

**Minutes,
Executive Meeting,
Grand Lodge Office, Stratford, Ontario,
Monday June 9th, 2003.**

The Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am with Chairman, Brother Herb Ritchie presiding. Brother Herb asked our Grand Secretary, Brother John Nichols, to verify that a quorum was present. Brother John asked the group what a quorum for our purposes should be. With the Board of Directors a quorum used to be 7 voting Board Members.

Brother Nichols stated that this would be an exceptional year until we could get everything straightened out. We are in transition and will have to ensure that we do everything in the best interests of this Grand Lodge.

After discussion it was moved by Brother John Nichols and seconded by Brother Don Swan that a quorum would be a simple majority of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Junior Past Grand Master and our Representatives to Sovereign Grand Lodge. Some years this would give us a potential of 8 people present. This year, since our Junior Past Grand Master was also a Representative to Sovereign Grand Lodge, potential attendance would be 7 so a quorum for our purposes would be 4. **CARRIED.**

A quorum being in attendance, our meeting opened with a prayer by Brother John Nichols.

Our Attendance Register showed the following Brothers to be in attendance:

OFFICERS (present):

Terry Switzer
Ron Wanamaker

Herb Ritchie
Don Swan
Dave Longfield
John Nichols
Bob Schwalm

Guests:

None

Brother Nichols asked to be relieved from the burden of voting since he is quite busy with taking minutes and keeping himself organized. It was moved by Brother Ron Wanamaker and seconded by Brother Bob Schwalm that Brother Nichols be considered voting in the affirmative unless he raises an objection and votes against the motion on the floor. **CARRIED.**

Brother Nichols asked whether or not mileage and per diem should be paid for these Executive Meetings. This question was not to cause problems but to set some policies for this group. This year would be an exceptional year due to the fact that the Code still mentions a Board of Directors and we are operating with the Grand Lodge Executive due to legislation passed at the Annual Session.

The feeling of those in attendance at this meeting was that mileage and per diem should be paid as per past practice with the Board of Directors.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed and circulated, subject to any corrections that would be necessary, on motion of Brother Terry Switzer seconded by Brother Don Swan. **CARRIED.**

Committee Appointments...

Normally the Committees of the Board of Directors are appointed at this meeting. Since there are now so few members to select committees from it was discussed and decided that our Grand Master would need to be free to select people from the Jurisdiction as they are qualified.

Brother Herb presented the Tentative Committees (copy attached to the end of these minutes).

The discussion in regards to the Committees and members was kept in camera. As a result of the discussion it was moved by Brother John Nichols and seconded by Brother Bob Schwalm that the committee appointments, as presented by our Grand

Master, be approved and left in the hands of our Grand Master to approach and ask the listed people to serve. The Grand Master is to get back to the Grand Secretary and let him know where the Committees stand as soon as possible. **CARRIED.**

Committee Reports:

A) Budget, year to date.

Brother Bob Schwalm, Grand Treasurer, presented the budget for the year to date. There had been no significant changes from our last meeting and things were right on track.

It was moved by Brother Bob Schwalm and seconded by Brother John Nichols that the Budget Report be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

B) Legislation.

There was no report at this time due to the extraordinary circumstances from our last annual session.

C) Enhancement Committee.

There was no report at this time due to the extraordinary circumstances from our last annual session.

There was a good deal of discussion in regards to Seminars for Noble Grands and Lodge Officers. This Committee will urge the Educational Committee to get seminars underway.

D) 2005 SGL Sessions.

Brother Ron Wanamaker informed us that the Bus Trip to the Sovereign Grand Lodge Session in Halifax has been cancelled.

E) Allan Simpson Committee.

There was no report at this time due to the extraordinary circumstances from our last annual session.

F) Membership Committee and SGL Membership Seminars.

There was a discussion about the Membership Seminars that the Officers of the Sovereign Grand Lodge conducts.

It was moved by Brother Terry Switzer and seconded by Brother Don Swan that we hold at least one SGL Membership Seminar in Ontario within the next year. **CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business:

Brother Nichols handed out copies of the legislation from the Sessions and the tentative updates to the Code of Ontario Odd Fellow Laws. Brother Nichols has never done these updates on his own and asked for feedback for corrections. The more eyes that look at these items the better when it comes to ensuring things are correct.

Brother Nichols also passed out copies of the tentative minutes from the last session of the Grand Lodge of Ontario and asked the others to look over these minutes and let him know where there may be any mistakes.

The Officers agreed to look over these items and to get back to Brother Nichols with any corrections that they noticed.

A question was raised as to the status of the Grand Solicitor. Brother Nichols stated that he felt that this was still an Elected Office in the Grand Lodge since nothing of a Legislative nature had changed. Brother Switzer stated that he disagreed and that the Representatives had voted to make the Grand Solicitor an appointed position and not even have the Grand Solicitor be an appointive Officer of the Grand Lodge. Brother Wanamaker agreed with Brother Switzer's interpretation of what had happened at the Annual Session.

Brother Nichols stated that he felt that the Grand Solicitor was removed as a member of the Executive but that he was not removed as an elected Officer.

It was stated that the Sovereign Grand Lodge Code does not recognize the Grand Solicitor as an elected officer of a Grand Lodge. Brother Nichols stated that our Code does indicate that the Grand Solicitor is an Elected Officer and that this was not changed by any legislation at the Annual Session.

A good deal of discussion ensued and it was decided that the Grand Solicitor would be an appointed position and not an officer. There was no need to actively recruit a Grand Solicitor at this time and we will use local lawyers for any legal needs that we may have in the near future.

It was suggested that our Grand Secretary, Brother John Nichols, send a letter to Brother Brian Radford, our Past Grand Solicitor, thanking him for his years of service.

New Business.

A) Beaver Lodge #82, Ruthven.

Since this item dealt with the private business of one Lodge the discussion was held in camera.

As a result of this discussion it was determined that we need to get a few copies of the Insurance Act since we are governed by that Legislation and we need to know what it says.

B) Aurora Lodge #148.

Since this item dealt with the private business of one Lodge the discussion was held in camera.

As a result of this discussion it was moved by Brother Bob Schwalm and seconded by Brother Dave Longfield that a letter be sent to Aurora Lodge advising them to proceed with the listed repairs and that they are to use the money they currently have invested in Aurora for these repairs. **CARRIED.**

The matter of urging Lodges to approach the Trillium Foundation for money for property repairs was discussed and Brother Nichols stated that he would advise Aurora and other Lodges that they should approach the Trillium Foundation for money to be used for building repairs.

C) Midland Lodge #274.

Since this matter dealt with the private business of one Lodge the discussion was held in camera.

D) Comber.

Since this matter dealt with the private business of one Lodge the discussion was held in camera.

E) Samaritan Lodge #35.

Since this matter dealt with the private business of one Lodge the discussion was held in camera.

Brother Switzer reported that in total this year, as of May 16, 2002, the new “cut off date” for the Grand Master’s Project, there was a total of \$115,762.00 (one hundred and fifteen thousand, seven hundred and sixty-two dollars) raised for Brother Terry’s project. A hearty round of applause ensued.

Brother Switzer asked if the money requested by the Joint Planning Board had been paid yet. It was moved by Brother Bob Schwalm and seconded by Brother Terry Switzer that this money be paid to the Joint Planning Board if it is found that it has not been paid. **CARRIED.**

No further business appearing it was announced that the date of the next meeting of the Elective Officers would be Wednesday September 24th, 2003, at the Barrie Home at 10:00 am. The meeting was adjourned on motion of Brother John

Nichols.

Future meetings of the Executive Committee will be held on Monday January 26th, Monday March 29th, and Monday June 14th. These Meetings will be held at the Grand Lodge Office, 157 Frederick Street, Stratford, Ontario, at 10:00 am.