

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, November 21, 2025

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

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Excused: State Orator Salvatore Circosta
State Recording Secretary Leanna Daniele
State Trustee Dario Gagliano
State Trustee Giuseppe Liquori

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

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2025 MEETING

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

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter of intent for the vacant State Trustee At-Large position was received from Lynne Martell. Motion made and seconded to refer to Old Business. Voted and so ordered.

An invitation and bulb purchase information was received from the Garibaldi-Meucci Musuem for their Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 6. Motion made and seconded to refer to New Business. 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

Stephanie DeRosa from the Greater Boston Renaissance Lodge # 2614 to the Winthrop Mixed Lodge # 2057. 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 October 31, 2025 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 October 31, 2025. 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 updated the Council on recent sales and upcoming visits to Lodges to sell merchandise.

Advertising Committee

Chair Armand Buonanno advised he will be planning a meeting in January.

Fundraising Committee

Marisa Ranalli reported that a follow-up meeting with Linda and Joe Malone is scheduled for December 2 and she will report more at the next meeting.

Christmas Party

Co-chairs Cheryl Caira and Nora DiRuzza advised the Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, January 10 at Avellino's in Medford and the estimated cost is \$1,000.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Sports

Rudy Visconti reported that Sports Chair Steve DeAngelis is planning a Bocce Tournament in Methuen, and two Cornhole Tournaments, one in Watertown and one on the South Shore. More information will be forthcoming.

Junior Division

Brenda Buonanno updated the Council on the recent and upcoming activities of the Samuel J. Musumeci Junior Lodge # 2693.

Italian Culture/Historical

Marisa Ranalli reported that the Wine Tasting went very well and reminded the Council of the book club on February 5 and cooking class on March 21. The Commission is also investigating the possibility of a North End Museum Tour and creating a cookbook, featuring member recipes, and yearly calendar featuring some of the recipes.

Organization & Education

Rudy Visconti reported that he booked the Hingham Lodge for an Educational Seminar on January 10. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

Charitable & Educational Trust

Rudy Viscomi reported that the Trust will be meeting on December 4.

OLD BUSINESS

The Council addressed the recommendation from Tammy Szelest of Definity, which was tabled at a prior meeting, to unfreeze the accrual of benefits of the Pension Plan. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to unfreeze the accrual of benefits. Voted and so ordered.

The Council addressed the vacant State Trustee At-Large position and the letter of intent received from Lynne Martell. There being no other candidates, Lynne Martell was elected State Trustee At-Large by acclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

The Council addressed the bulb purchase information received from the Garibaldi-Meucci Musuem for their Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. A motion was made and seconded to purchase one bulb at \$50. Voted and so ordered.

A discussion took place regarding the possibility of sharing the revenue with a filial lodge when merchandise is sold at their lodge. Various options and structures were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to table the discussion pending more investigation.

A discussion took place regarding membership cards for lodges. Various options were discussed. Rudy advised he believed that National should undertake this and will bring it up at the next meeting.

The Trustees met prior to the meeting to review the books of the General Fund, Activities Fund, Charitable & Educational Trust, and Benefit Insurance Commission for Q3'2025 and found them to be in good order.

Rudy advised that the Trustees need to elect a Chair and will do so at the next meeting.

WELFARE OF THE ORDER

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

Betty Sandquist advised it was a pleasure serving on the Council and that this would be her last meeting due to her move to Florida.

State Second Vice President Brenda Buonano read the closing prayer.

Having completed all business in accordance with the By-Laws, State President Rudy Viscomi declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul M. Guida
Chief Operating Officer