

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, July 15, 2026

The monthly meeting of the State Council was called to order by State President Rudy Viscomi at 7:05 pm.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

All officers present.

State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli read the Principles of the Order.
State Second Vice President Brenda Buonanno read the opening prayer.
State President Rudy Viscomi led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 20, 2026 MEETING

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Newsletters were received from the following Lodges: Christopher Columbus # 216 (Brockton), Wakefield # 1734, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli # 2183 (Wilmington), and the Grand Lodge of California. 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 June 30, 2026 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 June 30, 2026. 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 she sold over \$1,100 of merchandise at Convention. A discussion took place about selling merchandise on our website. The consensus was to hold off and investigate other options due to logistical and cost concerns.

MELA

Paul Guida presented the final report, which showed a net loss of \$3,356.68.

Italian Fund Gala

Marisa Ranalli reported that we have commitments for approximately 16 tables and that tickets and sponsorships are posted on our website. Marisa asked the Council members to provide contact information for potential sponsors and advised that Joe Malone would contact them.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Charitable & Educational Trust

Paul Guida reported on charity collections at Convention. Donations were as follows: Alzheimer's Association - \$2,950; Doug Flutie Foundation for Autism - \$2,300; Cooley Anemia Foundation - \$4,000; Cyclone Harry Relief - \$1,250; Garibaldi-Meucci Museum - \$1,350, Commission for Social Justice - \$750; Unrestricted donations - \$100; for a total of \$12,700.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

State President Rudy Viscomi reported that Boston Mayor Michelle Wu will not allow the organizing committee to use 'Columbus' in the name for the annual parade and has refused to meet to discuss the issue. The parade will be in East Boston and named the "Italian Heritage Parade".

A lengthy discussion followed and a suggestion was made to sue the city. Dario Gagliano advised that he might know a lawyer willing to assist us, but we would need to request a permit from the city first. State President Rudy Viscomi advised that he was invited to an event on July 24 with the Consulate and would address the issue with them before moving forward.

WELFARE OF THE ORDER

Paul Guida apologized for missing the Convention and thanked Matthew Ezekiel for everything he did to assist with preparations while he was out of the country.

Cheryl Caira thanked the members of the Springfield Lodge for the hospitality extended to Kevin, Florence, Nora and herself at their feast.

State Second Vice President Brenda Buonanno read the closing prayer.

Having completed all business in accordance with the By-Laws, State President Rudy Viscomi declared the meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leanna Daniele
State Recording Secretary