

ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA

**Grand Lodge of Massachusetts
85 River Street Suite 2
Waltham, MA 02453**

Minutes of the State Council Meeting Wednesday, October 15, 2025

The monthly meeting of the State Council was called to order by State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli at 7:01 pm.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Excused: State President Rodolfo Viscomi
State Trustee Lilia Viscomi
Absent: State Recording Secretary Leanna Daniele
State Trustee Cheryl Caira

State Second Vice President Brenda Buonanno read the Principles of the Order and opening prayer.
State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli called for a moment of silence for our departed members.
State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 MEETING

Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes as submitted. Voted and so ordered.

CORRESPONDENCE

A memo was received from State Deputy Chair Jacquelyn Bonarrigo requesting the appointment of Lisa Von Fritzinger of the Winchester Women's Lodge # 1592 as State Deputy to the Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli Lodge # 2183 of Wilmington. Motion made and seconded to approve the appointment. Voted and so ordered.

A flyer was received from the Italian America Alliance for a concert featuring the Cantustrittu Folk Group from Messina, Italy on Friday, October 10 at the Watertown Lodge. Motion made and seconded to refer to the C&E Trust. Voted and so ordered.

Newsletters were received from the following Lodges: Christopher Columbus # 216 (Brockton), Wakefield # 1734, and Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli # 2183 (Wilmington). Motion made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

TRANSFERS

None

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

State Financial Secretary Matthew Ezekiel presented the report for the month ending September 30, 2025 and informed the Council of the lodges that have since paid. Motion made and seconded to accept the report. Voted and so ordered.

TREASURER'S REPORT

State Treasurer Armand Buonanno presented the Activities Fund, Balance Sheet, and P&L Budget Performance Reports for the month ending September 30, 2025. Motion made and seconded to accept the reports. Voted and so ordered.

ORATOR'S REPORT

The Orator's Report was discussed in Executive Session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sunshine

Chair Marisa Ranalli advised the Council of the messages sent on behalf of the State President and the Council.

Merchandise

Chair Marisa Ranalli reported that she sold \$500 of merchandise in Easton on September 21. She advised she is running low on merchandise and requested additional funds. A motion was made and seconded to allocate up to \$2,500 to secure new merchandise. Voted and so ordered.

Investment Committee

State Treasurer Armand Buonanno reported that the Investment Committee met with our investment advisor and shared the investment strategy that he recommended which allocates the capital across six ETFs with a focus on both thematic growth and core diversification. A motion was made and seconded to invest \$300K per the recommended strategy. Voted and so ordered.

Advertising Committee

Chair Armand Buonanno advised he has nothing new to report.

Fundraising Committee

Marisa Ranalli reported that a meeting was held with Linda Malone, a professional fundraiser, and her husband Joe on September 25. The discussion centered around hosting an Italian Gala at a premier venue in Boston. The event would honor high-profile Italian Americans in various categories. A host committee would be formed, and Linda would assist us by reaching out to corporate and individual sponsors. Linda will be submitting a proposal and more will be discussed at the next meeting.

Calendar Raffle

Chair Matthew Ezekiel asked the Council members to contact Lodges to remind them of the Calendar Raffle and to report back to him so tickets can be distributed.

2026 State Convention

Chair Marisa Ranalli reminded the Council that the Convention is on June 27 at the Watertown Lodge. She would like to begin the process of planning the agenda and will schedule a meeting with the committee prior to the end of the year.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Charitable & Educational Trust

Paul Guida updated the Council on the status of correspondence items that were forwarded to the Trust members to act on.

Scholarship

Paul Guida reminded the Council members that the applications are sent to members and the schools in November. After discussion, motions were made a seconded to set the number of scholarships to a maximum of 20, not including Lodge and private donor scholarships, and to set the criteria to qualify as an affiliate to junior lodge members, children and grandchildren of current members, and children and grandchildren of members that have passed within the last five years and were members at the time of their passing. Voted and so ordered.

Italian Culture/Historical

Marisa Ranalli reminded the Council of the Wine Tasting on Saturday, November 15 at The Wine Bottega in the North End and broke down the expenses of the event. She reported that the Commission is hosting a book club on February 5 via Zoom and planning a master cooking class on March 21 at Victory Point in Quincy.

Junior Division

Brenda Buonanno updated the Council on the recent and upcoming activities of the Samuel J. Musumeci Junior Lodge # 2693.

Organization & Education

The Council discussed the Educational Seminar that had been targeted for November at the last Council meeting. Given the short timeframe and lack of a plan for the seminar, the Council recommended postponing the seminar until the spring.

OLD BUSINESS

Matthew Ezekiel reported that the new lodge in Nashua, NH is close to collecting the initial applications and completing their charter application.

Paul Guida reported that no letters of intent were received for the vacant State Trustee – District 6 and State Trustee At-Large positions.

NEW BUSINESS

State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli presented the following Permanent Commission Chair appointments on behalf of President Viscomi:

Budget and Finance	Anthony Rondinelli
Junior Division	Joseph Salvo
Scholarship	Michael DiVenuto

A motion was made and seconded to approve the appointments. Voted and so ordered.

Marisa asked the Council members if anyone would like to volunteer to chair the Christmas Party and asked them to let her know by next month's meeting.

Marisa reminded the Council that MELA takes place be the first Sunday in May. The C&E Trust, Social Justice, and Scholarship Commissions co-sponsor the event and the Commission chairs will be contacted to begin the planning process.

WELFARE OF THE ORDER

The Council members congratulated Marisa Ranalli on a well-run and organized meeting.

State Second Vice President Brenda Buonano read the closing prayer.

Having completed all business in accordance with the By-Laws, State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul M. Guida
Chief Operating Officer