

Masonic Temple Wednesday Evening 24 July, 2024

At a Stated Communication of St. John's Lodge #3, A.F. & A.M.

New Bern, North Carolina

HELD ON THE ABOVE DATE PRESENT:

Bro. Arthur B. Romans W.M.
Bro. Timothy J. Harris S.W.
Bro. Dominick P. Giorgianni J.W.
Bro Thomas L. Williams, PM Treas.
Bro. William C. Zerby, PM Sec'y.
Bro Mark E. Bledsoe Chaplain



Bro. W. Terry Tripp S.D.
Bro. Robert D. Mull J.D.
Bro. Nicholas C. Coyle Steward
Bro. Joseph S. Kawalski Steward
Bro Christopher A. White as Tyler
Bro. _____ as Marshall

Lodge opened on the third degree of Masonry in Due Form at 7:30 p.m.

St. John's Lodge #3 was opened in due form by the WM.

After the flag ceremony the WM recognized all Veterans, Certified Lecturers, Past Masters, Coaches, First Responders, and prior/current District Officers.

SD introduced our guests.

Sick and Shut-ins: Bro Kevin Yates & wife Addie
MW Gene Cobb was in an accident
MW Mack Sigmon has COVID
Bro Bob Webster's wife is sick
WB Warren Taylor's wife having issues with her back
Bro Marty Spears is having his pacemaker removed
Unspoken needs of our Brothers and Widows

Treasurers Report: WB Tom Williams gave the treasurers report. Gen Account \$65,049.73
Mngt Account \$11,806.37

The minutes of the last Stated Communication of July 10 was read for information.

Bills Allowed: \$58.85 to bro Joseph Kawalski for tonight's meal

Motion by bro Nicholas Coyle 2nd by Tim Harris to pay the bills, motion carried

The WM asked the SD to prepare the ballot box. The lodge balloted on the Application for Affiliation of bro. Joe R. Winchester bro Martin J. Spears and bro. Kenneth D. Baker. Bro. Winchester, bro Spears and bro. Baker were elected affiliation with this lodge.

Old Business:

- WM reminded everyone on the new petitioner process.
- WM gave a reminder about the lodge Polos, Please see Mark Bledsoe and place name on the sign-up sheet for those who want or are needing shirts.
- WM commented on the Endowed Membership, cost is currently only \$1911.00 for one-time payment or can be broken up into 5 annual payments of 477.75
- National Sojourners Heroes of 76 will be putting on a colonial candlelight degree at St. John's on Thursday 22 August 2024 leading up to the New Bern Resolves anniversary. (It is our intent to raise Bro. Rob Webster that evening.)
- WM reminded the lodge that the GM District Meeting will at St. John's on Aug 28.

- WM thanked all that attended Royal Heart Lodge

New Business: The proposed amendments to the code were read to the lodge.

Masonic Education: Bro. Tim Harris and WB Joe Fuller gave a lesson on the "Wages of a Master Mason"

Coaching: 1 st Degree Richard Magda
2 nd Degree: David Blonn, Robert Webster (waiting on 3rd degree)Matthew Arnold,
3 rd Degree:

Lodge of Sustainability: Bro. Dominick Giorgianni commented on the NB Bear for the lodge.

Membership Outreach Report: Bro Mark Bledsoe announced the next Coffee & Donuts event will be
Aug 3rd @ 9am

Important Dates

- Jul 29 – 1st degree practice 6pm
- Jul 31 – 1st degree @ St . John's. 630 meal, 730 degree
- Aug 2 – Lux Libertas will be at Zion lodge 81 meal 6pm meeting 7pm
- Aug 3 – PGM 3rd degree @ Semper Fidelis lodge
- Aug 3 – Grotto Intl. will be hosting an Ice Cream Social at Temple Baptist 8-11 am
- Aug 8 – Doric Lodge, 3rd degree meal @ 530, degree @ 6.
- Aug 24 – NB Resolves, Candlelight Degree
- Aug 25 – Vanceboro Lodge will having a 2nd degree
- Aug 28 - GM District meeting hosted @ St. John's
- Oct 26 -PM & Ladies night dinner

The New Bern Masonic Theater, Historic Preservation Foundation: Still working on the lease for property management.

WM thanked bro Joe Kawalski for the meal.

The meal was served in Lowthorp hall before the meeting.

There being no further business to come before this Lodge, the minutes were read and approved, and this Lodge was closed in due form.

William C. Zerby, PM
Secretary

To the Chairman of the Code Commission and the Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence:

Brethren, as of December 31, 2023 I have received the following proposals for Amendment to the Code of Constitutions and Regulation of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina:

AMENDMENT GROUP 1

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Master Kevan D. Frazier.

This amendment would require all lodge trustees to ensure their lodge carries Directors and Officers insurance and Errors and Omissions insurance (D&O and E&O Insurance).

AMENDMENT GROUP 2

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Master Kevan D. Frazier.

This amendment would amend Regulation 34 to permanently create an Insurance Management Committee. It would also establish a new subsection in the Table of Contents of the Code for this Committee.

AMENDMENT GROUP 3

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Secretary Jonathan A. Underwood.

This amendment would amend Regulation 19 to permit the option of allowing electronic voting at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge as many other grand jurisdictions are currently and have been doing for several years.

AMENDMENT GROUP 4

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Master Kevan D. Frazier.

This amendment would amend Chapter 39 to add a new Regulation, 39-14, which would allow the formation of a new lodge, Long Leaf Pine Lodge No. 777 as a temporary holding lodge. This will allow displaced brethren, (members of defunct lodges who did not merge with another lodge, brethren who may be unaccounted for due to medical or other unknown reasons) to have a continuing membership until they can find a suitable lodge, or their location can be established allowing membership at a lodge best suited for their current needs .

AMENDMENT GROUP 5

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Secretary Jonathan A. Underwood.

This amendment would amend Regulation 77-1 and Chapter 44, Article 10, to define dues as the amount required by each subordinate lodge to discharge their necessary duties and obligations plus the per capita approved by the grand lodge. This would eliminate the need to update the lodge by-laws when per capita rates are modified.

AMENDMENT GROUP 6

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Master Kevan D. Frazier.

This amendment would amend Regulation 68-3.12, Regulation 68-3.13 and Regulation 68-3.15 to require a minimum of two black cubes to reject a petitioner for the degrees or affiliation from being elected. It also amends Reg. 44-7, Article 19, Third Alternative Form, in the Uniform By-laws concerning the alternate ballot process if adopted by subordinate lodges.

AMENDMENT GROUP 7

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Secretary Jonathan A. Underwood.

This amendment would amend Regulation 11-1.2 to change the category of the Grand Chaplain to one requiring installation and consistent with Code requirements of subordinate lodges. This position has been installed as early as 1959 but the Code has never been amended to reflect this practice since 1948.

Regulation 11-1.3 would permit, at the Grand Master – elect’s discretion, to install the grand lodge officers listed in this category as he so desires.

AMENDMENT GROUP 8

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Secretary Jonathan A. Underwood.
This amendment would amend Regulation 16-1.30 as Obsolete since this process is made available electronically through the Grand Lodge Membership management program.

AMENDMENT GROUP 9

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Secretary Jonathan A. Underwood.
This amendment would amend Regulation 29-7.2 to remove the requirement of printing annually the roster of each grade and class of lecturer in the proceedings. The practice of printing the roster in the annual proceedings ceased in 1964 when the Board of Custodians agreed to print the roster in a separate publication, however, the Code was never amended to reflect this change. This separate printed publication was provided annually until 2004. As a cost savings, printing ceased in 2005, but the roster has been made available electronically since that time.

AMENDMENT GROUP 10

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Secretary Jonathan A. Underwood.
This amendment would amend Regulation 43-2.4, Regulation 45-2 and Reg. 44-7, Article 8 to update the current practice of bi-monthly or quarterly stated meetings, without the requirement of a dispensation as currently allowed for lodges such as Orphans, Lux Libertas, Sophia, Veritas, Prometheus, Lodge of the Nine Sisters, Knights of Solomon, and others.

AMENDMENT GROUP 11

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Secretary Jonathan A. Underwood.
This amendment would amend Regulation 45-3.4.H as Obsolete since the requirement for Waiver of Jurisdictions for subordinate lodges no longer exists.

AMENDMENT GROUP 12

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Master Donald E. Kehler.
This amendment would amend Chapter 10, Sec. 10-1, to permit a prompter distribution of all proposed amendments to the Code.

AMENDMENT GROUP 13

The following amendment has been submitted by the Committee on Finance.
This amendment would amend Regulation 13-4 by adding additional restrictions on the power of the Grand Master as related to the annual budget adopted by the delegates of the Grand Lodge. It also amends the duties of the Grand Treasurer, expands the Powers and Authority of the Board of General Purposes and the Finance Committee.

AMENDMENT GROUP 14

The following amendment has been submitted by Grand Master Donald E. Kehler.
This amendment would amend Regulation 20-1.1 to increase the Per Capita from \$35.00 to \$40.00 annually.