

~ MEETING MINUTES ~  
GYRO INTERNATIONAL 2016 CONVENTION

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING**

Super 8 Motel, Red Lake, ON (McKenzie Island hosting)

July 12, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Snyder at 8:38 a.m. He indicated we had a short time schedule so we'd move right along and get started

He then called upon VP Matt Johnson to offer the **Invocation**. Matt asked all to stand, then did request several blessings from the Lord and thanked the early Gyros who laid the groundwork of the organization. He then asked for a moment of silence in memory of departed Gyros, asking any present to verbally announce a recent departed.

President Chris then called upon Secretary-Treasurer Emil Baijot for the **Roll Call**. Emil indicated that all present should speak up for the recorders benefit and signify by saying aye. Present were the following:

EXEC. COUNCIL	President	Chris Snyder
	First Vice President	Dana Davidson
	Second Vice President	Dale Woodroffe
	Third Vice President	Matt Johnson
	Immed. Past President	Lonnie Turner
	Secretary-Treasurer	Emil Baijot
INTERNATIONAL	Financial Administrator	Ken Baker
DISTRICT I	Secretary-Treasurer	Larry Larson
DISTRICT II	Governor	Neil Baker
DISTRICT III	Immed. Past Governor	Tim Miskolezi
DISTRICT IV	Governor	Saul Hilchey
	Lt. Governor	Peter Evans
DISTRICT VI	PDG	Bill McKinnon
DISTRICT VII	Governor	Ross Davis
	Lt. Governor	Blanton Bessinger
	Immed. Past Governor	Ted Shewchuk
DISTRICT VIII	Governor	John Hodgson
	Secretary-Treasurer	Ken Baker
	Immed. Past Governor	Alan Pentney
DISTRICT IX	1st Lt. Governor	Lowell Gist
DISTRICT X	Governor	Gary Ennis
	Lt. Governor	Al Sinicrope
	Secretary	Lonnie Turner
	Immed. Past Governor	Steve Anderson

The S-T reported to President Chris all the Districts were represented and the Meeting indeed had a quorum. The president then took a moment to recognize the PIPs in the audience. Chris then asked for a motion to approve the minutes as circulated. (m/s/a)

Executive Council Officer Reports –

Each EC member gave his report detailing activities since the last meeting. Copies are attached to summary package report.

Secretary-Treasurer Report –

Emil offered his comments on Finances – the good news was that in the face of a probable \$20k deficit for this coming year, mostly attributable to the huge Canadian-US dollar exchange rate, a number of factors have contributed to having a balanced budget. GyroScope costs were cut in half; nearly \$5000 in donations from two districts and several clubs; and some further tightening of expenses such as eliminating the office copier have all helped. Further, there was no need to tap the Memorial Funds as is permissible each year. He then called upon Ken Baker, Financial Administrator, to offer his comments. Ken reviewed a few of the details that contributed to the report and indicate that we may be in future trouble since there was no further cuts available short of major changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. A BOG motion to approve the budget was **m/s/a**.

Question: what about selling the HQ building. Emil explained that as shown in the notes our costs of staying were far less than renting a suitable location elsewhere. The costs of \$9944 amounted to about \$0.70 per square foot. A Cleveland area check of similar office space rentals indicated that costs elsewhere would be from \$1.00 per square foot and up. He also noted that basically the building has been refurbished over the last few years – no further expense is contemplated. Chris noted that the building also contains the history of Gyro and suitable storage would be an unnecessary expense if we were to move elsewhere. Scanning all the material would be a lengthy and expensive effort. These and other options to cut further would be part of the following Governors meeting – thus further discussion about finances were delayed until the Governors report following lunch.

Reports –

President Chris reviewed the *ECs meeting*. He noted that considerable time was spent discussing the budget and the other issues as noted on the Agenda.

**Past District Governors Meeting:** Report was given by the meeting chairman. Copy is attached to summary.

**Betterment Fund:** PIP Mike gave a report as to the funds available. Not much was used since the last report. Possible further usage might be the answer to upcoming comments by the new Membership Director Larry Duba.

**NEC follow up:** In the absence of a representative, Chris indicated that the EC was suggesting that the NEC had done a great job of making recommendations and it was now up to the districts and clubs to implement them. Since several key members of the NEC committee were now on the new Membership Committee, the EC recommends closing the NEC committee.

**Membership Committee:** Larry Duba, Chair, gave an outline of issues he felt imperative in order to make the committee productive. These issues would be discussed in the separate Governor Meeting with their recommendations to be submitted to the BOG following lunch.

New Business –

**Budget Review** – President Chris reviewed the obvious options as noted on the agenda, such as the usual eliminating an EC officer, shortening the meeting schedule, selling the HQ building and further reductions in visitations. These issues would be part of the Governor’s agenda and reported upon following lunch. Further discussion dwelt upon the recommendations from the Membership Chairman as to funding, making the position part of the EC, and centralizing a charitable foundation. These would also be subject to detailed discussion the Governors Meeting. **Assets re: Club/District failures** – Offered for discussion by Ken Baker the “what if” prospect should a club or district cease to exist. Should there be a bylaws amendment to handle what in some cases are considerable assets? **Future Seminars** – The EC decided to continue the training as has been done with hopes that greater emphasis would emanate from the district officers.

*The meeting was then adjourned with a short break, after which the Governors only meeting would commence. The report of the Governors meeting is attached.*

President Chris reopened the meeting calling to continue from the Agenda.

Old Business –

**NEC Committee** – As previously noted, the EC recommended closing the committee, the BOG approved.

Membership -

**Membership Chairman** – Larry Duba gave a lengthy report on his efforts to date, indicating the Governors did not accept some of his recommendations, however he would take into consideration that the committee should take in a member (PDG) from each district. Copy of his report is attached to the convention package.

President Chris then called upon PDG Steve Anderson to offer his report on contacting other men's groups to seek new membership. Specifically his report was directed at the Medal of Honor organization. Wonderful speakers to employ – significant exposure to quality organizations – new member interest, all sponsored by Gyro. The response from the BOG was to commend Steve for his efforts and suggest he continue in his efforts and report later on its success. Steve received a warm round of applause for his efforts.

### Constitutional or Bylaws Changes

S/T Emil noted that the issue on the agenda was now determined to be not necessary to be handled as an amendment (it dealt with the approved D-VII request that past financial data be available on the website {further resolved to be limited to four years}). However, a later Resolution was offered for approval. Sec. 8, Chapter V was requested to be changed because since there would be no Interim in 2018, it thus caused only one annual meeting for that year. The bylaws require two annual meetings each year. This would allow for any future adjustments. (m/s/a).

The President exclaimed he had gotten of the agenda sequence so he called for any other old or new business. **Convention by District Rotation** – It was noted that the previously determined rotation was indicated under Future Conventions section. D-II was the first in line, and as such, Governor Baker rose to indicated that in the spirit of friendship his district would be planning the 2018 convention. Early details would be addressed later. **Revamp Betterment Fund** – possible reinterpreting the rules of the Fund to allow funding as necessary to support the Membership committee. Emil did note that the existing rules did allow for special circumstances, so perhaps no change was necessary Considerable discussion requiring further study. **Updating Bylaws** -a follow up only, the Constitution and Bylaws were update by PIP Randall from the 2011 edition to the current date.

Chris suggested that to minimize redundant discussion it was now time for the **Governors Meeting report**. Calling on Chairman Alan Pentney to make the report to the combined BOG and then act as moderator for any discussion.

Chairman Alan then proceed to review the **Governors meeting**. The overall points are covered in the report. He indicated the Governors took a hard look at revenue regeneration - since there would probably not be further donations next year, how will the budget be balanced in the future? Others points: 1) the line item for GyroScope should remain in the budget, 2) try for better communications. 3) a dues increase was advanced but not supported – so there was a recommendation for a motion that the dues continue at \$60, 4) a recommendation to the Governors themselves to look into revenue generation in the form of raffles and the like, 5) a request for earlier notice of dues in arrears, and 6) a recommendation that all clubs be required to pay the annual dues in one installment upon the receipt of the invoice. Some discussion ensued primarily with regards to 6). The S/T will advise all the clubs that a single payment requirement has been in effect for two years.

There was additional random discussion re: a possible conflict between Membership Director and Betterment Fund if he were to be on the that board and also receiving funds. VP Matt Johnson then gave an impassioned speech suggesting that the Membership Director and the Betterment Fund were actually directed at the same goal of improving Gyro The final decision was a motion that the Director establish a committee with at least one PDG from each district, along with other interested parties – the committee to be funded by the Betterment Fund – and the committee to make its recommendations in advance of each EC and BOG meeting. (m/s/a).

President Chris thanked the Governors for their efforts.

Alan then Pentney noted there was still another motion re: shortening meetings by a day, that required a decision. It was then noted that the next Interim was fixed by contract, and the Vancouver convention was already set to four days and there would be no Interim in 2018, so it was a rather moot point that would be revisited later. It could be called to attention at the AGM.

### Awards –

The S/T noted that the EC had not received any requests for major awards. He suggested that perhaps the district officers were not considering putting forth good candidates for Lifetime, GOTY, etc. and or/for the Merit Award. Other awards for bulletins and club expansion et al will be presented at the AGM.

### Future Meetings –

**2017 Interim** – Under the direction of VP Davidson, this is scheduled for San Diego, January 29 through February 3, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. \$115 per night for rooms. Parking \$8 [er day. \$130 registration. Lots of entertainment options. Details are on the website.

**2017 Convention** – D-4 Governor Saul Hilchey said it is scheduled to be hosted by several local clubs. It will be a four-day event in a downtown Vancouver, BC hotel, the Crown Plaza. Arrangements are available for an optional seven-day cruise to Alaska. The cruise will offer Gyro gatherings and socials, but all Gyro business will be conducted during the four-day hotel convention. No Gyro \$\$\$ is involved with the cruise! Details are available on the Gyro website.

**2018 Interim** – As recommended by the BOG, this interim will not be held in the interest of correcting the financial shortfall caused by the declining Canadian dollar value. Future interims will be resumed if conditions warrant.

**2018 Convention** – D-II Governor Baker reiterated that it will be hosted by the district at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin at the Abbey Resort. This is about a 45-minute drive north of O'Hara airport in Chicago.

The following conventions will be hosted by D-9, then D-6, then D-1 and then D-10 in that order. Districts are reminded the BOG resolution allowed for negotiations between districts to make substitutions.

Comments for the Good of the Order –

***District Reports:*** President Chris then asked the delegates to submit their district reports. With regards to the time he asked if they would like to read them now or submit them to be read online. It was determined that each Governor make a short verbal report. Copies are attached to the summary package.

Hearing no further comments, President Chris thanked everyone for attending and their friendship, and thanking them for their perseverance through the long BOG meeting.

He then asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was so made. **m/s/a.** 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  
Emil Baijot,  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
Gyro International