

GYRO DISTRICT IV EXECUTIVE

DISTRICT IV BUSINESS MEETING

Vernon - September 21, 2019

Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 09:03 by Governor Jordan Henry

Invocation and Remembrance: Past District Governor, Peter Evans, performed the Invocation and called on members to name those club members who had died or who were seriously ill and, hence, in their thoughts.

Recognition of Dignitaries and Executive Officers: Governor Jordan Henry reported that all Executive Officers were in attendance; he also welcomed new District Webmaster, John Overall (Victoria).

Greetings from Gyro International - Past International President, Matt Johnson, brought fraternal greetings from the International Executive and wished the meeting success.

Roll Call and List of Proxies

The following clubs were represented by their Presidents:

Club	President
Albernis	Dan Mihaychuk
Camosun	Pat Marshall
Fraser/Delta	Don Stone
Kamloops	Bruce Krusel
Kelowna	Dennis Denney
Nanaimo	Sam Day
Prince George	Mike Stelter
Tacoma	Dan Durbin
Vernon	Bruce Holmes
Victoria	Dan Blanchard

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Delegates represented the following clubs:

Club	Delegate
Golden Ears	Andrew McDougall
North Shore	Alban Leduc
Olympia	Matt Johnson
Vancouver, BC	Don Patterson (Lt. Governor)

Also in attendance:

Jordan Henry	District Governor (Kamloops)
Frank Hunaus	District Treasurer (Fraser/Delta)
Colm Foy	Acting District Secretary (Camosun)
Matt Williams	District Lt Governor-elect (Nanaimo)
Peter Evans	Past District Governor (Victoria)
John Overall	District Webmaster
Bill Gilroy	International member

Acceptance of 2019 Interim Convention Minutes

Moved by Dan Blanchard, seconded by Peter Evans. Adopted.

Business Arising:

- District Membership Report

As of July 31st, 543 members = 97% c/w 2018

- Status of Transfer of Vancouver Foundation report from Treasurer, Frank Hunaus

Taken over from Vancouver Gyro who used it to collect money from members and match with donations to other charities. Also took over CRA status and agreement.

Kelowna asked if there were any balances. Though several thousand dollars had been distributed by the Foundation, the account is currently empty.

- International Insurance Policy - Peter Evans

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With Peter Stanford, an experienced lawyer and insurance specialist from Camosun Club, he had examined the liability insurance policy paid for by International. It covers all 41 Canadian clubs up to \$2 million, with wide coverage, including liability for any accidents caused by the Clubs' serving alcohol. PDG Peter Evans said that, while being a registered non-profit could ease application of the policy, such registration is not absolutely necessary, although many clubs are registered. The conclusion is that the policy provides adequate coverage. It costs about USD 6,000 for both US and Canadian clubs.

- Leader Term Limits – Matt Johnson, Past International President

PIP Matt Johnson made a case for District Executives positions being two-year terms, offering some arguments including the possible increased ease with which candidates for the various positions could be found. Governor Jordan Henry saw merit in the suggestion – more experience, better rapport with International, but noted that it's a really long commitment (6 years, all in all). Other Districts have done it – half currently do – so it may be something District IV might like to consider in a future meeting.

- International Technology Update – Matt Williams

The International Technology Committee, on which Matt and incoming webmaster John Overall serve, looked at all the different sites at every level of the organization and at ways for International to support clubs' needs, meaning less duplication and less need for individual tech-savvy web masters for each club. The updated International database is expected to be on-line by January 2020.

Reports:

- The following clubs handed in reports: Fraser/Delta; Golden Ears; Kelowna; Kitimat; North Shore; Vernon and Victoria. The remaining clubs promised to send in theirs by email. Governor Jordan Henry stressed the importance of these reports as valuable information and shared experiences with other clubs.
- Governor - Jordan Henry

Since the Nanaimo Interim, the Governor attended installations at Fraser/Delta (Don Stone), Kamloops (Bruce Krusel), Vancouver, Washington (Bob Dungan) and Prince George (Mike Stelter). He also attended the International Convention in Reno and the Golden Ears Executive Dinner.

Governor Jordan Henry listed that he considered to be the main issues for the coming year. These included whether the Governor or the Lt Governor needed to travel to each and every installation when another Executive member was closer; whether and how to offer financial support to club special events, such as Victoria and Vancouver's centenaries; a simplified system for chartering new clubs; improving relations between District and International; how to

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encourage inter-club travel; and convincing clubs to commit to Interim and full Conventions years in advance.

He fulsomely thanked his wife, Catherine, for her support and recognised the support of Lt Governor Don Patterson, PDG Peter Evans, Treasurer Frank Hunaus, Secretary Sean Walsh, Matt Johnson, Matt Williams, Bruce Holmes and acting Secretary Colm Foy. He reserved particular praise for the Vernon club and Rob Prasloski for hosting the Convention.

- Lt. Governor – Don Patterson

Don Patterson reminded the meeting participants that he was relatively new to Gyro (7 years) and not used to travelling to other clubs but it's been a good experience with very nice people and great hosts (installations). He paid tribute to Jordan for his wisdom, guidance and advice. His trips to installations for Camosun, Sidney, Olympia and Kelowna helped him to understand how Gyro works. Don agreed that there is something to be said for a two-year term and said his experience showed the benefits of interclub travel. Membership: Gyro is a gift and there should be no need to sell it – we need to go out and bring people into our club by talking to them and recognising the value of Gyro.

- Past District Governor – Peter Evans

Last hurrah! Peter agreed that travelling to other clubs is one of the best things you can do if you are to understand everything that Gyro has to offer. It is very important that we encourage other Gyros to travel, even if it's not always convenient – billeting may be daunting but has real value added. Men need to do things together to have shared experiences and build friendship. It all requires effort but it's worth it! It's been a real pleasure and privilege, so thanks to all.

- Treasurer – Frank Hunaus

We have had a break-even year. The executive has been careful about spending; we do have a contingency fund set up by Bob Skene, but there is no current intention to draw on the fund. Final financial statements will be distributed to all by email, but Frank handed out printed interim reports. Shareholders (Gyros) are also the customers (Gyros)!

- Secretary

The acting District Secretary had nothing to report, at this stage.

- District Webmaster – John Overall was introduced by Matt Williams.

New Business:

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- Victoria International Convention, Victoria 100th

Ocean Pointe resort has been hired for the Convention. Dan Blanchard reminded the meeting that there are many things to do in Victoria, so participants in the International Convention and guests at the centenary celebration will not be bored. A 2020 Committee headed by Peter Newman has been established and the results of their labours can be seen by visiting the Victoria Gyro Club website (victoriagyro.com).

- D4 2020 Interim Convention – Victoria

Governor Jordan Henry spoke re: DIV Business Meeting at Interim on June 13th (when next Lieutenant Governor candidates will be interviewed).

- D4 2020 Convention – Vancouver, Fraser/Delta

DIV Business meeting and election of officers will take place on the Friday.

- Vancouver 100th 16/17 October 2020

All clubs in Vancouver are joining to help celebrate because that's where it all started in 1919. Vancouver is also first club to be born in District IV. The clubs are still working on full agenda, but, says Don Patterson, it will be a "pretty good party (Roaring 20s theme)".

- D4 2021 Interim Convention, 100th – Nanaimo has committed.
- D4 2021 Convention – Prince George has committed.
- D4 2022 Interim – Kamloops has committed.
- D4 2069 Convention - Olympia has committed.

Kelowna reported that co-operation with the District, especially help with administration, made the Kelowna Convention possible and a great success. Clubs should bear in mind that District is there to help when considering hosting the convention. Overcame club resistance by demonstrating that the members did not have to do everything themselves.

Observation from Vernon: people need to have "skin in the game", by which Rob means a financial commitment from people in advance – deposit and early registration are good modes for concretising commitments from out-of-town people (or even locals). Realistic costs – don't be afraid to charge an economic rate. Rewards of hosting outweigh any extra financial costs.

- District 4 Financial Commitment for 100 year Club Celebration

2019 District Convention, September 20-21, Vernon B.C.

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Governor Jordan Henry introduced the subject by reminding the meeting that the District budgets funds to pay for events that specifically have a District-wide effect. For regular Interims and Conventions, historical contributions are as follows:

Ladies' coffee – one day (\$500)

Business Meeting – one day (\$500)

Hospitality room – two days (\$750)

Now we have requests for funding for 100-year celebration. In Victoria, we would have, according to the programme, a one-day Business meeting, no ladies' coffee, one-night hospitality.

In Vancouver, we have one-night hospitality, one Ladies' coffee, one business meeting.

In each case, these are one-day DIV events.

The Executive is proposing that a special funds "template", including requirements needed to make a business case, be created for clubs to use when requesting additional financial support. Once a request has been received and validated, it would be presented at the following District IV Business Meeting for an approval vote. In other words, we need to know why a club needs the money and where they plan on spending any support.

The Executive is asking for a motion to give the Executive authority to require clubs to itemise their need for extra funding, for subsequent presentation at the following business meeting.

Frank Hunaus: we need to be able to see where our funds are going to be used for the benefit of the District. E.g., to fund activities that benefit visiting members and raise the profile of Gyro *as a District*.

Dan Blanchard (Victoria): It makes sense to have to itemise requests for funds.

Matt Williams. As the Interim in Victoria is occurring before the next business meeting, we will have to complete the analysis and distribute to presidents for approval over email.

Andrew McDougall (Nanaimo) asked if International would pay for the hospitality suite in Victoria, since it's also an International Convention. Governor Jordan said he didn't think so, as Victoria mentioned that as one of its requests. Matt Johnson clarified that due to the cost of hospitality, International's contribution would cover half the amount. The Victoria Convention Committee is asking DIV for assistance towards the remainder.

Lt Governor Don Patterson pointed out that the International Convention and Victoria's centenary is a great opportunity for getting raised profile for Gyro in DIV, which would justify the District's investment in the event.

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Victoria reported that the Committee is looking into ways of capitalising on the event to increase visibility of Gyro – try to get news coverage and/or sponsorship from local businesses.

PDG Peter Evans made clear that our funds are not endless; we need to have guidelines so that we can continue to fund events.

Acting Secretary Colm Foy thought it important to remember that grants are not the only form of support: loans are also possible.

Kelowna asked if there could be some kind of “administration and organisation model”? How about some “institutional” or template model for Gyro publicity or promotion.

Matt Williams replied that, yes, that’s possible. Further, the new website system will allow clubs to maintain “their own” pages more easily and without needing to be as technically proficient.

He concluded that Clubs need to be aware that their efforts should be lessons for others over time. We should be able to develop DIV templates to help with these issues.

In reply to a comment from Matt Williams about the need to establish what our “traditional” funding should be and then how to evaluate funding requests for “extra” events, PIP Matt Johnson pointed out that when a club holds an Convention event they usually come out ahead, so they should undertake to repay the loan/investment.

Motion by PDG Peter Evans: The District IV Executive should develop a proposal template that facilitates consideration of special funding requests made to the District by Clubs that are sponsoring or holding DIV events.

Seconded by Dennis Denny (Kelowna) and Andy McDougall (Nanaimo).

Passed unanimously.

Other business

- Fiscal Year End Date

Treasurer Frank Hunaus said that this topic had come up because whenever we have the Fall Convention, we can never give final figures because we haven’t paid the cost of the Convention itself. However, Frank sees no need for a rule change because the estimates are generally fairly accurate and all clubs will receive full reports by email.

There was no need for a motion because no change was suggested or voted upon.

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- York Brimacombe will be held by Albernis this year with full agenda including ladies strawberry teas.
- How to begin the job of rebuilding an aging Gyro population and beginning new clubs

Lt Governor Don Patterson said he had spent a lifetime in marketing and sales, which has given him a specific take on things. His introduction to Gyro was unspecific probably because his sponsor didn't know how to express what Gyro is and why it exists. The key is "social interaction"; we have something in Gyro that is very special – the gift of friendship and we have a responsibility to pay that forward. There are more people in N. America isolated than at any time in history – should have thousands of members, not hundreds or tens. Computers and TVs have taken us into isolation.

We have forgotten how to network. We may be forgetting what a gift Gyro is, as we are reminded in the Kitimat Newsletter:

"One of the greatest gifts of life is friendship, and through GYRO we have achieved it"

Men need to have friendships but don't know how to go about finding friends.

He has holding an event for a dozen guys who want to learn more about Gyro – Peter Evans will come to speak to them, so will others. All are interested, maybe a new club?

Contact people through newcomers' clubs, coffee flyers etc.

You have to want to do it.

Dan Blanchard (Victoria): Some members focus on the cost, rather than the benefits of friendship. We need new blood, new stories to tell, new candidates for office. We have a disease of losing members.

A number of members shared their own experiences of Gyro welcomes.

- Motions From the floor

Thanks to District and former officers, as well as everyone in the room was offered from Governor Jordan Henry.

- Adjournment Moved by Andy Mc Dougal.