**Minutes - Lions Clark Co. Sight Foundation - Jan. 2017**

**What is The Clark County Committee?** [**http://fortvancouverlions.org/sight-committee/**](http://fortvancouverlions.org/sight-committee/)

The (first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. - School for the Blind - Old Main Bldg.) the Clark Co. Sight Committee meets to assist with eye related issues for residence of S.W. Washington that have fallen through the cracks in our society and cannot afford eye care - some surgeries, eye glasses, eye exams, etc.   Thirteen Lions Clubs have come together to help address these needs while working side by side with local optometrists and ophthalmologist.   Data as of 2012 - based upon the Committee's 63 years history at that time) - over 7,600 exams and glasses have been provided, over 100 cataract surgeries, and 50 other related vision surgeries - with approximate $871,000 in funding raised by Lions Clubs resulting in over $2,796,500 in retail services through medical providers that have also reduced their rates in partnership with Lions Clubs.    The efforts Lions in partnership with the medical profession has made a huge impact on the quality of life for thousands of individuals.

**Info on Lions Clark Co. Sight Committee - January 3, 2017:**

         26 request (applications for eye care where sent to the Lions Patient Care Coordinator who reviews all applications to determine whether the individual qualifies under some state and/or federal program, whether they are a resident of Clark Co. and to determine if more information is needed on the application (request for services).   [Applications are then reviewed by the full committee for approval, denied, and or request for more information is needed.

         02 were denied since they were from the state of Oregon and referred back to contacts in Oregon through Lions

         24 applications were reviewed

         03 denied due to lack of information (more information requested and they will be brought forward next month.

         21 approved and assigned to eye care clinics,  the requestor receives a voucher for care and a copy goes to the health care provider.

**Additional topics discussed at this meeting:**

         Follow up to make sure that each Lions Club is actively involved both by sending members to the committee meeting (we would like two individuals from each club to attend each meeting - current I (Dean Stenehjem) is the only representative from Ridgefield - if interested, please let me know.  887-0824)

         How do we raise more money to help meet growing needs?   This month - were only had 26 requests - typical numbers are usually 40-60 requests.

         2015 - The committee had to pull $8,000 from endowments to cover the needs

         2016- The committee had to pull $6,000 from endowments to cover the needs

The Endowment (gift to Lions were put in place years ago to help in emergency situations, but was not designed to be the major funding source so the Committee needs to seek additional ways to generate revenue).

**Options:**

         More involvement from each of the thirteen clubs

         Grant writing - (this has been done in the past)

         Fundraising event(s):  these have been done in the past

         Possible interest from individual club members that may be interested in supporting the efforts of Clark Co. Sight through personal donations.

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**More discussion needs to occur with Clark Co. Sight with an action plan being put in place mid winter to early spring.**