



**Executive Meeting
Tuesday, December 11th, 2007.
Grand Lodge Office.**



AGENDA...

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

Opening Prayer by Brother John Nichols
Welcome to all.

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

3. **Attendance Register.**

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

5. **Committee Reports:**

- A) Executive Committee Appointments and Approval. (Ian McWhirter)
- B) Budget, year to date (Bob Schwalm) **(Sheets)**
- C) Draft Financial Statements (Bob Schwalm)
- D) Other?

6. **Unfinished Business:**

- A) Brinston Lodge Hall **(In Camera)**
- B) Eastern Star #72. **(In Camera)** (Don Beach)
- C) Joint Meetings of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Executives (Ian)
- D) Broadview Lodge #294 (Terry Switzer) **(In Camera)**
- E) Matilda RL #334, Brinston. **(In Camera)** (Bob)
- F) Gananoque #114 (Charles Benson)
- G) DDGM Seminar (Charles Benson)
- H) Other?

7. **New Business:**

- A) Grey Lodge #169 **(In Camera)** (Ian)
- B) Thornbury Lodge #243 **(In Camera)** (John)
- C) Notices of Motion from 2007 Annual Session (Charles Benson)
- D) Ian's Appointment for the Sunday Memorial Service
- E) Joint Membership Seminar with the Rebekah Assembly. (Charles Benson)
- F) Change in the Annual Term (Terry Switzer)
- G) Bob's letter re investment of funds (Sheets)
- H) Letter from the Joint Planning Board (Sheets)
- I) Education Committee and Grant for next year's budget. (Sheets)
- J) Other?

8. **Date of Next Meetings** - February 2/08, March 11/08.

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

Executive Special Committees.

2007 -2008.

First Listed Person to Serve as Chair.

Budget Committee:		Investments and Endowments:	
Don Beach Charles Pole Russell Hadley Resource: Bob Schwalm John Nichols	Members to ask if some say no:	Bob Schwalm John Nichols Ian McWhirter Charles Benson	Members to ask if some say no:
Program Enhancement & Membership Development.		Administrative and Organizational Matters:	
Charles Benson Don Beach Wayne Geurts		John Nichols Bob Schwalm Terry Switzer 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))	
Charles Benson Bill Thompson Terry Switzer 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 December 11th, 2007 meeting of the Executive was called to Order at 10:00 am by our Grand Master, Brother Ian McWhirter. Brother Ian welcomed everyone present and asked Brother John Nichols to open the meeting with prayer.

Present at this meeting were:

Ian McWhirter
John Nichols

Charles Benson
Bob Schwalm

Don Beach
Terry Switzer

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed and distributed, subject to any corrections, on motion of Brothers Terry Switzer and Charles Benson.

Executive Committee Appointments and Approval.

Brother McWhirter finalized the appointments to the Committees of this Executive. It was moved by Brother John Nichols and seconded by Brother Charles Benson that the appointments of our Grand Master to these special Committees be ratified. **CARRIED.**

Budget Year to Date.

Brother Schwalm presented the budget year to date and answered the questions that arose from the members of this Executive. Brother Bob explained that dues were below where we should be and this was caused by a further decrease in membership than had been anticipated and the fact that 10 Lodges have not filed their Annual Returns as of today's date. Expenses are running around where they should be at this point and we will continue to keep an eye on things to ensure that expenses are kept in line. It was moved by Brother Nichols and seconded by Brother Switzer that this report be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Draft Financial Statements.

Brother Schwalm presented the Draft Financial Statements for the Grand Lodge of Ontario as of the year ending August 31, 2007. Brother Schwalm has gone over the statements carefully and noted a small change for the auditors and that change should be reflected in the final financial statements when received. It was moved by Brothers Switzer and Benson that these draft financial statements be accepted and that when the final financial statements are received that they be reviewed by the Grand Lodge Office and pending approval that the Grand Master and Grand Treasurer sign the Financial Statements. **CARRIED.**

Brother Schwalm presented the Draft Financial Statements for the Grand Lodge of Ontario as of the year ending August 31, 2007. It was moved by Brothers Switzer and Benson that these draft financial statements for 816012 Ontario Ltd., be accepted and that when the final financial statements are received that they be reviewed by the Grand Lodge Office and pending approval that the Grand Master and Grand Treasurer sign the Financial Statements. **CARRIED.**

At this point it was moved by Brothers Benson and Switzer that we go into the "in camera" items and handle them all at this point. **CARRIED.**

Brinston Lodge Hall.

Brother Nichols made a report on this situation for information purposes for the Executive.

Eastern Star Lodge #72.

This item was handled in camera as it dealt with the private business of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction. As a result of the business it was moved by Brothers Nichols and Benson that this matter be left with Brother Don Beach to handle and bring to a conclusion and report at the next meeting of the Executive. **CARRIED.**

Joint Meetings of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Executives.

A brief discussion was held in relation to joint meetings of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Executive Officers. It was the consensus that these meetings are beneficial and should be held at least twice yearly. Brother Ian McWhirter will contact Sister Dorothy Lawrence to set up a couple of joint meetings and will report the dates to the Executive via email as soon as he has something set up.

Broadview Lodge #294.

This item was handled in camera as it dealt with the private business of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction. As a result of the discussion it was moved by Brothers Schwalm and Beach that a big vote of thanks be extended to Brothers Switzer and Thompson for their work and efforts in this regard and that this item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Executive of the Grand Lodge. **CARRIED.**

Matilda Rebekah Lodge #334.

This item had been dealt with along with the Brinston Lodge Hall item.

Gananoque #114.

This item was handled in camera as it dealt with the private business of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction. As a result of the discussion it was moved by Brothers Schwalm and Switzer that Brother Benson continue to work with this Lodge and when investments are due that the monies be sent to the Grand Lodge for investment and that interest on the investments will be placed into the principal of the investment until such time as the investments are back at the proper level. **CARRIED.**

DDGM Seminar.

Brother Benson had sent a draft agenda for the DDGM Seminar, held at the Grand Lodge Sessions, to members of the Executive to have a look at. There were questions about how we would install or obligate the incoming DDGM's at the Session and then have them go back to their Districts to have an installation of the District Officers. There were a few questions as to how this would be done and when it could be done and Brother Charles reported that he will work on suggestions, email them to the Executive and that we could finalize this matter at our next meeting.

Grey Lodge #169.

This item was handled in camera as it dealt with the private business of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction. As a result of the discussion Brother McWhirter requested that Brothers Nichols and Schwalm to continue to look after this matter and keep him informed of any progress. Brothers Nichols and Schwalm stated that they would carry on and keep the Executive informed.

Thornbury Lodge #243.

This item was handled in camera as it dealt with the private business of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction. As a result of the discussion it was moved by Brothers Schwalm and Switzer that Brother Nichols continue to deal with this Lodge and this situation and report at the next meeting of the Executive. **CARRIED.**

Notices of Motion referred to the Executive at the 2007 Annual Session.

The Notices of Motion from the Last Annual Session that had been referred to our Executive were Notices of Motion 7 - 20 inclusive as found on pages 48 - 53 of the Journal of Proceedings. The Executive discussed these notices of motion and found that there is really nothing that we can do as an Executive, at this time, until the Sovereign Grand Lodge is still deliberating on changes to the Code of General Laws as it relates to Constitutions of Grand Lodges, Rebekah Assemblies, Odd Fellows Lodges and Rebekah Lodges. We will have to await the decisions of the Sovereign Grand Lodge in Session.

Our Grand Master requested that every member of the Executive study these notices of motion and be ready for further discussion at the next Executive Meeting.

Ian's Appointment for the Sunday Memorial Service (at the upcoming Annual Session).

Brother Ian reported that he will be asking Brother Herb Ritchie to be in charge of this matter for the Grand Lodge and will report when he has received an answer from Brother Herb.

(NOTE: Since the meeting I have heard from Brother Ian that Brother Herb has accepted the responsibility of being the Grand Master's appointed person for this event.)

Joint Membership Seminar with the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario.

The idea of a Joint Membership Seminar with the Officers and Members of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario was discussed with a view to setting a time, date, location, etc. We looked for a time or opportunity to present the major thrust of the SGL Membership Program at our Annual Session and it was difficult to come up with a suitable time due to time constraints. It was suggested that this would be an excellent item for discussion at a Joint Meeting of the two Executive Committees.

This matter was left to be an item of discussion for a Joint Executive Meeting.

Change in the Annual Term.

This matter was discussed under the "Notices of Motion from the 2007 Annual Session" item.

Bob's Letter re investment of Funds.

Due to some of the situations that have arisen in the Jurisdiction our Executive had asked Brother Schwalm to draft a letter to be sent to the Lodges. Brother Bob's proposed letter was reviewed and it was moved by Brothers Schwalm and Beach that this letter be sent to the Lodges in the next regular mailing of the Grand Lodge of Ontario. **CARRIED.**

Letter from the Joint Planning Board.

The letter from the Joint Planning Board was received and discussed. The letter was in regard to the

Jurisdictional Itinerary that Brother Switzer does for the Grand Lodge. It was noted that Sister Evelyn Teft does an Itinerary for the Joint Planning Board and the Executive discussed that each Itinerary contains elements that the other Itinerary does not include and that there were events not covered in the individual Itineraries. It was moved by Brothers Schwalm and Beach that Brother Switzer be thanked for his hard work on this Itinerary and that Brother Nichols advise the Joint Planning Board that both Itineraries can continue and that it is our hope that all events happening in the Jurisdiction be covered in this way. **CARRIED.**

Education Committee and Grant for next year's budget.

An email had been received from Brother Wayne Geurts, Education Committee Chairman, asking for an appropriation for the budget for the 2008 Lodge year.

This matter was discussed and the matter that this Committee was to be self funding was raised. Brother Nichols stated that the old Ontario Code used to say that this Committee could submit a budget request for review but that this was not in our new Code. The Executive decided that a budget request could be submitted. It was moved by Brothers Switzer and Schwalm that the Finance Committee of the Executive be asked to look at providing three hundred dollars (\$300.00) in the proposed budget to go to the Session for approval. **CARRIED.**

Mailings Via Email.

The Executive wondered how much of a response that Brother Nichols has received thus far for the Mailings Via Email plan suggested by the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer. Brother Nichols reported that he has not received too many at this time but suspected that more would come after the New Year. Brother Beach wondered if we are going far enough and suggested that we have all mailings that could be sent via email done for everyone who receives Grand Lodge mailings, by a certain future date. Brother Nichols suggested that we wait and see if this is something that interests the Lodges and people who receive Grand Lodge Mailings. Brother Nichols would prefer to do a test and see if this is something that is beneficial and a benefit to the Lodges and individuals.

The Executive decided that doing a trial of the program, seeing how it works, and evaluating it would be a good idea prior to implementing a complete program of all mailings via email.

Lodges with Low Membership.

Brother Benson questioned what is being done about Lodges with low membership and mentioned a proposed letter that he had sent to the Executive. The Membership Prospect Plan and Evenings were discussed at this point as well as a viable plan for assisting Lodges to increase membership. We need to discuss what help we can give, how it can be done and where to start. Brother Benson stated that he would continue to look at this matter and bring suggestions to the next meeting of the Executive.

Joint Installations of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly.

Brother Benson brought up the Joint Installation of our Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly at the upcoming Annual Session and a question was raised as to whether or not this should be a permanent thing or something left to the incoming Grand Master and Assembly President each year. The Sovereign Grand Lodge always has a Joint Installation and many other Jurisdictions always have very successful Joint Installations.

It was suggested that we see how the Joint Installation goes this year, evaluate the matter and discuss the idea at a Joint Meeting of the Grand Lodge and Rebekah Assembly Executives.

District #42 and it's Membership Committee.

We have received a request from District #42 to hold a membership seminar for their District Membership Committee. The matter was discussed and it is felt that this would be a great idea if Districts in the area could get together to hold a joint seminar. The Membership Prospect Plan and Evening could be discussed and presented and placed into the hands of the individual Lodges to work with as a tool. This tool has been met with great success in other areas.

This item was left with Brother Ian to look at and see if something could be set up.

No further business appearing, this meeting closed at 12:50 pm with a reminder that the next meeting will be held on February 12, 2008.