



Executive Meeting
Tuesday, June 21, 2011.
Stratford, Ontario.



AGENDA...

- 1. Call to Order @ . By.....Brother Ralph Dufresne, Grand Master.
Opening Prayer by Brother
Welcome to all. Special Welcome to Brother Tom Robinson, new Grand Warden.
2. Quorum Present?yes,no.
3. Attendance Register.
4. Minutes of last meeting,
approved as: - moved..... 2nd.....
5. Committee Reports:
A) Executive Committee Appointments and Approval. (Ralph and John)
B) Budget, year to date (Bob Schwalm) (Attached Sheets)
C) Allan Simpson Fund Report (Attached Sheets)
6. Unfinished Business:
A) Geneva Lodge Update (?) (In Camera)
B)
C)
D)
E)
F) Other??
7. New Business:
A) Laws of Odd Fellows Lodges (Wayne)
B) Sessional Committees (Terry)
C) Rebekah Assembly & Brother George McLellan (In Camera at request of RAO)
(Sheets Attached) (John)
D) Requests and Suggestions for the Next Annual Session.
E) Bugs to be worked on for the Annual Session.
F)
G)
H) Other??
8. Date of Next Meetings - Sept 20, 2011; Nov 22, 2011; Jan 17, 2012; Sessions if necessary.
9. Adjournment @..... Moved by.....

Executive Special Committees.

2010 -2011.

First Listed Person to Serve as Chair.

Budget Committee:		Investments and Endowments:	
Charles Pole Russ Hadley Resource: Bob Schwalm John Nichols	Members to ask if some say no:	Bob Schwalm John Nichols Ralph Dufresne	Members to ask if some say no:
Program Enhancement & Membership Development.		Administrative and Organizational Matters:	
Charles Benson Charles Pole Jack McAllister Membership Committee All Members of the Executive.		John Nichols Bob Schwalm Terry Switzer Don Beach and all Elective and Appointed Grand Lodge Officers.	
Legislation and Code:		Grand Lodge and Component Unit Properties (Appointed by the Grand Secretary Chapter III, Section 9 A (2))	
Ralph Dufresne Wayne Geurts Don Beach Resource: John Nichols Bob Schwalm	Members to ask if some say no:	John Nichols Terry Switzer Bob Schwalm Jim Edwards Ralph Dufresne	
State of the Order:			
Jim Edwards Ralph Dufresne Wayne Geurts John Nichols Jack McAllister Charles Pole			
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.			

Executive Special Committees.

2011 -2012.

First Listed Person to Serve as Chair.

Budget Committee:		Investments and Endowments:	
Resource: Bob Schwalm John Nichols	Members to ask if some say no:	Bob Schwalm John Nichols Ralph Dufresne	Members to ask if some say no:
Program Enhancement & Membership Development.		Administrative and Organizational Matters:	
Charles Benson		John Nichols	
All Members of the Executive.		and all Elective and Appointed Grand Lodge Officers.	
Legislation and Code:		Grand Lodge and Component Unit Properties (Appointed by the Grand Secretary Chapter III, Section 9 A (2))	
Resource: John Nichols Bob Schwalm	Members to ask if some say no:	John Nichols Terry Switzer Bob Schwalm Jim Edwards Ralph Dufresne	
State of the Order:			
Ralph Dufresne Wayne Geurts Tom Robinson John Nichols			
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 Executive Meeting for June 21, 2011 began at 10:00 am. Our Grand Master requested Brother John Nichols to open the meeting with prayer.

Brother Ralph Dufresne, Grand Master welcomed everyone to this Executive meeting, especially our new Grand Warden, Brother Tom Robinson, and thanked all those present for their attendance. It was indicated that a Quorum was in attendance with the following people present:

Ralph Dufresne
Bob Schwalm

Wayne Geurts
Terry Switzer

Tom Robinson
Jim Edwards

John Nichols

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed and circulated on motion of Brother Schwalm, second by Brother Switzer. **CARRIED.**

5A Executive Committee Appointments and Approvals.

Brother Nichols appointed members to the Grand Lodge and other Component Units Property Committee as per the Code of Ontario Odd Fellows Laws and those appointments are listed on the 2011 - 2012 Committee Sheet. It was moved by Brother Nichols with second by Brother Schwalm that these appointments be accepted. **CARRIED.**

Brother Dufresne had left the sheets with his appointments at home so he will make his appointments at our September meeting.

Brother Nichols also reminded Brother Dufresne that as a result of a Resolution at the Annual Session that a Special Committee had to be appointed to deal with "Accessibility Issues" for our Order in Ontario, in light of new Government Legislation that comes into effect on January 1, 2012.

5B Budget, year to date.

Brother Bob Schwalm, Grand Treasurer, presented the Budget, year to date. Brother Schwalm reviewed the expenses and the budget shows that all expenses are in line to under budget for this point in the year and that we are sitting in pretty good shape.

Sessional Expenses were quite good this year with many good savings with the Sessions in Stratford. All other expenses seem to be in line. Executive Promotion is over budget and that is due to some books that needed to be purchased for office use this year, but everything under the Promotion Budget grouping should come in line by the end of the year. Brother Schwalm stated that we may have a small deficit at the end of this fiscal year due to dues being a bit down. The Budget line for Executive Meetings will be over budget with the distances travelled this year and one extra Executive Meeting more than the Code states we need to have. It was moved by Brother Switzer with second by Brother Geurts that we do a budget line transfer from "Other Sessional Expenses" to the Executive Travel to cover the overage. **CARRIED.** It was moved by Brother Schwalm, second by Brother Switzer, that the Budget, year to date report, be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

5C Allan Simpson Fund Report.

Brother Charles Benson had been unable to have the report of this fund ready for our Annual Session but had submitted the report for this meeting. It was moved by Brother Nichols with second by Brother Schwalm that this report be accepted. **CARRIED.**

Brother Geurts had a question in relation to "Permanent Residents" who had applied and whether or not we were funding them. Brother Schwalm explained that the report shows full orphans as Canadian Citizens and that we can fund only eight or nine students at this point with those who are returning to complete their schooling. It was agreed that we will fund the seven applicants and two returning students at this point.

6A Geneva Lodge Update (In Camera)

Due to this matter being in relation to the private business of one Lodge in the Jurisdiction the discussion in relation to this item was handled In Camera. As a result of the discussion it was decided that the matter be left in the hands of Brothers Nichols and Schwalm and that they would report back as information is received. The Executive decided that Brother Nichols would send a letter to Geneva Lodge #320 requesting certain information.

7A Laws of Odd Fellows Lodges.

Due to the fact that there has been a break down somewhere in our process this matter was brought to the Executive for discussion. Brother Geurts explained the function of this Committee and noted that we have had some troubles in the past year with Lodges not receiving their Bylaws back. We must ensure that Lodges and Districts get the Bylaws returned to them with corrections or approval in a timely manner. It was discussed that perhaps the Laws of Odd Fellows Lodges Committee should be coming together, as in the past, twice per year, to review and approve Bylaws that have been submitted and that perhaps the Grand Secretary, instead of the Grand Warden, should be the Chairman of the Committee. Brother Nichols explained that it would take a Notice of Motion to effect a change in the Code to change the person who Chairs the Committee and that he felt that the Grand Warden should still be the Chairman of this Committee.

As a result of the discussion it was moved by Brother Geurts with second by Brother Robinson that the Committee on Laws of Odd Fellows Lodges meet twice each year with one meeting in the fall and another in the spring, with the Committee meeting at the Grand Lodge Office, and that the Lodges be informed of the dates that this Committee will be meeting to review Bylaws. **CARRIED.**

7B Sessional Committees.

Brother Switzer spoke about the Annual Sessions and stated that it has been suggested that his Committee review the Sessional Committees, their size and when they need to meet and times for meetings and a discussion on the Sessional Committees ensued. There were questions about the numbers of people required for the Committees as we are having trouble getting enough Representatives to agree to serve on the Committees. The time that Committees meet in the mornings was also discussed along with whether or not all Committees could meet on one day instead of some meeting one and others meeting two days.

As a result of the discussion it was moved by Brother Schwalm with second from Brother Geurts that the Sessional Committees be reviewed by a new Committee and that they report back to this Executive at future meetings as the need arises and draft the appropriate legislation if needed for our next Annual Session. **CARRIED.**

Brother Dufresne appointed Brothers Switzer, Nichols and Schwalm to this Committee.

7C Rebekah Assembly & Brother George McLellan (In Camera at request of RAO)

Due to this matter being in relation to the private business of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario and one Member in the Jurisdiction, and at the request of the Rebekah Assembly, the discussion in relation to this item was handled In Camera. As a result of the discussion it was decided that the matter be left in the hands of Brothers Nichols to contact Sister Kathryn Bellmore and assist in bringing the matter to a satisfactory conclusion for all involved.

7D Requests and Suggestions for the Next Annual Session.

Several suggestions and requests had been made after the last Annual Session from Members and Members of the Executive in relation to working out the bugs encountered this year at the Annual Session. Among the suggestions were requests that a map to Stratford and to the Hotel be sent out to everyone prior to Sessions, that the Schedule of Events for the Session be sent out prior to the Session, that a platform be used at the front of the Hall for the Officers. This was the first year in a new location and there were a couple of small issues that needed to be addressed. Brother Schwalm informed us that we would have to rent staging, adding to our costs, and that it may not be practical to do so but that we would look into it. Brother Schwalm further stated that there was a bit of a map to the Hotel included with the "Bedroom Flyer" that had come out prior to Sessions but that we would see if we could improve on that map. Maps to Stratford would be difficult with the number of different ways that our people would be travelling in to Stratford. Brother Nichols told us that the Schedule of Events was often not formalized until a couple of weeks before Sessions but that he would ask the Committee on Arrangements, which is charged with getting the Schedule of Events together, to see if they could get things together prior to the Pre Session Mailing that goes out to everyone. Doing a special mailing that had only the Schedule of Events would be cost prohibitive.

7E Bugs to be worked on for the Annual Session.

Some additional suggestions had come to us via Brother Dufresne from people that he had spoken with. These suggestions included buffets for meals instead of the menu, more rooms blocked in the Arden Park Hotel, different set up for the Committee on Travel and room set up.

An excellent discussion on the Annual Session followed with ideas being discussed. It was suggested that the Grand Lodge break for Lunch at 11:30 am, due to our Elections being scheduled by the Code, with the Rebekah Assembly breaking for Lunch at 12:30. This item was discussed and left with Brother Schwalm to discuss with the Rebekah Assembly and the Committee on Arrangements.

Brother Schwalm mentioned that many of these details are already in discussion with the Hotel and that we will work on these items, in conjunction with the Committee on Arrangements, to ensure that next year's Annual Session has fewer bugs.

No Further business being left to handle, our meeting was adjourned, in Friendship, Love and Truth, at 2:50 pm on motion of Brother Schwalm. The next meeting of the Executive will be held on Tuesday, September 20, 2011, at the Grand Lodge Office.