Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Saturday August 15, 2026 2:00 pm

McIntosh Inn, Morrisburg

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Called to order by Governor Larry Harper.

Voting Members Present

Christine Smith, Bonnie Scheer-Porteous, Brian Wick, Larry Harper, Cathy McGowan, Don Zynomirski, Brenda Dillabough, Jeanette Martin, Kim Eros, Terry Muir, Klaus Hoeg, Anna Hill, and Iris Krahmer.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Rob Gaby, seconded by Alex Hilson. Carried.

3rd Quarter Financial Report and Approval

Moved by Ted Simmonds, seconded by Joan Carter. Carried.

Approval of 3rd Quarter Minutes

Moved by Christine Smith, seconded by Iris Krahmer. Carried.

Committee Reports

Growth: Reported on club growth, highlighting the establishment of two new clubs: the Stormont Club, chartered on October 1, and the Augusta Optimist Club, chartered on March 31. One additional club is currently being developed in the Brockville area.

Leadership Development: George and Christine provided updates on leadership development initiatives, including new workshop ideas and the relaunch of the Optimist Institute. Plans are underway to implement additional innovative programs in the coming year.

JOI: Plans were discussed for a full-day leadership development session in Kingston on November 7, along with efforts to rebuild the JOI District with potential financial support from the Keswick Club.

Junior Golf: Reported on the successful Junior Golf Tournament, which saw a 24% increase in attendance, with 28 paid golfers participating. Sixteen players qualified for Florida, including three golfers from the district.

A&A: Emphasized the importance of submitting A&A reports by the end of September to maintain club rankings.

Candidate Qualifications: Announced Lieutenant Governor candidates for various zones and confirmed that Alex Hilson is the only candidate who has completed the Candidate Qualifications (CQ) process for Governor-Elect. Also announced the appointment of Alex Parthenak as Zone 11 Lieutenant Governor.

Marketing: Outlined plans to explore alternative communication platforms through the upcoming communications survey. Members were encouraged to engage with district emails, follow the Central Ontario Facebook page, and add club events to the website calendar.

Zone Reports: Reports were received from Zones 1, 2, 3, 5, and 10.

Approval of District Policy Changes

Details were presented by Alex Ansell. Other committee members included George Clarke and Brenda McDonald.

An explanation was provided regarding the separation of the District Secretary and District Treasurer roles and the impact of those changes. Additional proposed revisions included updates to the duties of the Assistant Governor and Past Governor, Conference Chair accommodations, expense reimbursement procedures, and the removal of outdated lapel insignia policies.

Motion: Moved by Christine Smith, seconded by Alex Hilson, to adopt the recommended policy updates. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Bonnie Scheer-Porteous, seconded by Gord Holly, to amend the policies where appropriate to include "and/or O.I." in the expense reimbursement section. Carried.

Closing Remarks

Governor Larry Harper

Adjournment