

Why a Special Called Convention for May 31?

On February 28, 2015, the Council of Governors voted to pursue redistricting MD32 from 4 sub-districts to 2 sub-districts. To move forward with a Redistricting Proposal which must be submitted to LCI, there must be a vote of the membership of MD32. Information which impacts the timeline of this process

- Due to the early date of this year's MD32 Convention, there was not sufficient time to inform the membership to be prepared to take a vote at the convention.
- The CB&L requires 30 days notice to hold a special called convention.
- LCI requires that business to be considered conducted within this Lions year must be transacted more than 14 days prior to the start of the annual International Convention (in Hawaii, June 26-30, 2015).
- A full redistricting proposal must be submitted to LCI for consideration at the October Board of Directors. This is the only meeting annually which considers redistricting proposal. [Even then the transition to two districts would not fully take effect until 2016-2017. 2016-2017 Lions year would be the year of transitions; going to two governors.]

With a vote of the Council of Governors, the meeting was set for the afternoon May 31. To allow 60 days (twice the time required by the constitution) for discussion by Lions, the meeting was scheduled 60 days after the MD convention at the end of March. It could not be the weekend before (May 23-24, 2015) as this is Memorial Day. To put it later in June would hit summer plans for many Lions, including the Lions Learning Institute in Spartanburg the next weekend.

Since all four districts are below the 1250 member mark, the only binding vote will be a majority vote of the membership, not by district. Opportunities for discussion will be from now, at the MD convention, and until the day of the Special Called Convention. Lions will need to be certified to vote on May 31.

In the meantime, documents are being distributed through Lions leadership to inform Lions about redistricting. The plan for transition of leadership is being tweaked, and will soon be sent out by the Council of Governors.

Plan to be part of the future of Lions in South Carolina. Be a certified delegate to vote on May 31, 2015, 3:00 – 5:00pm, at the American Legion Hut, 700 B Avenue, West Columbia.