

HISTORY OF OUR LIONS HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

PHASE 1

In July 1989 District Governor James Pang requested DC for Public & Social Services Lion Hor Chee Wah to head the working committee of the proposed Lions Clubs Headquarter. Lion Hor approached his company TTDI-Sea Park Development Sdn Bhd (TTDI) on 17th July 1989 for a piece of land in Taman Tun Dr Ismail, Kuala Lumpur for the headquarter building. TTDI later agreed to sell the land at a token sum provided the Lions Constitution states that Lions Clubs can purchase land or property. A discussion was held among the senior Lions in the Klang Valley to deliberate on the offer by TTDI.

Lion Michael Goh donated a "shell" company and managed to change the name to Lions Headquarters Sdn Bhd (LH) in September 1989 which was subsequently approved at the District 308B convention in April 1990

The original shareholders of LH were PCC Dr Chin Yoon Hiap and PDG John Loh and was later increased by another 3 members - PID Dato' Douglas KK Lee, PDG Dr PP Shah and PDG Oon Peng Lam. All the shares were later transferred to District 308 B Lions Foundation when an approval was obtained from the Ministry of Finance.

With a copy of the Lions Headquarter Sdn Bhd's M & A, Lion Hor approached TTDI again in October 1989 for the purchase and it agreed to sell the residential land to Lions Headquarters Sdn Bhd at a token sum RM7,000.00 (approx RM1.50 per sq. ft.) in December 1989.

At the 1st meeting of the Lions Headquarter Building Fund Committee held at PCC Dr Chin Yoon Hiap's house on 23rd January 1990, the meeting agreed to PID Dato' Douglas Lee's suggestion that the following should be the objectives of the headquarter building:-

1. to serve as a Lions secretariat and district office
2. to serve as a venue for the keeping of Lions records
3. to provide a common meeting place for Lions clubs
4. to act as a common address for Lions clubs
5. to house the Lions library
6. to provide economical accommodation for outstation Lions
7. to house Lions projects e.g. Lions Eye Bank, etc

Lion Hor approached his own Club, Lions Club of Subang Jaya for a donation of RM7,000.00 to purchase the land and the money was raised from the members at a business meeting chaired by President Andy Lim. The money was donated to Lions Headquarters Sdn Bhd on 5th October 1990 and the sale & purchase agreement was executed on 25th October 1990. Consequently, the land was duly transferred to Lions Headquarter Sdn Bhd

Lion Hor approached his business associates who are also Lions from Taman Tun and Subang Jaya to come up with building plans for submission to DBKL and the following Lions contributed their services in the form of design and supervision of the building :-

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| 1. | Lion Joseph Lee (Tmn Tun) | - Architectural works |
| 2. | Lion Wong Kok Heng (Tmn Tun) | - Structural works |
| 3. | Lion Allan Ho (Tmn Tun) | - Civil Engineering works |
| 4. | Lion MK Wong (Tmn Tun) | - Quantity surveying |
| 5. | Lion Alvin Ting (Subang Jaya) | - M & E Works |

The building plans were submitted to DBKL on 11th January 1991 under "One Stop Approval" section and approval was obtained on 22nd October 1991.

Major donors were Lion Gan Thian Leong of M/s Brunfield Engineering for the foundation and hoarding works and Lion Jimmy Haw of M/S Winlite Engineering for the M & E works.

Both Lion Gan and Lion Jimmy are members of the Lions Club of Subang Jaya. PCC Lion Datuk Dr. Nagaratnam and his committee donated RM100,000.00 from the surplus of the OSEAL Forum Organizing Committee Fund.

International President Lion Rohit Metha planted a tree at the Lions Headquarters Building on 23rd November 1991.

Although the plan was approved in October 1991, work did not commence immediately due to lack of funds. Not to allow obstacles in the building, the 1st pile was driven on 3rd December 1992 by M/s Brunfield Engineering and the application for the extension of building plans approval was made in September 1993. Approval for building plans extension was obtained on the 10th November 1993 and valid until 9th November 1994.

Tenders for the building works were called on 23rd May 1994. The tenders also included some Lions who are building contractors. The tender was awarded to the lowest tenderer M/s L & L Construction and Trading at RM378,453.85 on 5th July 1994. This tender amount includes RM38,000 worth of M & E which was carried out by Lion Jimmy Haw of M/s Winlite at no charge.

The building was completed on 12th April 1995 at a final contract sum of RM330,876.65 and inspection was carried out by DBKL on 14th March 1997. Certificate of fitness for the building was obtained on 14th January 1999 after going through a lot of red tapes. Most of the issues were oversight from the authorities like misplacement of file and the approval of the house address on March 1998 by DBKL was also missing from their file.

Application for the conversion of residential commercial usage was made in July 2000 at the request of some seniors Lions. Unfortunately, this was not well received by the residents due to some misrepresentations by one of the 5 affected neighbours that the Lions Headquarters Building will be turned into a 5-storey building and the road will be jammed by Lions. DBKL upon receiving the complaints from the residents turned down our application in November 2000.

The Boards of Directors of Lions Headquarters Sdn. Bhd. chaired by Council Chairman Hong Khay Chai, deliberated at length on the rejection by DBKL and finally decided to appoint a special task force, to be headed by PCC Dr Chin Yoon Hiap to make an appeal to DBKL for the conversion within a month from the meeting date on 17th February 2001. In the event the appeal is rejected, the Board agreed to take appropriate actions to dispose the Headquarter Building.

It was resolved at the District 308B2 Cabinet Meeting on 25th February 2001 that the above decision made by the Board of Lions Headquarters Sdn Bhd be adopted.

LIONS HEADQUARTERS BUILDING PHASE II

It was at the 42nd MD Convention held in Miri, Sarawak 2004, that the delegates of both Districts 308B1 and B2 unanimously agreed to sell off the Lions Headquarters which was a bungalow building located in Taman Tun Dr Ismail and to subsequently purchase a 3-storey shop lot to be shared by the two Districts.

It was after about year before we were able to get someone to purchase the said building and by April 2005, we were able to purchase a 3-storey shop lot in Bandar Sri Damansara for RM670,000.00. The HQ Chairperson then was PDG John Loh and the hand over of the vacant building was completed on 1 September 2005. Our thanks goes to the HQ Chairperson PDG John Loh and his Board of Directors, as this was their last task, before a new HQ Chairperson was appointed. Our appreciation also goes to Mdm Patricia Toh Kim Lee, spouse of President Wong Tat Choon of Lions Club of Kuala Lumpur Host who undertook to handle the legal matters free of charge.

After the 43rd MD Convention held in Malacca, the new HQ Chairperson PDG Patrick Chew and his board of Directors started on the renovation works of the 3 storey building. After a few quotations were received from recommended contractors, the renovation works officially started in December 2005 and took approximately 3-4 months to complete.



The ground floor has been rented out to the previous tenant. This rental income will contribute towards the maintenance of the HQ. The first floor will house the offices of the two District Governors of B1 and B2. The permanent secretariat for the HQ and Youth Exchange is managed by the HQ Admin Manager, Lion Veronica Koh. The Lions Archive relating to all the articles i.e. bannerettes, badges, newsletters, etc from the Past Governors will also be kept on the 1st floor.

The 2nd floor has three meeting rooms i.e. the Carnation Room (15 pax), the Orchard Board Room (20 pax) and the Hibiscus Training Centre which can accommodate approximately 50 pax. All bookings of the meeting rooms must be channeled to the new HQ Admin Manager.

It was unanimously agreed by both Districts that they should employ a full time Admin Manager to manage the HQ secretariat and at the same time, to be the Youth Exchange

Coordinator for both the Districts. This was brought up in both the 2005-2006 Cabinet Meetings of B1 and B2 and the proposal was duly agreed and adopted.

The Youth Exchange Secretariat was set up in the Lions Headquarters on Sunday, 5 March 2006 with the help of Lions members and the Omega Leos of KLCC. On behalf of the HQ Board of Directors and 308B Lion members, we would like to recognize Lion Dato' Robert SK Lim (Lions Club of Damansara Kuala Lumpur) for his support and generosity in providing the Youth Exchange Secretariat free of charge for the past 8 years.

As with the previous HQ building, we have very generous Lion members who have donated in cash and kind to the HQ, and we look forward to receiving more donations in order to improve our Lions Headquarters further.

All Lion members are most welcome to visit the Lions Headquarters, especially visiting Lion members from outstation. District 308B1 and 308 B2 Lions should be very proud of our own HQ.

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