



Executive Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2009.
Grand Lodge Office, Stratford, Ontario.



AGENDA...

1. **Call to Order @ 10:00am . By.....**Brother Charles Benson, Grand Master.

Opening Prayer by

Welcome to all.

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

3. **Attendance Register.**

4. **Minutes of last meeting,**
approved as: - moved..... 2nd

5. **Committee Reports:**

- A) Budget, year to date (Bob Schwalm) (Attached Sheets)
- B)
- C)

6. **Unfinished Business:**

- A) Belleville #81 (**In Camera**)
- B) Forest City #38 (**In Camera**)
- C) Broadview #294 (**In Camera**)
- D) Samaritan #35 (**In Camera**)
- E) Unification of Sessions. (Charlie and Terry)
- F) State of the Order (Charlie)
- G) Districts and possible Realignment. (Charlie and Terry)
- H) Other?

7. **New Business:**

- A) Reception for Marilyn Wilson (Charlie)
- B) District #33 (Charlie)
- C) CHSC (Terry)
- D) California Resolutions (Terry)
- E) Pre Sessional Package
- F) Simpson Fund Applications
- G) Other.

8. **Date of Next Meetings - May 3, at Sessions.**

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

Executive Special Committees.
2008 -2009.
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 Don Beach John Nichols	Members to ask if some say no:
Program Enhancement & Membership Development.		Administrative and Organizational Matters:	
All Members of the Executive.		John Nichols Terry Switzer Ian McWhirter Bob Schwalm 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))	
Ian McWhirter Don Beach Jim Edwards Resource: John Nichols Bob Schwalm	Members to ask if some say no:	John Nichols Terry Switzer Bob Schwalm Charles Benson Don Beach	
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 March 10, 2009 meeting of the Executive of the Grand Lodge of Ontario was called to order at 9:30 am by our Grand Master, Brother Charles Benson.

Brother Charlie welcomed everyone present and asked Brother John Nichols to open our meeting with prayer.

Brother Nichols ascertained that a quorum was present and the attendance register was circulated. Present at this meeting were:

Charles Benson. Don Beach. Jim Edwards John Nichols. Bob Schwalm.

4 Minutes.

The approval of the Minutes of the last meeting was moved by Brother Schwalm seconded by Brother Beach, subject to any corrections that there may be. **CARRIED.**

5A Budget Year to Date.

Brother Schwalm presented the report on the Budget so far this year. Everything currently is falling mostly in line with budget figures. It was noted that Investment Fees were yet to be done but would be taken care of later in the year. It was moved by Brother Schwalm and seconded by Brother Edwards that the report on the budget year to date be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business:

6A Belleville #81.

The discussion on this item was held in camera due to it being the personal and private business of one Lodge in our Jurisdiction. There were no motions forthcoming as a result of this discussion. This matter was left in the hands of Brothers Nichols and Schwalm who will continue to report to the Executive Committee at future meetings.

6B Forest City Lodge #38.

The discussion on this item was held in camera due to it being the personal and private business of one Lodge in our Jurisdiction. There were no motions forthcoming as a result of this discussion. This matter was left in the hands of Brothers Nichols and Schwalm who will continue to report to the Executive Committee at future meetings.

6C Broadview Lodge #294.

The discussion on this item was held in camera due to it being the personal and private business of one Lodge in our Jurisdiction. There were no motions forthcoming as a result of this discussion. This matter was left in the hands of Brother Charles Benson who will continue to report to the Executive Committee at future meetings.

6D Samaritan Lodge #35.

The discussion on this item was held in camera due to it being the personal and private business of one Lodge in our Jurisdiction. There were no motions forthcoming as a result of this discussion. This matter was left in the hands of Brothers Don Cooper, Nichols and Schwalm who will continue to report to the Executive Committee at future meetings.

6E Unification of Annual Sessions.

The only thing we have currently received from the Reunification was a proposed "Schedule of Events" for a Unified Session and this was the same document we had seen at other times. Concerns were raised that we have no information in relation to costs, the location, availability, physical set ups, room space and the change of dates from beginning of May to the end of May.

As a result of the discussions it was moved by Brother Terry Switzer and seconded by Brother Bob Schwalm that we table this information, for information purposes only and advise the Reunification Committee that this proposal is not going to work for us as it currently stands. Brother Benson was to inform the Committee. **CARRIED.**

6F State of the Order.

Brother Nichols suggested that this Executive Committee establish a "State of the Order Committee", as a sub committee of the Executive, with a view to having this Committee meet four times a year immediately following the Executive Meetings. We are all concerned with the State of our Order in the Jurisdiction and we are in a good position to recover if we start taking immediate remedial action now.

There was a period of discussion on the merits of this Committee and the matter was left in the hands of our incoming Grand Master, Brother Don Beach, to think about this idea and to make a decision as to whether or not he feels it would be a good idea. Brother Nichols was asked to draft some terms of reference for this Committee as soon as he can. (Note: I have drafted the terms of reference for the Committee which have been approved by Brothers Benson and Beach and the terms of reference follow:

State of the Order Committee. Sub Committee of the Executive, Terms of Reference.

This State of the Order Committee will be a subcommittee of the Executive Committee of the Grand Lodge of Ontario, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

This Committee shall consist of the Grand Master as Chair, the Grand Secretary as the Secretary of the Committee, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Warden and two Past Grands of the Odd Fellows Lodge to be selected by the Grand Master and approved by the Executive of the Grand Lodge of Ontario, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

This Committee will have access to confidential information and the members of the Committee are admonished to keep all such confidential information secure, private and confidential and shall not share the confidential information outside the confines of the Committee. The Grand Secretary shall share any other additional information to which he is privy when requested by the Committee and when it is deemed that it is necessary to share this information and is pertinent to the discussions at hand.

Materials available to the Committee shall include, but not be limited to, the Master Report compiled by the Grand Secretary composed of information taken from the Annual Returns of Lodges to the Grand Lodge, DDGM reports and reports of Official Visits of the Grand Master to Districts in the Jurisdiction of Ontario. Current and up to date Membership Plan Information will also be provided.

It shall be the duty of this State of the Order Committee to Report to the Executive Committee at each Executive Meeting on its findings and suggestions and to refer pertinent items to Grand Lodge Standing Committees for action, with follow up to ensure that appropriate action is being taken. In addition, this State of the Order Committee will also be required to submit a report to the Grand Lodge of Ontario in Annual Session, each year with the report to be submitted to the Grand Secretary no later than February 15

of each year. The Annual Report of the State of the Order Committee shall be referred to the Sessional Committee on State of the Order for each regular Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Ontario.

Items to be considered to this Committee will be the State of the Order in the Jurisdiction of Ontario, Membership Retention, Membership Growth, Establishing New Lodges, Working with Existing Lodges to assist them in excellency in the Work of the Order, assuring quality in programs of the Grand Lodge and general work to ensure the success of the Order in Ontario.

As a subcommittee of the Executive Committee of the Grand Lodge of Ontario this Committee shall meet immediately following each meeting of the Grand Lodge Executive Committee and at other times necessary when called by the Chairman. Additional Meetings may be requested of the Chairman by any three members of the Committee making such request in writing. Mileage, at the current rates as set by the Grand Lodge of Ontario shall be paid to members of the State of the Order Committee for attendance at meetings of the Committee.

Brother Beach will look for Members interested in serving on this special sub committee and will include it when making appointments to Committees of the Executive.

6G Districts and Possible Realignment.

The discussion on this item was held in camera. There were no motions forthcoming as a result of this discussion.

New Business:

7A Reception for Marilyn Wilson.

Brother Benson brought up the upcoming Reception for Sister Marilyn Wilson, our IARA President. Brother Charlie will be attending the Reception and wondered about the Grand Lodge making a donation to Sister Marilyn's year since we had not done so up to this point.

There was a good deal of discussion in relation to this suggestion and it was moved by Brother Edwards and seconded by Brother Beach that we check with the Rebekah Assembly to see what they are doing and match whatever it is that they are doing. **CARRIED.**

7B District #33.

This item was held in camera since it dealt with the private business of one District in the Jurisdiction. There were no motions forthcoming as a result of the discussion but Brother Benson will continue to monitor this situation.

7C CHSC.

Brother Switzer was concerned in relation to the Central Humanitarian Services Committee and the fact that the Lodge Memberships for the Committee keep shrinking. There has to be a way to keep this vital committee working and active and not risk it closing. The Committee needs to look at the ways that they are doing business and make appeals to the Lodges so that we do not risk losing this important charitable committee.

7D California Resolutions for Sovereign Grand Lodge.

A list of Resolutions proposed by a member in California, in relation to modernizing the Order and changing the way we do things were reviewed. The Grand Lodge of California may be presenting these Resolutions to the Sovereign Grand Lodge at its next Annual Session and it was felt that a review of these materials would be beneficial. No action was taken on these materials.

7E Presession Package

Brother Nichols presented the Pre Session Mailing Package to the Executive for their review. These materials have been sent to every Lodge, PGM, Officer and DDGM. These materials were handed out for information purposes and so the Executive could acquaint themselves with the materials prior to our upcoming Annual Session.

7F Simpson Fund Applications.

Brother Benson discussed that the Deadline for this year's applications for the Allan Simpson Educational Fund was March 15. We currently have five applicants with eight students currently receiving assistance and one student getting set to graduate.

It is the intent of the Committee to have only twelve students receiving assistance at any one time. The student who is graduating has completed the requirements for "Film Production" and would be interested in helping us to produce an information video. Brother Benson will keep in touch with this student and advise us in the future of any developments.

More information will be provided to the Committee prior to Sessions with the report to be approved by the Grand Lodge in Session.

7G Camp Trillium.

A letter is going out to our Mailing List requesting that the donations keep rolling in so we can be down to \$800,000.00 by our Annual Session. We have been doing really well with the donations! The Open House last year was a great success and Brother Bob will be looking at getting another set up for this year.

Avon Lodge #41 had a Camp Trillium Family in to speak to the Lodge and it was a great success. Camp Trillium is willing to help set up families to address Lodges if the Lodges make the request.

Date of future meetings - May 3 at Sessions.

No further business appearing this meeting was closed on motion of Brother Schwalm with the next meeting of our Executive planned for May 3, 2009, at the Grand Lodge Session.