CENON 1st Quarter District Conference
Board of Directors Meeting - Minutes

Quality Inn
Kingston, Ontario

Saturday, November 7th, 2026

Head Table: Governor Christine Smith, Governor-Elect Alex Hilson, District Secretary Linda Mitchinson, Past Governor Bonnie Scheer-Edge, Finance Chair Past Governor Ralph Brunton

1.	**Call to Order: 2:06 pm**	**Governor Christine Smith**
2.	**Welcome and Introductions**	**Governor Christine Smith**
3.	**Voting Rights:** Voting by District Executive, Lt. Governors, & Presidents (or designates submitted in writing by 4pm Friday)	**Secretary Linda Mitchinson**
4.	**Approval of Agenda** **Motioned by:** Brenda Zynomirski **Seconded:** George Clarke **Discussion:** None **Carried**	**Governor Christine Smith**
5.	**Motion to amend 3rd Quarter Board of Directors Minutes**	**Governor Christine Smith**
	Motioned by: George Clarke **Seconded**: Iris Krahmer **Discussion:** To add after the motion, Terry Muir asked the question, does this mean that there are no geographical boundaries between Clubs and Zones? Response by Parliamentarian Alex Ansell: As per our district policies there are no boundaries as such. Confirmed by members of the rezoning committee. **Carried**	
6.	**Motion to accept the 3rd Quarter Board of Directors Minutes as amended.**	**Governor Christine Smith**
	Motioned by: Alex Hilson **Seconded:** Louis Savard **Discussion:** None **Carried**	
7.	**Approval of the 4th Quarter Board of Directors Minutes**	**Governor Christine Smith**
	Motioned by: George Clarke **Seconded:** Bonnie Scheer-Edge **Discussion:** Edit on Alex Parthenais' Name **Carried**	
8.	**Review of 2026 Convention Report for Approval (as prepared by Convention Chair Barb Holly)**	**Governor Christine Smith**
	Motioned by: George Clarke, as the intention is to break even on all conferences & conventions, and not make a profit, I would like to present the following, that the net profit of $3,459.77 be held as a restricted income and be used solely for the purpose of subsidizing the 43rd Annual Convention, to assist with making it as affordable as other conventions in a location that may be more costly, in hope of obtaining as many possible attendees as can be achieved. If the funds are not required for the convention to meet this goal, then the funds can be transferred to general revenues for the following year. **Seconded**: Amanda Carey **Discussion**: None **Carried**	
9.	**Review of 4th Quarter Financial Statement for Approval**	**Past Governor Brian Wick**
	Brian Wick: All dues were paid. Receipts of 49,408, which includes $600 interest from the GIC. Expenditures of $46,550.87, Net increase- $2,257. Closing balance-$33,153 which includes the $20,000 GIG. We have essentially $13,153 which includes the restricted profits of **$3,459.77** from the convention	

	Motion by: Linda Andrus to accept the review of the 4th Quarter financial statement as presented **Seconded:** Alex Parthenais **Discussion:** None **Carried**	
10.	**Review of the 2026-27 Revised Budget Proposal for Approval**	**Past Gov./ Finance Chair Ralph Brunton**
	Motioned by: Ted Simmons **Seconded:** Jennifer Carter **Discussion:** Questions answered **Carried**	
11.	**Approval of the Review Committee for 2025 to 2026 consisting of Past Gov. Jim Lynge, Past Gov. Brenda McDonald & Past Gov. Sheril Thomson**	**Past Gov./ Finance Chair Ralph Brunton**
	Motioned by: George Clarke **Seconded:** Bonnie Scheer-Edge **Discussion:** None **Carried**	
12.	**Approval of the 2026-2027 District Recognition Program (as proposed by L. Reily)**	**Governor Christine Smith**
	Motioned by: Alex Hilson **Seconded:** Iris Krahmer **Discussion:** Questions answered/clarifications **Carried**	
13.	**Zone Reports from 1,2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11** were presented and will be available on the Website	**Lieutenant Governors**
14.	**Committee Reports**	**Committee Chairs**
	Candidates Qualifications-Past Gov. Bonnie- Governor Elect Alex is looking to build his team. Qualifications for Lt. Gov. are that you need to have been a past President. We are also looking for a Gov. Elect after Alex takes on his Gov. position. So please reach out to Past Gov. Larry, if your interested in any positions for 2027-2028 year.	**Past Governor Larry Harper**
	Essay & Oratorical- Jeanette is new to her role, so you should be hearing from her within the next week. The Essay topic is "How my actions strengthen those around me".	**Jeanette Martin**
	CCDHH-Communications contest for the deaf & hard of hearing, we have set the District Final for April 15th, 27. Please reach out if you have any contestants interested.	**Ted Simmonds**
	Junior Golf- Greg is a member of Orangeville. We are moving to a new location, Shelburne Golf & Country at 1 o'clock. More updates to follow.	**Greg Verner**
	Communications- Tien Nguyen new to the role. I would like to make some positive changes in how we communicate and give every club a voice. I'm looking forward to working with all of you, so please reach out. The website updates are underway. We are dealing with some WordPress access issues. Tien is always looking for members to join his team.	**Tien Nguyen**
	Membership & Engagement-For October we had 24 additions & 10 deletions for a net plus 14. Congratulations to all clubs in the +ve. Our goal of 1 member per month is certainly attainable, just ask someone today.	**Jennifer Carter**
	Growth- Past Gov. Larry has resigned this position, so we are looking for someone to take it on. The new optimistinfo.org has resources on club building. Think of a Club within a Club format.	**Governor Christine Smith**

	Gov. Christine has received an email from OI that someone is looking to build a club in Mississauga again, so she will start some preliminary conversations around that. **Leadership & Development-** Our goal is to, wherever possible utilize District representatives and Club members to both develop and deliver our training initiatives. We've made a conscious effort, to deliver programs that allow for inclusion of both adult Optimist Members and JOI members together. I encourage members to send me ideas that may be developed into future training opportunities, especially those that can accommodate both adults and youth. You can email me at tsar@rogers.com with your ideas. Optimist Institute is there for your enrichment, go log in and see what they have to offer. The Password this year is 2627institute. **Conference Report-** We have 53 registered, 6 guests, 12 JOI members, 4 First Timers. All Zones are represented and 19 clubs represented. Congratulations to Cornwall with 9 members present. Costs for conferences are estimated using 60 registrations as a base, getting more members out to the conferences will help to make it more affordable for everyone. **OI Convention-** July 6th-9th, 2027 in New Orleans. Gov. Christine encouraged members to attend, learn, feel the excitement, and bring back the information to share with your clubs, & the District. **Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation-** The outsourcing program can help you offer a tax receipt for your larger Donors. The spread relief program offers grant of up to $3,000 quarterly, for childhood health & well being to assist families dealing with mental & physical health issues. Deadlines are Nov. 30th, Feb. 28th, may 31st & Aug.31st. There's also a JOI Grant of $500, check out the website for details. If we raise $25,000 before the Convention in August, optimist Jenilee Mahy has agreed to cut off her mane and donate it for children's wigs. If we bring in $10,000, Optimist Don Zynomyrski will change his hair colour for every Quarter & convention. **JOI Updates**: $265 was raised from the snowman sales, and that money is directly supporting them being able to come to the conferences. They all had to register & pay a lunch fee. So we are trying to have them understand the value in fundraising for themselves.	**Past Int. VP George Clarke** **Past Gov. Bonnie Sheer-Edge** **Gov. Christine Smith** **Ted Simmonds** **Past Int. VP Anne Donkers**
15.	**New Business-** The name of the Tiger is ROARy	**Governor Christine Smith**
16.	**Announcement of the date and time for the next regular Board of Directors Meeting**	**Governor Christine Smith**
	February 6 & 7th – Newmarket Optimist Club, Newmarket	
17.	**Motion to adjourn with the Optimist Creed 4: 18 pm**	**Governor Christine Smith**
	Motioned by: Jan Wilson **Seconded:** Jean Clarke **Discussion:** None **Carried**	