Lt. Governor Kenneth Seymour to serve as Internet Safety Chair; PG Kathleen Manchec to serve on both the Policy Committee and assist on the Convention Committee.
- Section 20 District Dues will be collected by OI this year. This requested change in policy will be voted on Saturday.

METINGS & CONVENTION: *Chair Dee Cerwood* reported that the 2nd Quarter Executive Board Meeting will be at the Inn at Reading on February 25, 2016. The Teleconference will occur on February 26, 2015. The Fourth Quarter Meeting and Convention will be held on August 26-28, 2016 in Gettysburg, PA.

PHOTO CONTEST: *Gene Riordan* shared a new Photo Contest handout that replaces page 73 in the Directory.

OIVP ANNE DONKERS

OIVP Anne Donkers stated that this was her first visit to a District's First Quarter Board meeting. She congratulated Governor Delores and her team. The District was encouraged to promote the Oratorical Contest, as it is one of this year's big events. Also, she mentioned that winners should be encouraged to go to St. Louis.

She urged the Atlantic Central District to assist in the growth surge to have 100,000 members by OI's 100 birthday. She reminded us that we must do it *Right Here, Right Now*.

The meeting was adjourned by Governor Delores Wright at 8:55PM followed by the reciting of the Optimist Creed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maxcine Collier, District Secretary