

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
Friday, March 17, 2023

The monthly meeting of the State Council was called to order by State President Denise Furnari at 7:00pm.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

All officers present.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 17, 2023 MEETING

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

COMMUNICATIONS

An email was received from Sam Miele, Recording Secretary of the Joseph Gorrasi Lodge # 1406 of Woburn, advising they have had preliminary discussions about merging with the Winchester Men's Lodge # 1580 and questioning the proper procedure. Motion made and seconded to refer to the State Orator. Voted and so ordered.

An email was received from the National office with sponsorship and ticket information for the 34th Annual National Education & Leadership Awards Gala on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at the Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center in Washington, DC. Motion made and seconded to refer to the C&E Trust. Voted and so ordered.

A letter was received from the New York State Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc. with ad and ticket information for their 39th Annual Golden Lion Awards Dinner on Friday, April 21, 2023 at the Garden City Hotel in Garden City, NY. Motion made and seconded to refer to the C&E Trust. Voted and so ordered.

A newsletter was received from the Grand Lodge of California. Motion made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

TRANSFERS

Frances Amenta, Jean Berardi, Lola Lombardo, and Gloria Sciuto from the Burlington Lodge # 2223 to the Wakefield Lodge # 1734. Anita Dodge from the Burlington Lodge # 2223 to the Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli Lodge # 2183 of Wilmington. Eleanor Andrews, Mary Ann Giglio, and Louann Graffam from the Methuen Lodge # 902 to the Lawrence Ladies Lodge # 2026. Motion made and seconded to approve the transfers. Voted and so ordered.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

State Financial Secretary Pio Frittitta presented the report of lodges in arrears as of February 28, 2023 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 February 28, 2023. 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

Wine Tasting

Chair Florence Guidara updated the Council on the progress of the upcoming Wine Tasting fundraiser on Sunday, March 26 at the Newton Lodge.

Sunshine

Chair Marisa Ranalli had nothing new to report.

Merchandise

Chair Marisa Ranalli had nothing new to report.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Membership

Chair Rudy Viscomi discussed the Institution of the St. Padre Pio Lodge #3013 of Springfield. He will speak with Organization and Education (O&E) Chair Anthony Panaggio, Jr. about holding membership sessions at future O&E seminars.

Charitable & Educational Trust

State President Denise Furnari attended the most recent meeting and updated the Council on their activities. The Trust made a \$200 donation for an ad in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Delaware. They will be selling '100 Hungry Lion' raffle tickets at the Convention.

Sports

Nothing new to report.

Social Justice

Nothing new to report.

Benefit Insurance

Liaison Jacky Bonarrigo updated the Council on the Commission's last meeting.

Organization & Education

Liaison Tony Isgro reminded everyone of the next seminar on April 30 at 1:00pm at the Hingham Lodge.

Junior Division

Liaison Brenda Buonanno updated the Council on activities and fundraising events. The bocce tournament to support scholarships will be held at the Methuen Lodge on April 20.

Italian Culture/Historical

Chair Armand Buonanno reported that the opera presentation by Maria Felicita Fichera on February 17 went well. To-date, 28 tickets have been sold for the presentation of the Encore performance of *Falstaff* on Wednesday, April 5 and about the same for the dinner at the Methuen Lodge following the performance. The RSVP deadline for both is March 31.

Scholarship

Liaison Matt Ezekiel updated us on the number of scholarship applications received to-date.

OLD BUSINESS

MELA

Brother Matt Ezekiel reported that the planning for the MELA breakfast on Sunday, May 7 is on track.

State Convention

Co-Chair Rudy Viscomi reported that the final meeting to prepare the agenda for the convention will be held soon. The Convention dates (June 2 through 4) have been disseminated to all filial lodges.

Ad Book

Co-Chair Pio Frittitta reported that correspondence was sent to past advertisers and the filial lodges for the Ad Book. Brother Matt Ezekiel gave an update on ads received to-date.

Italy Tour

Chair Lilia Viscomi updated the Council on the planning of the 9-day 'Italian Tapestry' tour to Venice and Sorrento. A meeting will be held on May 25 at the Watertown Lodge to make a presentation to members interested in this trip. An ad will be placed in the next issue of the Sons of Italy News, and trip will be publicized at the State Convention.

President's Meeting

State President Denise Furnari reported that the Presidents' meeting held last month went well. Discussions ensued amongst all present regarding fundraising and social events.

Grand Lodge Office

Brother Matt reported that new tables are on order and will be ready for next month's in-person meeting. He also gave an update on the office going paperless. He informed us that that electronic membership application is in process.

A discussion ensued about the security camera in the office being installed and then dismantled, and the need for it. A motion was made and seconded to reinstall the camera. Voted and so ordered.

NEW BUSINESS

State President Denise Furnari advised the need for a Zoom meeting with Paul Guida to review his duties, responsibilities, and hours worked. A motion was made and seconded to hold the Zoom meeting on Wednesday, March 22. Voted and so ordered.

WELFARE OF THE ORDER

State President Denise Furnari announced that she has selected Immediate Past President Antonio Sestito as the recipient of the Presidential Award, which will be presented at the State Convention banquet.

Having completed all business in accordance with the By-Laws, State President Denise Furnari declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Rita M. Anderson
State Recording Secretary