

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of District VIII held in Lacombe, Alberta on Thursday, June 20, 2024

In attendance were members from Calgary, Castlegar, Edmonton, Regina, Sherwood Park, and Stampede City

- ❖ The meeting was called to order by Governor Dunc Mills at 9am.
- ❖ Larry Dobson of the Edmonton club was called upon to give the Invocation.
- ❖ Governor Dunc introduced the head table and gave his opening remarks.
- ❖ Credentials and roll call by Secretary Treasurer determined that there was a quorum.
- ❖ PIP, Alan Pentney advised the meeting that Roberts Rules of Order would be followed for this meeting.
- ❖ The minutes of the AGM held in Calgary, AB had been posted to the district VIII website AND, also sent to all members of District VIII by email on May 24, 2024. A motion was made that the minutes, as distributed, be approved. That motion was passed unanimously.
- ❖ PIP, Peter Carter gave greetings from Gyro International. He spoke in general terms of the proposed reorganization of the structure of Gyro International, the betterment fund, and the work of the Membership committee.
- ❖ Lt Governor, Ted Ewanchuk reported that he had been quite active during his year as Lt Governor. Clubs in Nelson and Cranbrook were visited in September. He travelled with Governor Dunc to Wallace in February to instal their club officers. Lt Governor Ted again travelled to Wallace earlier in June to represent our District at their annual “Gyro Days” celebration (Lead Creek Derby). And finally, Lt Governor Ted attended the International Convention in Niagara Falls.
- ❖ IPDG, Ken Williamson, reported that family matters had prevented him from being active during his final year on the district executive.
- ❖ Governor Dunc kept himself busy this year. He spoke about the road trip to visit with the British Columbia clubs, his attendance at Sherwood Park events, his attendance in Calgary at the Christmas party where he impersonated Santa Claus. He spoke of his trips to Regina on New Years Eve to attend their club Levy and of his trip to Wallace in February to install their club officers. He also attended at the International Convention at Niagara Falls where he was Installed as the 2nd Vice President of Gyro International.
- ❖ Club delegate reports were shared. Most clubs are active and hold a variety of events for their members to participate in. Attracting new members is a common problem and of course ageing membership is a problem all clubs seem to be dealing with.
- ❖ Financial results for the year ended April 30, 2024 were presented to the membership (copies had been previously emailed to all members of District VIII). It was moved that the financial statements be approved. The motion was unanimously approved.
- ❖ The Sherwood Park Gyro club with assistance from the Edmonton club will be hosting the 2025 Convention on an Alaskan cruise. This will be a combined International/District VIII convention and will take place from June 3 to June 10, 2025.
- ❖ The future of Curlarama was discussed. Rising costs and aging are having an effect on attendance. With declining attendance there is a question whether the event is financially

viable. In the past the annual event was hosted on an alternating basis by the Calgary and Stampede clubs. In 2023 it was reported that the Stampede club lost \$1,142. A motion was made by John Cobb of the Stampede club that District cover 50% of the loss. The Edmonton club made a motion that the entire amount of the loss be covered by District. That motion was unanimously approved. (Note that the Stampede club subsequently donated to District VIII as "Friends of Gyro" \$571 that being 50% of the loss). After much discussion, it was agreed that the Calgary club will survey the clubs in District VIII and in all likelihood will go forward with Curlarama in 2025.

- ❖ Governor Dunc reported on the International AGM in Niagara Falls. The most significant issue at the Convention was the proposed restructuring of Gyro. The restructuring would eliminate Districts and replace them with three Regions. It would eliminate District Governors and replace them with Regional Directors. This would then eliminate the need for District dues and District conventions. Much discussion followed both for and against the proposal. Clubs will need to review the proposal before the beginning of October be prepared to vote on whether the proposal should go forward.
- ❖ Lt Governor Ted presented his budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Given the current financial position and the potential changes to the structure of Gyro it was suggested that our cash position be reduced. To this end it was recommended that District dues for current fiscal year be reduced from the usual \$40 to \$20. This would result in roughly a \$6,200 loss for the year. The budget was approved.
- ❖ IPDG, Ken Williamson proposed the Slate of Officers for the fiscal year 2024-25 as follows:
 - Immediate Past District Governor, Dunc Mills
 - Governor, Ted Ewanchuk
 - Lt Governor, Ian McNeil
- ❖ Lt Governor, Ted presented the Best Bulletin award to Alan Pentney, Stampede Club
- ❖ Secretary Treasurer, Ken presented the
 - Man mile award to the Regina Club and
 - Membership award to the Sherwood Park Club
- ❖ PDG, Bernie Kropp presented Resolutions for the good of the order
- ❖ Meeting adjourned at 11:50am