

**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, February 18, 2026**

The monthly meeting of the State Council was called to order by State President Rudy Viscomi at 7:03 pm.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

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 JANUARY 21, 2026 MEETING**

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A save the date was received from the Sons of Italy Foundation for the 37th National Education and Leadership Awards (NELA) Gala on Thursday, May 21, 2026 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. Motion made and seconded to refer to New Business. Voted and so ordered.

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

**TRANSFERS**

Daniel A. DiSisto from the St. Padre Pio Lodge # 3013 (Springfield) to the Greater Boston Renaissance Lodge # 2614. Motion made and seconded to approve the transfer. Voted and so ordered.

Anthony Lucia from the ITAM Lodge # 564 (Pittsfield) to the St. Padre Pio Lodge # 3013 (Springfield). Motion made and seconded to approve the transfer. Voted and so ordered.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT**

State Financial Secretary Matthew Ezekiel presented the report for the month ending January 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 January 31, 2026. Motion made and seconded to accept the reports. Voted and so ordered.

## **ORATOR'S REPORT**

State Orator Salvatore Circosta advised there was nothing new to report.

## **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 will be selling merchandise at the Cornhole Tournament.

### **Advertising Committee**

Chair Armand Buonanno advised that the Committee has yet to meet but will be doing so soon.

### **Gala Committee**

Marisa Ranalli reported that she and Paul Guida met with the Colonnade Hotel and the Gala has been scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 2026. She advised the Council members that once the preliminary arrangements have been made, the assistance of all Council members will be needed.

### **2026 State Convention**

President Viscomi reminded the Council that the Convention is scheduled for Saturday, June 27 and asked Marisa and Brenda to begin the planning process. A discussion followed regarding proof of Italian heritage for all members, and a future Italian language competency for any Council member.

## **COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **Sports**

Armand Buonanno reported that the information for the Bocce Tournament on Saturday, April 11 at the Methuen Lodge has been disseminated. He shared the details of the event and encouraged the Council members to solicit sponsorships from lodges.

### **Charitable & Educational Trust**

Rudy Viscomi reported that the Trust met on January 22 and voted to waive the 10% administrative fee for the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum going forward. The Trust also approved the Event Consulting expenditure for the Gala on October 17. The next meeting is on February 23.

### **Social Justice**

Matthew Ezekiel reported that the Commission would like to separate the CSJ awards from the Scholarship Awards. They are looking into venues for hosting the event. The Commission's next meeting is on March 3, and more information will be available following the meeting.

### **Scholarship**

Matthew Ezekiel reported that approximately 30 affiliate applications and 55 non-affiliate applications have been received.

### **Italian Culture/Historical**

Marisa Ranalli reported that the Pasta Making Class scheduled for March 21 had to be cancelled due to an issue at the host facility.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Matthew Ezekiel reported that the new lodge in Nashua, NH is in limbo as they are about 4 short of the required 25 members.

President Viscomi reported that the new lodge in West Yarmouth is also in process and that National is working with a potential new lodge in Maine.

President Viscomi reminded the Council that he will be attending the National Plenary Session February 20 and 21 via Zoom. He advised the Council members to let him know if they would like to attend as a guest.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

President Viscomi reported that C.A.S.IT. is holding a Casino Night fundraiser on March 1 if anyone is interested in attending. Tickets are \$100.

President Viscomi reported that an Italian Navy Ship will be visiting Boston from February 25 to 28. The Council has been invited to board the ship on February 27 from 5-6 pm. Rudy asked the Council members to let him know if they would like to attend.

Salvatore Circosta reported on the Sons of Italy Foundation's Cyclone Harry Relief effort for Calabria and Sicily and advised he is meeting with some Italian mayors during his time in Italy in March.

The Council addressed the save the date received from the Sons of Italy Foundation for the 37th National Education and Leadership Awards (NELA) Gala on Thursday, May 21, 2026. A motion was made and seconded to subsidize half the cost of the ticket for any Council member wishing to attend. Voted and so ordered.

## **WELFARE OF THE ORDER**

The Council members congratulated Rudy Viscomi on a well-run meeting.

Salvatore Circosta reported that the Springfield Lodge will be holding a Holy Canoli 5K on Saturday, July 10 with the proceeds benefiting Cooley's Anemia.

State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli read the closing prayer.

Having completed all business in accordance with the By-Laws, State President Rudy Viscomi declared the meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leanna Daniele  
State Recording Secretary