



**Executive Meeting
Tuesday, January 31, 2017.
Stratford, Ontario.**



AGENDA...

1. **Call to Order @** By.....Brother Duncan McMillan, Grand Master.

Opening Prayer by
Welcome to all. -

2. **Quorum Present?**yes,no.

3. **Attendance Register.**

4. **Minutes of last meeting**, October 11, 2016 (copies attached).

approved as:

5. **Committee Reports:**

- A) Budget year to date, (Bob Schwalm)
- B) Proposed Budget for Upcoming Annual Session (Bob Schwalm)
- C) Review of Audited Financial Statements and Signing (Bob)
- D) Other.

6. **Unfinished Business:**

- A) Otter #50. **(In Camera)** (Duncan)
- B) Honours and Awards (Merit Jewel) (Duncan)
- C) Thamesville and Ridgetown **(In Camera)** (Duncan, Bob and John)
- D) Other.

7. **New Business:**

- A) District Boundaries. (Duncan)
- B) Letter from Florence Lodge #196.
- C) Advertising (Duncan)
- D) Tabloid (Duncan)
- E)
- F)
- G) Other.

8. **Date of Next Meetings** - October 11, 2016; January 17, 2017, March 17, 2017;
Sessions if needed.

9. **Adjournment @**..... . Moved by.....

Executive Special Committees.

2016 -2017.

First Listed Person to Serve as Chair.

Budget Committee:	Investments and Endowments:
Bob Schwalm Don Beach Tom Robinson Philip Benson John Nichols, as resource.	Bob Schwalm John Nichols Duncan McMillan Mark Blakey Sandra McWhirter Eugene Dopp Wayne Gard
Program Enhancement & Membership Development.	Administrative and Organizational Matters:
Eugene Dopp Mark Blakey George Clarke Ron Wanamaker Duncan McMillan	Duncan McMillan John Nichols Bob Schwalm Terry Switzer Sandra McWhirter Mark Blakey Eugene Dopp Wayne Gard
Legislation and Code:	Grand Lodge and Component Unit Properties (Appointed by the Grand Secretary Chapter III, Section 9 A (2))
Terry Switzer Mark Blakey Charles Benson Resource: John Nichols Bob Schwalm	John Nichols Bob Schwalm Gene Dopp Duncan McMillan Mark Blakey Terry Switzer
Special Note: Our Grand Master has requested that the Chairperson of each of these Committees contact the other persons listed on these Committees and advise them of any meetings, progress, etc.	

The January 31, 2017 meeting of the Executive of the Grand Lodge of Ontario was called to order at 10:00 am by our Grand Master, Brother Duncan McMillan and Brother Duncan asked Brother John Nichols to give an opening prayer

Our Grand Secretary, Brother John, ascertained that a quorum was present and the attendance register was circulated. **Present at this meeting were:**

Duncan McMillan	Mark Blakey	Gene Dopp	John Nichols
Bob Schwalm	Wayne Gard		

Absent: Sandra McWhirter Terry Switzer

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting.

It was moved by Brother Mark Blakey and seconded by Brother Wayne Gard, that the Minutes of the last meeting, January 17, 2017, be adopted as printed and circulated, subject to any corrections. **CARRIED.**

5A. Budget, to date. (Bob Schwalm)

Brother Bob Schwalm presented the Budget, year to date and noted that everything is on track and progressing well at this point. The Annual Returns have come in well but we still have 1 outstanding Annual Return and we are waiting on 2 more that were sent back for rework. We are working at getting correct information and will keep working away.

Expenses are all in line and with our investments doing well and we should end up better by the end of the year than we had budgeted.

It was moved by Brother Bob Schwalm with second by Brother Gene Dopp, that the report of the budget year to date, be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

5B. Proposed Budget for the Upcoming Annual Session.

Brother Bob presented the proposed budget which will be referred to the Sessional Finance Committee prior to coming to the floor of the Annual Session. Brother Bob explained at this proposed budget had been formed and had been reviewed by the Finance Committee and received their approval. Brother Bob reviewed the income and expenses, answered questions and mentioned that this budget goes from here to the Sessional Finance Committee for their review prior to presentation at the Annual Session.

After the discussion it was moved by Brother Bob Schwalm with second from Brother Mark Blakey that the proposed budget as presented be approved and referred to the Sessional Committee on Finance. **CARRIED.**

5C Review of the Audited Financial Statements.

Brother Bob Schwalm presented his Annual Report that will appear in the Advance Journal and the Draft Audited Financial Statements from Campbell Lawless. We went through the statements, found them to be in order and it was moved by Brother Mark Blakey with second from Brother Gene Dopp that the Draft Audited Financial Statements be approved and

signed by the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master when the final Financial Statements become available from the Auditors. **CARRIED.**

6A. Otter Lodge #50. (In Camera)

This item of business was held "In Camera" since it was the private business of one Lodge in our Jurisdiction. There were no motions as a result of the discussion. This matter was left in the hands of the Grand Master, who will report as necessary.

6B. Honours and Awards.

We had a discussion in relation to the Meritorious Service Award and the Merit Jewel as there appeared to be some confusion about the requirements for each, who may award these items and what each was for.

The Merit Jewel is a Jewel available from the Grand Lodge Office and is given by a Lodge or District to a Member who has performed duties to the Lodge or District that are worthy of recognition. Brother Nichols explained that this Jewel does not "hold rank" in a Lodge, that is it cannot be worn in lieu of a collar, and that it is a very nice way for a Lodge or District to show recognition for a Member who has performed in a manner worthy of recognition.

The Meritorious Service Award is an award, or Jewel, presented to show recognition for outstanding service to Lodge, Community and Denomination and the requirements are more stringent for making this award. A Lodge must send in a request that this Award be granted, to the Grand Secretary, with letters of recommendation from the Lodge, community leaders and denominational leaders outlining the outstanding service. The materials then are reviewed by the Executive of the Grand Lodge who will make a recommendation to the Annual Session. The Annual Session is the only body that may approve the granting of this award. The Grand Lodge may only approve a certain number of these awards each year and may not approve more than are available to be granted.

Brother Duncan asked if there is a register of those who have received this award and Brother Nichols stated that there has never been such a register kept but, if the Executive wanted a register to be kept we could start from this date. Since we are uncertain who has received this award in the past it would be impossible to manufacture a complete list.

6C. Thamesville and Ridgetown (In Camera)

This item of business was held "In Camera" since it was the private business of two Lodges in our Jurisdiction. There were no motions as a result of the discussion. This matter was considered closed at this point.

7A. District Boundaries.

Brother Duncan mentioned that some of the Districts were finding it more difficult to find Officers with the smaller sizes of the Districts and suggested that District Boundaries are going to need to be reviewed in the future. Brother Mark Blakey will be appointing a Committee to review District Boundaries in the new term.

We have one District that was looking at merging into another District. London District

#14 will be split with Melbourne #344 moving into District #4 and Forest City #38 moving into District #12. It was also noted that with one District that has two Lodges, with the impending consolidation of the two Lodges that the remaining Lodge will be moved into District #25. After the Consolidation Golden Star Lodge #101 will be moved into District #25 for the new term.

7B. Letter from Florence Lodge #196.

A letter had been received from Florence Lodge #196 and Brother Duncan discussed the letter with the Executive and answered questions and comments. As a result of this discussion it was moved by Brother Bob Schwalm with second from Brother Gene Dopp that the matter be left in the hands of Grand Master Brother Duncan McMillan who will report back to the Executive as necessary. **CARRIED.**

7C. Advertising.

Brother Duncan showed a copy of "The Coffee News" which is distributed in coffee shops and restaurants in locations across Ontario. Brother Duncan wondered if this would be a good thing for Lodges and Districts to advertise in for things like Membership, Activities and Events and he will look into the costs, etc and bring the matter back to the next meeting of the Executive.

7D. The Tabloid.

Brother Duncan presented information on the Grand Lodge of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows and that he had found the material quite interesting. Items of this nature could be done and submitted to our Tabloid. Brother Duncan also thought that perhaps in the future we could look at providing a free one year subscription to the Tabloid to all new initiates into the Order. This would be an item to be looked into for future terms. The discussion led to keeping a list of new members as they come into the Office and how we would ensure this could carry on into the future. This matter will be investigated.

No further business appearing the meeting adjourned at 12.23 pm, with the **next meeting of the Executive to be held March 14, 2017,** at The Grand Lodge Office.