

# **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, April 15, 2026**

The monthly meeting of the State Council was called to order by State President Rudy Viscomi at 7:04 pm.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

Excused: State Recording Secretary Leanna Daniele

Absent: State Trustee Sylvia Pacetti-Poirier

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 MARCH 18, 2026 MEETING**

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

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter was received from Kathi Young, Orator of the Piave Fiume Lodge # 1036 of Watertown, regarding the Grand Lodge's involvement with their Building Trust. Motion made and seconded to refer to the Orator's Report. 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 March 31, 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 March 31, 2026. Motion made and seconded to accept the reports. Voted and so ordered.

### **ORATOR'S REPORT**

State Orator Salvatore Circosta reported he received an inquiry as to whether a Filial Lodge officer can simultaneously serve as an executive officer of the State Council. He reported that the current by-law only allows

for a State Trustee to simultaneously serve as a Filial Lodge officer. He noted that numerous members of the Executive Council are currently officers in their respective lodges. After a lengthy discussion, the Council members agreed that a proposal to change the by-law to only prohibit the State President from simultaneously serving as a Lodge President be submitted to the upcoming Convention.

The balance of 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 \$840 of merchandise at the Bocce Tournament. She advised she will be ordering new merchandise for the Convention and other events.

### **Advertising**

Chair Armand Buonanno advised there was nothing new to report.

### **MELA**

President Viscomi reported that the Council approved the venue change to the Newton Marriott via an email vote. Paul Guida reported that 81 tickets have been sold to date.

### **Gala**

Marisa Ranalli reported that the next meeting is scheduled for April 21.

### **2026 State Convention**

State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli advised that a meeting will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks.

## **COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **Sports**

Armand Buonanno reported that a total of 13 teams participated in the Bocce Tournament on April 11 at the Methuen Lodge.

### **Charitable & Educational Trust**

President Viscomi advised that the Trust has yet to meet to discuss the NELA sponsorship and the \$5,000 donation to the Sons of Italy Foundation for Cyclone Harry aide. President Viscomi advised that a meeting would be scheduled within the next week.

### **Benefit Insurance**

Paul Guida reported that a second mailing requesting updated policyholder and beneficiary information was sent to policyholders that did not respond to the first mailing. He advised that the next steps will be to send an appeal to all members, via iMembers, to help locate the unresponsive policyholders, and to publish the list in an upcoming issue of the newspaper.

### **Junior Division**

Brenda Buonanno updated the Council on the activities of the Samuel J. Musumeci Junior Lodge.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A motion to retract the motion made at the February Council meeting to subsidize half the cost of the NELA ticket for any Council member wishing to attend was made by the original motion maker, Cheryl Caira. Nora DiRuzza retracted her second of the motion.

A motion was made and seconded to request that the C&E Trust purchase a Gold sponsorship for the NELA Gala, which includes 8 event tickets. Voted and so ordered.

A motion was made and seconded that should the C&E Trust purchase the Gold sponsorship, that tickets would be offered at half-price in the following order: Council members, National officers, Past Presidents, Benefit Insurance Commissioners, and Chairs of Permanent Commissions. Spouses/guests would pay the full-ticket price. Voted and so ordered.

President Viscomi advised that Consul General Arnaldo Minuti's term is ending and a farewell reception is being planned for him at the Dante Alighieri. The committee is requesting a \$250 donation for the event expenses. A motion was made and seconded to donate \$250. Voted and so ordered.

Cheryl Caira reported that the Charity Commission, in conjunction with the Lawrence Ladies Lodge, is hosting a fundraiser for Cyclone Harry relief on June 7 at Salvatore's Restaurant in Lawrence and advised that they are looking for donations for the raffle.

## **WELFARE OF THE ORDER**

Marisa Ranalli thanked the Council members for the expressions of sympathy received on the passing of her mother-in-law.

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 8:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul M. Guida  
Chief Operating Officer