

**ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA**  
**Grand Lodge of Massachusetts**  
**93 Concord Avenue**  
**Belmont, MA 02478**

**Minutes of the State Council Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 15, 2022**

The monthly meeting of the State Council was called to order via Zoom by State President Denise Furnari at 1:30 pm.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

Absent Excused: State First Vice President Rodolfo Viscomi  
State Trustee Brenda Buonanno  
State Trustee Lilia Viscomi

State President Denise Furnari advised that we would forego the ritualistic formalities of the opening and closing of the meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 MEETING**

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A thank you note card was received scholarship recipient A.J. Tassone. Motion made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

Newsletters were received from the following Lodges: Christopher Columbus # 216 (Brockton), Wakefield # 1734, Tewksbury # 2872 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 Pio Frittitta presented the report of lodges in arrears as of September 30, 2022 and informed the Council of the lodges that have since paid. He advised that calls will be made next week to delinquent lodges. 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, 2022. Motion made and seconded to accept the report. Voted and so ordered.

**ORATOR'S REPORT**

The Orator's Report was discussed in Executive Session

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Calendar Raffle**

Matt Ezekiel reported for Chair Florence Guidara that 57 raffle tickets have been sold to-date.

### **Sunshine**

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

### **Merchandise**

Chair Marisa Ranalli had no new news to report.

### **By-Laws**

Chair Kathi Young had no new news to report.

## **COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **Organization And Education**

Liaison Tony Isgro reported and updated the Council on the upcoming Workshop to be held on Sunday, October 30 at the Methuen Lodge. The fee to attend is \$5.00 per person.

### **Benefit Insurance**

Liaison Jacky Bonarrigo was not able to attend the last meeting but has the minutes from that meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 20.

### **Charity**

State President Denise Furnari reported for Chair Florence Guidara that the collection of toys for the Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley is proceeding.

### **Membership**

State President Denise Furnari reported for Chair Rudy Viscomi that the Bandiera e Concordia Lodge of Marlboro will be holding an open house on Tuesday October 18 at 7:00 pm. Chair Rudy Viscomi, State President Denise Furnari, and Sister Florence Guidara will attend and bring membership applications.

### **Social Justice**

President Denise Furnari reported that the Commission is still in need of a chair. The Commission is looking for a new venue for the MELA. The Watertown Lodge is available, and President Denise will book it. Watertown will confirm on Monday, October 17.

### **Sports**

Brother Pio reported on the Bocce tournament fund raiser held on September 24 at the Methuen Lodge. Currently, there is nothing else planned.

### **Italian Cultural/Historical**

Brother Armand Buonanno reported there is nothing new to report.

### **Scholarship**

President Denise Furnari informed the Council that Chair Adriana Guida will meet with the Scholarship Committee the first week of November to discuss amending criteria on the scholarship applications to give to her scholarship committee. The application will be changed online as well.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

State President Denise Furnari reported that the sale of the Grand Lodge building is in process. Brother Pio reported that the P&S was sent to our lawyer; our lawyer and the buyer's lawyer are in communication. The sale of the building could close within 40-45 days. Finding a new home is critical. The Council members discussed finding a rental space. Brothers Pio and Armand will search rental spaces and then send out a list of office space available to the Council members.

State President Denise Furnari stated that the two open seats, for State Trustee - Districts 1 and State Trustee – District 2, need to be filled but will be addressed after the sale of the building.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

State President Denise Furnari advised that it was suggested to have Executive Council meetings monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. It was agreed to conduct these meetings on Zoom at 7:00pm. We would be in line with filial lodges who have monthly meetings; we can bring info gained at these Executive Council meetings to the State Council.

State President Denise Furnari advised that she cannot attend the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum event on November 12 but advised that we normally purchase an ad for their ad book. A motion was made and seconded to appropriate \$250 from the General Fund for this ad. Voted and so ordered.

State President Denise Furnari stated that Brothers Pio Frittitta and Armand Buonanno would like to have an in-person meeting with the Chair of C&E Trust and President of the Benefit Insurance Commission. It was agreed to send a meeting notice to Executive Council for Thursday, October 27 at 7:00pm at the Grand Lodge office.

## **WELFARE OF THE ORDER**

Sister Marisa Ranalli stated that the Braintree Ladies Lodge is having a potluck dinner as part of Italian Heritage Month October 26 at 7:00pm. She also stated that this was a great day and good meeting.

Brother Armand Buonanno stated that the Special Convention was a great meeting that required a lot of hard work on all our parts and was thrilled that the budget passed by such a large percentage.

State President Denise Furnari stated that we should keep our heads held high after the Special State Convention meeting. She thanked State Orator Kathi Young and Recording Secretary Rita Anderson for their work in ensuring the meeting ran smoothly, thanked everyone on the State Council for their dedication, and advised she is very proud of all of us.

Having completed all business in accordance with the By-Laws, State President Denise Furnari declared the meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rita M. Anderson  
State Recording Secretary