



**Executive Meeting
Tuesday, November 22, 2011.
Stratford, Ontario.**



AGENDA...

1. **Call to Order @ 9:55 am.** By.....Brother Ralph Dufresne, 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: printed and circulated - moved Terry Switzer. 2nd Bob Schwalm
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - A) Executive Committee Appointments and Approval. (Ralph)
 - B) Budget, year to date, (Bob Schwalm) (Attached Sheets)
 - C)
6. **Unfinished Business:**
 - A) Geneva Lodge Update **(In Camera)**
 - B) Sessional Committees (Terry)
 - C) Accessibility Committee
 - D) Bracebridge Lodge #251 **(In Camera)** (Ralph and Jim)
 - E)
 - F) Other??
7. **New Business:**
 - A) Tabloid. (Exec)
 - B) Annual Returns (John & Bob)
 - C) Central Humanitarian Services Committee **(In Camera)** (John & Wayne)
 - D) Victoria Historical Lodge #6
 - E) Collingwood Lodge #54 **(In Camera)** (Ralph and Jim)
 - F) Official Dress for Grand Lodge Officers (Wayne)
 - G) Annual Session. (Terry Switzer)
 - H) Lunch times at the Annual Session.
 - I) Mailings via Email.
8. **Date of Next Meetings** - Jan 17, 2012; Sessions if necessary.
9. **Adjournment @**..... . Moved by.....

Executive Special Committees.

2011 -2012.

First Listed Person to Serve as Chair.

Budget Committee:		Investments and Endowments:	
Duncan McMillan Charles Pole 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 Tom Robinson All Members of the Executive.		John Nichols Wayne Geurts 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))	
Terry Switzer Jim Edwards Wayne Geurts 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.			

Re: Victoria Historical Lodge #6

To: All Officers of Victoria Historical Lodge #6

From: John R. Nichols, Grand Secretary.

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

I have been receiving some inquiries and comments about the proceedings of the Victoria Historical Lodge and I thought I should address them to all of you in a letter. It is my hope that this letter will become a discussion paper with all of us adding things and negotiating for position on some of the items in this paper. Having said all this, the following represents my opinions and these items are open for discussion.

Victoria Historical Lodge #6 was set up, in part, to be an example of how things are to be done in the Jurisdiction. Over the past few years things have not been done well at Victoria Historical Lodge and I have received comments that its time to get some polish back on Victoria Historical. Your Comments and thoughts are appreciated so we can form a policy for the annual meeting of Victoria Historical Lodge.

Principle Officers of the Victoria Historical Lodge should be at the Lodge Hall no later than 10:30 or 11:00 am. There are folders for the Noble Grand, Vice Grand, Secretary, Treasurer, Warden and Chaplain. In these folders you will find valuable information for the meeting that day. If you are at the Hall by 10:30 am it gives you time to go through your folder and look for people you will have to appoint for various positions.

Noble Grand: (installed at last year's meeting and incoming as well)

- advise all Officers about the meeting and confirm their attendance (incoming and outgoing). Please advise all Officers of the proper dress for the day, ALL Officers in formal black attire.
- review contents of folder and become familiar with the items and when they should be used.
- appoint an interviewing committee of three people to deal with any new members we may have
- appoint an introductory Committee (at least 2 people, more if you feel you need it) for introducing all dignitaries who are in attendance. **Remember, you do not get taken out and introduced as you are the Noble Grand of Victoria Historical Lodge today and you will remain in your seat as Noble Grand.** The same thing applies for the Vice Grand and all other Officers of Victoria Historical Lodge #6. For this day we are all Officers of Victoria Historical Lodge.(who will then be the current sitting Grand Master).
- prior to the meeting, become proficient in the ritual for Opening Lodge, Closing Lodge and running the meeting. All Charges are to be Memorized as Ritual are not supposed to be used. Become proficient in the Charter draping Ceremony (it is used when we drape the charter of Victoria Historical Lodge)
- **ensure that all of the officers who were installed with you are going to be present and that they know their respective charges. Rituals are not to be used at Victoria Historical Lodge.**
- **the incoming Noble Grand is responsible for ensuring that the team from his District will be in attendance to install the Officers of Victoria Historical Lodge. If the team from the Grand Master's District cannot come to do the installation, the Grand Master (of that year and as such the incoming Noble Grand) will arrange for a team to be in place to install the officers.**

Vice Grand:

- prior to the meeting, become proficient in the ritual for Opening Lodge, Closing Lodge and running the meeting. Become proficient in the Charter draping Ceremony (it is used when we drape the charter of Victoria Historical Lodge)
- review contents of folder and become familiar with the items and when they should be used.

- ensure that all of the officers who will be installed with you are going to be present and that they know their respective charges. Rituals are not to be used at Victoria Historical Lodge.
- ensure the installation team is there and ready to proceed.
- see if the same introductory committee will serve for you for after the recess when dignitaries are introduced. **Remember, you do not get taken out and introduced as you are the Vice Grand and then the Noble Grand of Victoria Historical Lodge today and you should remain in your seat as an Officer of the Lodge.** The same thing applies while you are the Vice Grand (who will then be the current sitting Grand Master).
- Vice Grand reads a brief History of Odd Fellowship (copy provided for your information).

Secretary:

- review contents of folder and become familiar with the items and when they should be used.
- know the charges you have to give.
- prepare folders for the principle Officers.
- prepare Necrology Report for use by the Noble Grand and Chaplain.
- have books, receipts, application forms and all other needed items to the Lodge for use of the Committee prior to the meeting.
- have adequate copies of minutes available for those who will be in attendance
- prior to the meeting, become proficient in the ritual for opening Lodge, Closing Lodge and running the meeting. Become proficient in the Charter draping Ceremony (it is used when we drape the charter of Victoria Historical Lodge)

Treasurer:

- review contents of folder and become familiar with the items and when they should be used.
- have your Financial Report there and ready for presentation. Have adequate numbers of copies of your report so that it will be available for those who will be in attendance.
- prior to the meeting, become proficient in the ritual for opening Lodge, Closing Lodge and running the meeting. Become proficient in the Charter draping Ceremony (it is used when we drape the charter of Victoria Historical Lodge)

Warden:

- arrive early to ensure that the Lodge room is set up for the meeting and that the folders, books and papers from the Grand Secretary are at their appropriate stations for the meeting. After the meeting ensure that the folders books and papers are returned to the Grand Secretary for safe keeping. Assist in putting away items used to return Lodge Hall to pre use condition.
- review contents of folder and become familiar with the items and when they should be used.
- prior to the meeting, become proficient in the ritual for opening Lodge, Closing Lodge and running the meeting. Become proficient in the Charter draping Ceremony (it is used when we drape the charter of Victoria Historical Lodge)
- **Remember, you do not get taken out and introduced as you are an Officer of Victoria Historical Lodge today.**

Chaplain:

- review contents of folder and become familiar with the items and when they should be used.
- prior to the meeting, become proficient in the ritual for opening Lodge, Closing Lodge and running the meeting. Become proficient in the Charter draping Ceremony (it is used when we drape the charter of

Victoria Historical Lodge)

- Remember, you do not get taken out and introduced as you are an Officer of Victoria Historical Lodge today.

All Officers:

- Remember, you do not get taken out and introduced as you are an Officer of Victoria Historical Lodge today.

- **Memorize your Charge** for Opening the Lodge. For those involved in the Closing, please have your parts memorized as Rituals are **not** to be used.

- submit your registration early so the committee can be adequately prepared.

- have your charges memorized (have I already said this? It is really important as Rituals are not to be used).

- be there early so you can know what is going on and be advised of anything that may be coming up or anything you may need to do. This is especially vital for those involved in the ceremony of the Draping of Charter.

- advise the Noble Grand as to whether or not you intend to attend.

If all else fails, if we are all there early we can close the doors and have a practise run through the meeting, should we need to do so...

**Victoria Historical Lodge #6,
Independent Order of Odd Fellows.
Agenda**

Opening the Lodge.

- 1. Call the Roll of Officers.**
- 2. Appointment of Interviewing Committee.**
- 3. Report of Interviewing Committee.
(Followed by a motion to accept and a vote)**
- 4. Election of Trustees.**
- 5. Recess. (All Visitors Made Welcome!!!)**
- 6. Installation of Officers.**
- 7. Brief History of Victoria Historical Lodge
(Read by Vice Grand)**
- 8. Introduction of Visiting Dignitaries.
(No Honours, Open Session)**
- 9. Unit Heads bring greetings.**
- 10. Draping of the Charter.**

11. Minutes of the last meeting.
12. Presentation of Accounts and Correspondence.
13. Sick Members or Members in Distress.
14. Report of Officers or Committees.
15. Unfinished Business.
16. New Business.
17. Good and Welfare of the Order.
18. Recess declared over.
(Visitors leave)
19. Closing the Lodge.



Camp Trillium, Odd Fellow and Rebekah Capital Fund.
Camps for Children with Cancer.



Minutes, Victoria Historical Lodge #6, September 24, 2011.

The annual meeting of Victoria Historical Lodge was called to order at 1:00 pm, September 24, 2011, with Brother Jim Edwards, Noble Grand, in the chair. The Officers of the Historical Lodge were in formal black attire as is required by the Constitution and Bylaws of this Historical Lodge.

Lodge proceeded to open in Ancient Form with most Officers giving their respective charges. The flag of our Country was paraded into the Lodge room by our Colour Bearer, escorted by our Warden and Conductor. Lodge was declared open according to the Ritual.

It was noted, with deep regret, that some of the Officers were unprepared and either did not know their charges or had used Rituals and slips of paper to give their charges during the opening ceremony and that all Officers were to have their respective charges memorized. **Officers were admonished to memorize their charges for the future.**

It was noted, with regret, during the Roll Call of Officers that there were four Officers absent from this Annual Meeting of Victoria Historical Lodge.

We had received 11 applications for membership in this Historical Lodge. Brother Jim Edwards appointed Brothers David Longfield, PGM and Bob McMahon, as our Interviewing Committee.

The Interviewing Committee retired in form to meet with the prospective members of the Lodge. Upon the return of the Interviewing Committee they reported that they found all the new applicants to be in proper order and recommended their acceptance as members of this Historical Lodge. It was moved by Brother Wayne Geurts and seconded by Brother Charles Pole, that this report be accepted,

the Committee be disbanded and that we proceed to vote by show of hands. **CARRIED.**

It was noted, with regret, that the books and papers of this Historical Lodge had not been found at the Lodge Hall but we were assured that the local members would continue to look for the box with our books and papers.

The new members of this Historical Lodge were instructed to come to the front and be welcomed by Brother Jim Edwards, Noble Grand, who was on hand to shake hands with each new member and welcome them to Victoria Historical Lodge.

Brother Edwards expressed that he hoped that the new members, along with all the former members and current members would take the time each year to come and enjoy the day at Victoria Historical Lodge. With attendance dropping each year it is vitally important to have as many people as possible joining as Historical Associate Members, each year.

Nominations were opened for the position of three year trustee and the following member was nominated:

Ray Porter.

Brother Ray Porter was declared elected as the three year trustee of Victoria Historical Lodge by acclamation. We now have the following Trustees:

Ray Porter, 3 years.

Philip Benson, 2 years.

Charles Pole, 1 year.

Brother Edwards called a brief controlled recess, in place, to allow any guests to enter and to allow the Members of the Installing Team a chance to prepare for the Ceremony of Installation. Brother Edwards welcomed all the guests and explained the procedure for the banquet that was to follow after the meeting and installation.

Brother Allen Carson, District Deputy Grand Master of Historical District #1, and his team entered the Lodge room to begin the Installation Ceremony. Brother Carson, District Deputy Grand Master, and his Installing Staff very capably installed the incoming Officers of Victoria Historical Lodge #6, in regular form. Immediately following the installation Brother Carson's staff retired briefly and re entered the Lodge Room for the continuation of the meeting. The Installing Team presented floor work, spelling out the letters, F., L., T., the number 41 (for District #41) and received a hearty round of applause for a job well done.

The following Members were Installed into Office:

Noble Grand:	Ralph Dufresne	Vice Grand:	Wayne Geurts
Secretary:	John Nichols	Treasurer:	Bob Schwalm
Warden:	Tom Robinson	Conductor:	Kathleen Noble
Chaplain:	Shirley Hunt		
RSS:	June Dufresne	LSS:	Molly James
RSNG:	Terry Switzer	LSNG:	Jim Edwards
Musician:	Sandra McWhirter	Colour Bearer:	Robert McMahan
RSVG:	John Anderson	LSVG:	Wayne Gard
IG:	Kevin Merkley	OG:	Bill Post

Brother Ralph Dufresene thanked the Team and invited them to remain in the Lodge Hall with us for the Annual Meeting.

Brother Wayne Geurts, read a brief history of Odd Fellowship in Ontario and of this Historical Lodge.

Brother John Nichols extended his thanks to the Brothers who had taken care of the dues and issuing dues cards for all the work they have done this year to register people and collect dues. These two Brothers certainly make the day go a lot smoother for everyone!

We had an assortment of 17 Dignitaries present for this meeting. Greetings were brought by Sandra McWhirter for the Department Association, Ian McWhirter for the Department Council, John Anderson for the Grand Encampment, Cindy Earhart for the Rebekah Assembly and Sandra McWhirter for the IALAPM.

It was noted that some of the Officers of this Historical Lodge had retired to be introduced as Dignitaries. Officers of Victoria Historical Lodge are reminded that they do not go out to be introduced at the Annual Meeting of Victoria Historical Lodge.

Brother Dufresne was very pleased that these dignitaries had come to our meeting today and welcomed each one.

Brief greetings were brought by the following persons for their units:

Brother Wayne Gard was appointed as acting Chaplain, due to the recent death of Brother Norm Hunt, husband of the Chaplain of Victoria Historical Lodge and the Charter of this Historical Lodge was draped in loving memory of Brother Harold Newman, Past Grand Master, Brother Don Howe, Past Grand Master, Brother Connie Mac Riley, Past Sovereign Grand Master, and all Historical Associate Members of Victoria Historical Lodge who had passed during this last term.

The Minutes of the Last Meeting were presented and it was moved by Brother Terry Switzer and seconded by Brother Jim Edwards that the minutes be adopted as printed and distributed. **CARRIED.**

Our Secretary requested that Brothers and Sisters state their name when moving or seconding a motion as while he may know most everyone here, it is difficult to know who is speaking when he has his head down and is writing.

A bill was presented for the Past Grand's Certificate Plaque that is presented to our retiring Noble Grand and it was moved by Brother Bob McMahan and seconded by Brother David Longfield that this bill, be paid. **CARRIED.**

It was reported that the following Members were sick or in distress:
Lyle Crawford of #306 is in hospital and is not doing well.
John Strachan of #320 has some serious health issues.
Herb Ritchie, Past Grand of Victoria Historical Lodge is recently out of hospital.
Jim Highway, Grand Scribe is going in to hospital for open heart surgery.
Ian McWhirter, Past Grand of Victoria Historical Lodge is recently out of hospital.
George Smith of #308 is recovering from a stroke.
Clifford Gorril is struggling badly.

It was reported that 64 people had registered today and that \$275.00 had been received in dues. Brother John Nichols, Secretary, received the dues and promptly handed them over to Brother Bob Schwalm, Treasurer.

Brother Bob Schwalm presented the financial report and it was moved by Brother Schwalm seconded by Brother Jack McAllister that the financial report be adopted. **CARRIED.**

Brother Don Beach, Past Grand of Victoria Historical Lodge, reported that Beethoven Lodge #165 has a yearly golf tournament to raise funds for Camp Trillium and Brother Kenneth McTaggart presented

a replica cheque to Brother Ralph Dufresne, in the amount of \$3080.00, for the Grand Master's Project.

Brother Tim Pearce presented Brother Dufresne with a Travelling Gavel to use on his journey as Grand Master.

Brother Terry Switzer thanked the Installing Team for a job very well done.

Brother Ralph Dufresne presented Brother Jim Edwards with a Past Grand's Plaque on his retirement as Noble Grand of Victoria Historical Lodge. Brother Dufresne also thanked the Installing Team and all of his Officers.

Brother Bob Schwalm, Past Grand of Victoria Historical Lodge, rose on a "Point of Order" and asked permission to address the Members of Victoria Historical Lodge, after the recess was over and prior to the closing of the Lodge. Brother Ralph Dufresne granted that permission.

It was moved by Brother Philip Benson and seconded by Brother Tom Robinson that the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) be paid to Beethoven Lodge for the use of the Hall today. It was moved by Brother Jim Edwards, with second by Brother Dave Longfield, that this Historical Lodge donate \$100.00 to our Grand Master's project, the Camp Trillium, Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Capital Fund.
CARRIED.

Brother Kevin Merkley addressed the Lodge and spoke about the Communications that are received, telling about all the things that are happening in South Western Ontario. It is very difficult for the Northern Lodges, especially those in the far north, to attend some of these things. Brother Kevin stated that he would do his best to try to get the Northern Members to come down south for some of these events.

Brother Bob Schwalm discussed that the Annual Meeting of Victoria Historical Lodge used to be on the last Saturday in October but that we had moved the meeting to September when we changed the Grand Lodge Year End. Brother Schwalm stated that it might be best to move the Annual Meeting to the last Saturday in October so that things would not be so busy, and, with declining attendance that maybe we could get more people interested in attending our Annual Meeting. Brother Schwalm moved that the appropriate Legislation be drafted by our Trustees, to change the year end to the last Saturday in October, with second by Brother John Nichols.

There were a few speakers, some opposed to the change in date and others thinking it might be a good idea. The question was called and the motion was **DEFEATED.**

Brother David Longfield, Past Grand of Victoria Historical Lodge, reported that the Arthritis Society is doing well and in this past year, the Order in Ontario had raised over \$4,000.00. At the Annual Session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge the Arthritis Committee had held a silent auction and raised over \$2,000.00 of which \$491.00 had been raised from the items from Ontario and that with the dollar where it was at that point that this amount came out to around \$470.00 Canadian. The Sovereign Grand Lodge Arthritis Committee had presented a cheque to the Arthritis Foundation for \$743,000.00. All Canadian dollars are kept in Canada and if you would like to make a donation and help out, you should send it to Brother Longfield with a memo that it is for the Arthritis Society.

Brother Wayne Geurts stated that the Travelling Gavel that had been presented to Brother Dufresne had been started in 1932 and that there should be a book with the gavel and that the book needs to be signed with notations to show where the gavel has travelled.

Sister Bernice Hall Stevenson asked a question in relation to Central Humanitarian Committee donations in memory of an individual and Brother Schwalm stated that the cheque should be made out to the Camp Trillium, Odd Fellows and Rebekah Capital Fund, with the memo on who it was in memory of and that Camp Trillium sends receipts and/or acknowledgements.

Our Visitors left the Lodge Room and the Recess was declared over.

Brother Bob Schwalm rose on his point of order and addressed the Lodge as a Past Grand of this Historical Lodge and as an Elective Officer of the Grand Lodge of Ontario.

Brother Bob Howard had told Brother Schwalm why this Historical Lodge was put into place in the beginning and that it was to be a show case of Odd Fellowship in this Grand Jurisdiction, for people to come and see how an Odd Fellows Lodge was to open and close and to operate and be conducted. Brother Schwalm stated that in the past 16 years he had attended this Historical Lodge meeting 15 times and that the only time he was absent it was due to the fact that the Grand Master of the day had sent him elsewhere for an official function. Brother Schwalm stated that All of the Officers were to know their stuff, how to open and close and conduct a meeting and were to have their charges memorized as we have ALL been Lodge Officers and to get to this point, everyone of us has to be a Past Grand. Brother Schwalm stated that over the years he has watched as things have slipped and gotten worse and that this year things were not good at all. Brother Schwalm stated that if we are not going to make Victoria Historical Lodge a showcase, once again, that we should look at not doing this Lodge. A hearty round of applause ensued.

(NOTE: I have taken an excerpt from the Code of Ontario Odd Fellows Laws, in relation to Victoria Historical Lodge and have pasted it here since it is dealing with the previous statements by Brother Schwalm.

**BYLAWS of the GRAND LODGE OF ONTARIO,
Chapter III**

Section 18. Victoria Historical Lodge No. 6 of Belleville, Ontario.

A. Victoria Historical Lodge No. 6

(1) Title. *This lodge shall be known as Victoria Historical Lodge No. 6.*

(2) Objectives. *This historical lodge has been established for the purpose of:*

- (a) perpetuating the memory of the first lodge in Ontario, namely, Victoria Lodge No. 6 of Belleville, Ontario, which was instituted on June 17, 1845,*
- (b) creating a repository of all artifacts, regalia, documents, paintings, pictures or other memorabilia pertaining to the historical saga of the Independent order of Odd Fellows in the jurisdiction of Ontario (and the former territory of Canada West of the United Provinces of Canada).*
- (c) establishing a working model lodge in the jurisdiction of Ontario that other Odd Fellows may study and emulate its operations and conduct.**

This excerpt outlines the purposes of Victoria Historical Lodge and is for notification purposes only.)

No further business appearing, the Lodge proceeded to conduct the closing ceremony. This Lodge was closed in ancient form at 3:55 pm, until our next meeting, Saturday September 29, 2012.

The 2011 Annual Meeting of this Historical Lodge is set for Saturday September 29, 2012. Get your response in early!

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held November 22, 2011.

The Executive Meeting for November 22, 2011 began at 9:55 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 and thanked all those present for their attendance. It was indicated that a Quorum was in attendance with the following people present:

Ralph Dufresne	Wayne Geurts	Tom Robinson	John Nichols
Bob Schwalm	Terry Switzer	Jim Edwards	

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 Dufresne had left the sheets with his appointments at home so members of the Executive made suggestions as to who should be on these Committees and Brother Ralph made his appointments. The appointments are listed on the second page of this set of minutes.

5B Budget Year to Date.

Brother Schwalm went over the budget and noted that all expenses are in line with where they should be at this point in the year. Dues are coming in, slowly and it was noted that over half of the Annual Returns we have received at this point, have had to be sent back for corrections and modifications. The Annual Returns are not in good shape this year and the corrections have been necessary so we could do our Annual Report to the Sovereign Grand Lodge. As of today, one third of the Annual Returns are not in and penalties have yet to be applied.

It was moved by Brother Terry Switzer with second from Brother Wayne Geurts that the Penalty be assessed to all Annual Returns that were not in the Grand Lodge Office by November 1, 2011.

Brother Nichols stated that he had already made arrangements with some Lodges that do not have their returns in due to illness or mailing problems and Brother Geurts stated that allowances could be made for those Lodges as long as they lived up to their commitment with Brother Nichols. The motion **CARRIED.**

It was moved by Brother Bob Schwalm with second by Brother Terry Switzer that this report be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

There were a number of items to be handled "In Camera" and it was decided that we would deal with them all at the same time and that Brother Nichols would put them into their proper place in the agenda when doing the minutes.

6A Geneva Lodge #320. 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.

It was further moved by Brother Geurts, with second by Brother Tom Robinson, that the Grand Secretary send a letter to the Lodges involved, in relation to their building, that the Grand Lodge cannot entertain their proposal due to the legal restrictions placed on this Grand Lodge by the dictates of the Insurance Act. Brother Jim Edwards asked permission to abstain from the vote due to a perceived conflict of interest and Brother Ralph Dufresne granted this permission. The motion **CARRIED**.

6B Sessional Committees.

Brother Switzer, and his committee had done some work on the Sessional Committee make up and times that they would meet and presented their ideas to the Executive. There was discussion in relation to the Committee make up and times that these Committees would meet and some adjustments were made.

Brother Nichols reminded the Executive that these changes would need to come to the Grand Lodge, in Session, as legislation to adjust our Code and it was decided that Brothers Switzer, Edwards and Geurts would work on this necessary legislation and submit it in time for the Advance Journal.

6C Accessibility Committee (from a resolution at the Grand Lodge Sessions)

Brother Dufresne has appointed the Accessibility Committee and this Committee is currently working on issues that arise from the Ontario Legislation that comes into force and effect on January 1, 2012. A policy will need to be drafted and implemented and it is necessary accommodations for those with disabilities that we will need to concentrate on immediately. Issues with buildings being accessible will not be legislated until 2025 but we will need to have a look at these issues and grants that may be available, prior to that date.

Brother Dufresne has appointed the following members to this Committee:

Brother Charles Benson
Brother Bob Schwalm

Sister Kathleen Noble
Brother John Nichols

Sister Shirley Hunt

6D Bracebrige Lodge #251. 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. There were no motions presented as a result of this discussion but Brother Nichols was instructed to send a letter.

7A The Tabloid.

Brother Paul Jackson and Valley City Lodge #117 had sent communications to the Grand Lodge saying that they were interested in taking on the Tabloid since Brother Bill Thompson, Cobourg Lodge #136 and Duke of Kent Rebekah Lodge #326 were wanting to retire from doing the Tabloid.

Discussions have taken place with Brother Bill Thompson and Brother Paul Jackson and a meeting has taken place between Brothers Bill and Paul. It was moved by Brother Wayne Geurts with second from Brother Terry Switzer, that the Grand Lodge Executive accept the offer of Brother Paul Jackson and that he be appointed as Editor of the Tabloid. It was further moved that Brother Nichols remind Brother Jackson that there could be no over runs on the costs of producing and mailing the Tabloid and that our budgeted amount and the subscriptions would have to cover the costs for the Tabloid. **CARRIED**.

It was moved by Brother Wayne Geurts with second by Brother Bob Schwalm that our Grand Secretary send letters of thanks to Brother Bill Thompson, Cobourg Lodge #136 and Duke of Kent Rebekah Lodge #326 for their years of dedicated service and their excellent work on the Tabloid.

CARRIED.

7B. Annual Returns.

This matter had already been discussed under the Budget year to date and there was no further discussion at this time.

7C Central Humanitarian Services Committee. In Camera.

Due to this matter being in relation to the private business of this Committee, the discussion in relation to this item was handled In Camera. There were no motions forthcoming as a result of the discussion.

7D Victoria Historical Lodge #6.

There was a discussion on the "Discussion Paper" drafted by Brother Nichols and attached to these minutes and the proper way that Victoria Historical Lodge should be conducted, if we are going to continue to hold this Historical Lodge.

There was a question raised as to who could be present for the Opening and Closing of Victorian Historical Lodge and it was stated that any Odd Fellow should be able to be present for the Opening and Closing. This is the case as any Odd Fellow can be present for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of an Odd Fellows Lodge. Apologies are extended to those who may have been asked to leave during the last Annual Meeting of Victoria Historical Lodge #6. In the future, all Odd Fellows, in good standing, will be able to be present at the Opening and Closing and not just the Members of Victoria Historical Lodge #6.

Brother Schwalm reminded the Executive that it is the responsibility of the incoming and outgoing Noble Grands to remind their Officers of the meeting date, the dress code for the day and their duties and to know which Officers will or will not be in attendance at the Annual Meeting. It was further stressed that the principle Officers of the Lodge need to get there early and review the materials so they know what is coming up, what will be necessary and what they need to do.

7E Collingwood Lodge #54. 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. There were no motions forthcoming as a result of this discussion.

7F Official Dress for Grand Lodge Officers.

There have been some questions raised in the Jurisdiction about the Official Dress of Grand Lodge Officers especially as this issue relates to female Grand Lodge Officers.

There was some discussion on the Dress Code and it was moved by Brother John Nichols with second by Brother Terry Switzer that the Official Dress for female Grand Lodge Officers will be, from the time of the Installation at the ensuing Grand Lodge Session and there forward, white dress or black dress corresponding with the timing of the change in tuxedo jackets for the male Grand Lodge Officers.

CARRIED.

7G Annual Session and the Hospitality Room.

Brother Switzer brought up the fact that Brothers Geurts and Robinson are from the same District

and that this would mean that the Hospitality Room would need to be run by the same District for two years in a row. This will raise some issues for this District when it comes to costs and available manpower to staff the room. Brother Switzer stated that the District could handle one year but most likely not both years in a row.

There were questions raised as to what the Grand Lodge provides for the Hospitality Room and it was clarified that the Grand Lodge provides the room and that everything else comes from the District. The times that the room should be open was also discussed and we turned to the Code of Ontario Odd Fellows Laws to see what was indicated in there. Some were concerned about how late the room was remaining open and it was discussed that 11:00 pm should be the time we shoot for in closing up the room to not get in difficulties with the Hotel and other guests.

Brother Schwalm reminded us that the Hospitality Room does not have to be operated by the Home District of our Grand Master, though this has been our current practice, but that we could ask for a volunteer District at the Annual Session. Brother Schwalm feels that the costs to the District can be anywhere between \$300.00 and \$425.00.

The hosting of the Hospitality Room is a volunteer project and volunteer Lodges or Districts can be sought.

7H Lunch Times at the Upcoming Annual Session.

There was a discussion about the staggered lunch time at our upcoming Annual Session with the Grand Lodge breaking for lunch at 11:30 am and the Rebekah Assembly breaking for lunch at 12:30 pm, due to a question raised by Sister Kathryn Bellmore, President of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario.

The discussion was in relation to the Committee on Arrangements having already discussed this and having made a decision that was agreed to by everyone there and the fact that the Grand Lodge Elections must be held at the time indicated by the Code of Ontario Odd Fellows Laws and that we needed to take action to relieve congestion at the Hotel during the lunch period. As a result of the discussion it was moved by Brother Wayne Geurts, with second by Brother Tom Robinson, that we remain with the prearranged lunch times, as currently arranged and that Brother Nichols inform the Rebekah Assembly of this decision. **CARRIED.**

7I Mailings via Email.

Brother Switzer brought forward that he has been asked by some Lodges if the mailings via email could be broken down a bit so that so much information is not transmitted at once and that the emailing be more frequent. In this way the Lodges have less to deal with at one time and it may entice other Lodges to get on to the mailings via email so that they could receive information in a more timely manner.

Brother Nichols stated that he has been trying to get a mailing via Canada Post ready since September but that time has been really tight and that he generally sends out the emailing when he receives the materials. Brother Nichols will strive to send more frequent emails with less material.

No further business appearing, the meeting of the Grand Lodge Executive closed in Friendship, Love and Truth, at 1:15 pm.

The next meeting of the Grand Lodge Executive will be held January 17, 2012, at 10:00 am, at the Grand Lodge Office.