



Executive Meeting
Tuesday, September 20, 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)
B) Budget, year to date, pre audit (Bob Schwalm) (Attached Sheets)
C)
6. Unfinished Business:
A) Geneva Lodge Update (?) (In Camera)
B) Sessional Committees (Terry)
C) Accessibility Committee.
D)
E)
F) Other??
7. New Business:
A) Rebekah Assembly (In Camera at request of RAO)
B) Introductions per protocol (John, for information purposes)
C) 2012 Annual Session. (Bob)
D) Membership and Lodges with fewer than 15 Members.
E) Sovereign Grand Lodge Revitalization Committee.
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.

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 September 20, 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 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 Dufresne had left the sheets with his appointments at home so he will make his appointments at our November meeting.

5B Budget, year to date.

Brother Bob Schwalm, Grand Treasurer, presented the Budget, year to date and noted that all the figures are "pre audit". Brother Schwalm reviewed the expenses and the budget shows that all expenses are in line to under budget and that we are sitting in pretty good shape.

The dues amount is higher than budget because some Lodges had not paid their Semi Annual Returns in the correct year and our financial year runs from September 1st to August 31st. The interest income is down because of the rates we are realizing and some of the money has not come in pre audit, at this time. There was a question as to whether or not the dues increase was part of the actual and Brother Schwalm reported that it was.

Sessional Expenses were quite good this year with many good savings with the Sessions in Stratford and doing the Journal of Proceedings "in house". All told, the Sessional Expenses were under budget by around eleven thousand dollars. All other expenses seem to be in line and we should end the year with a slight surplus.

The Audit expenses were up due to accruals from previous years and extra work that had to be done due to change overs.

It was moved by Brother Schwalm, second by Brother Edwards, that the Budget, year to date report, be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

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.

6B Sessional Committees

Brother Switzer and his Committee have been working on some proposed adjustments to the Sessional Committees of the Grand Lodge, with adjusting sizes of the Committees and dates and times that the Committees will meet.

Brother Switzer will bring a full report to our next meeting.

There were some questions in relation to changing meeting dates in relation to reduced room nights, attendance at the Church Service, Joint Memorial and Official Opening and these issues will have to be addressed as we look to proposed changes.

For any change to take place the appropriate legislation would have to be drafted and presented to the Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Ontario.

6 C Accessibility Committee

Brother Nichols asked about the Special Committee that needs to be formed in relation to the Resolution that was adopted at the last Session of the Grand Lodge of Ontario. Brother Dufresne has been working on getting people for this Committee and so far has Brother Charles Benson as Chair, Sister Kathy Noble, Brother Bob Schwalm and Brother John Nichols appointed to this Committee. Brother Dufresne is still looking for one additional person.

7A Rebekah Assembly (In Camera at request of RAO).

Due to this matter being in relation to the private business of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario, the discussion in relation to this item was handled In Camera, as per the request of the Rebekah Assembly.

7 B Introductions per protocol (John, for information purposes)

Due to some recent issues in relation to Lodge and Grand Lodge Protocols, Brother Nichols gave the Executive Members copies of the Protocol Sheets that are given to every District Deputy Grand Master and which have, in the past been sent to all Lodges. A question was raised as to whether or not this Protocol was from Ontario or from the Sovereign Grand Lodge and Brother Nichols reported that he and Brother Terry Barrett, Sovereign Grand Secretary, had worked together to form this Protocol. The Protocol follows for information purposes:

Order for Introduction of Visitors.

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

Due to numerous requests for an order for the Introduction of Visitors to your Lodge, this order has been prepared. The Noble Grand should, prior to the opening of your Lodge, acquaint themselves with any visitors who may require a special introduction. The Noble Grand should greet each of these Officers personally and ascertain their name and rank.

Introductions should be carried out as quickly as possible so as not to be too time consuming and become boring to those waiting in the Lodge room. **Officers should be introduced once only, under the highest rank to which they belong, the other titles the Officer holds may be announced as well at the same time. Officers should never be introduced, taken from the room and introduced again under a different title.**

Under the Order of Business for "Introduction of Visiting Members", the Noble Grand should appoint an introductory committee and ask all Elected Officers, Past Elected Officers, Appointed Officers and District Deputies of all branches of the order to retire in form.

The Officers are escorted into the room and introduced as follows.

- A) **Visiting District Deputies of all Units of our Order.** (*Honours of the Order are not given*)
- B) **District Deputy Grand Master of your District, if on an official visit.** (*If on an official visit, or if his/her title is announced at the door, during a closed meeting, **Honours of the Order** are given.*)
- C) **Appointed Officers of all Jurisdictional Units of the Order.** If the meeting is open, or if the Ladies are Odd Fellow Lodge Members, the Ladies will be admitted and introduced as well in this order: (*No Honours of the Order*)

- a) Department Association, L.A.P.M.
- b) Department Council, Patriarchs Militant.
- c) Grand Ladies Encampment Auxiliary.
- d) Grand Encampment.
- e) Rebekah Assembly.
- f) Grand Lodge.

The line up order for the appointed officers of the Grand Lodge is as follows, Grand Herald, Grand Guardian, Grand Chaplain, Grand Musician, Grand Messenger, Grand Conductor, Grand Marshal.

- D) **Past Elected Officers of all Units of the Order** (*No Honours*)
These Officers should be introduced as outlined in **3. a - f , above.**
- E) **Appointed Officers of all International Units of the Order.** (*No Honours*)
- F) **Past Elected Officers of all International Units of the Order.** (*No Honours*)
- G) **Elected Officers of all Units of the Order.** (*Honours of the Order given when Lodge is in closed Session to all Odd Fellows, male or female, who are Elected Officers from the other Units of the Order.*) These Officers should be brought in and introduced as outlined in **3. a - e, above.**
- H) **The Elected Officers of the Grand Lodge of Ontario.** (*Honours of the Order*).
The line up Order for the Elected Officers is as follows: Grand Representatives, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Warden, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Master.
- I) **Elected Officers of all International Units** (*Honours if in a closed meeting*).

Introductions should be carried out as quickly as possible so as not to be too time consuming and become boring to those waiting in the Lodge room. **Officers should be introduced once only, under the highest rank to which they belong, the other titles the Officer holds may be announced as well at the same time. Officers should never be introduced, taken from the room and introduced again under a different title.**

Lodge Protocol also indicates that, under the "Good of the Order", the Order of business should be immediately closed and no other member allowed to speak after the ranking Officer in

attendance has spoken and brought greetings.

7 C 2012 Annual Session

Brother Schwalm reported on the upcoming 2012 Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Ontario. The next Annual Session will be held Sunday May 6, to Wednesday May 9, 2012, at the Arden Park Hotel, Stratford, Ontario.

The Room Rates will be the same as last year and all other associated costs should be basically the same as last year. The Committee on Arrangements will be meeting next Tuesday and will review items and come up with a menu and costs for things like the banquet, luncheons and that sort of thing.

The Hotel has suggested that instead of having beef at the banquet that they could do a very nice schnitzel for the same price and that this will make things better for our banquet.

There were some questions in relation to the Annual Session that had been discussed, for the most part, at our last meeting but it was stated that the sign in front of the Hotel would be changed in 2012 and would show that we were at the Hotel having our Annual Session.

The cost savings have been good, for the Attendees and the Grand Lodge, and we will keep our eyes open, in the future, for additional savings that everyone can realize.

7 D Membership and Lodges with fewer than 15 Members.

Brother Charles Benson and the Membership Committee are ready and waiting to be of assistance to Lodges in Ontario. There was a discussion in relation to the clause in the Code of Ontario Odd Fellows Laws where letters be sent to Lodges with fewer than 15 Members asking for their plan for revitalization.

As a result of the discussion it was moved by Brother Switzer with second from Brother Robinson, that the Membership Committee send a letter to all Lodges with fewer than 15 Members, asking for their plan and stating that the Membership Committee is ready, willing and able to help, as per the Code. **CARRIED.**

7 E Sovereign Grand Lodge Revitalization Committee

Brother Edwards and Switzer reported that at the last Annual Session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, a new Revitalization Committee had been formed.

A better SGL Website is coming and there will be an option for Lodges and Grand Lodges to enter information such as new members, deaths and updating of membership rosters, on line.

The Committee has also taken steps and made the recommendation that the General Military Council and IALAPM be combined within the next couple of years and that a view be taken to not having this combined Unit meet annually. These recommendations were adopted.

The Committee is working on many other issues facing the Order and will be reporting annually at the Sovereign Grand Lodge Sessions.

No Further business being left to handle, our meeting was adjourned, in Friendship, Love and Truth, at 2:30 pm on motion of Brother Switzer. The next meeting of the Executive will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2011, at the Grand Lodge Office.