

ORDER SONS OF ITALY IN AMERICA

Grand Lodge of Massachusetts

93 Concord Avenue

Belmont, MA 02478

Minutes of the State Council Meeting

Friday, August 17, 2018

The monthly meeting of the State Council was held on Friday, August 17, 2018. State President Antonio Sestito called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Absent Excused: State Trustee Shauni Turner
Absent: State Trustee Maria Stella Fiore
State Trustee Vincent Perri

State First Vice President Denise Furnari read the Principles of the Order.

State First Vice President Denise Furnari read the opening prayer.

State President Antonio Sestito led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

State President Antonio Sestito asked for a moment of silence for our departed members.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 18, 2018 MEETING

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you notes were received from scholarship recipients Anthony Arace, Caroline Brodt, Alyssa Naumann, Benjamin Novick, and Charles Wood. Motion made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

An email was received from Maria Stella Fiore tendering her resignation as State Trustee. Motion made and seconded to refer to New Business. Voted and so ordered.

A memo was received from Mary Cooper, State Deputy Chairman, requesting the appointment of Russell Poirier of the Cristoforo Colombo Regina Elena Lodge # 169 of Fitchburg as State Deputy to the Worcester Lodge # 168, Angelo Rossi of the Regina Margherita di Savoia Mixed Lodge # 1094 of Waltham as State Deputy to the Bandiera e Concordia Lodge # 240 of Marlboro, and Dean Saluti of the Greater Boston Renaissance Lodge # 2614 as State Deputy to the Quincy Men's Lodge # 1295. Motion made and seconded to refer to New Business. Voted and so ordered.

A letter announcing a "Super Raffle" and save the date flyer for their 30th Annual Fundraiser at LiGreci's Staaten in Staten Island, New York on Saturday, November 3, 2018 was received from the Garbaldi-Meucci Museum. Two raffle books were also enclosed. Motion made and seconded to refer to the C&E Trust. Voted and so ordered.

Newsletters were received from the following Lodges: Christopher Columbus # 216, (Brockton), Giuseppe Verdi # 278 (East Weymouth), Veturia Romana # 1200 (Salem), Braintree Ladies # 1422, Wakefield # 1734, South Shore # 1850 (Hingham), Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli # 2183 (Wilmington), Burlington # 2223, and the Grand Lodge of California. Motion made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

TRANSFERS

Don Cortese from the Winchester Men's Lodge # 1580 to the Burlington Lodge # 2223. Motion made and seconded to approve the transfer. Voted and so ordered.

ORATOR'S REPORT

None

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

State Financial Secretary Marisa Ranalli presented the report of lodges in arrears as of July 31, 2018 and informed the Council of the lodges that have since paid.

TREASURER'S REPORT

State Treasurer John Argiro presented the report. The Activities Fund, Balance Sheet, and P&L Budget Performance reports were reviewed for the month ending July 31, 2018.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

State Trustee Audit Meeting

Chairman of the Trustees Michele Goss reported that the Trustees met prior to the Council meeting to review the books of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, OSIA Trust of 1985, Charitable and Education Trust, and Benefit Insurance for quarter ending June 30, 2018 and found them to be in good order.

Sunshine

Chairman Marisa Ranalli advised the Council of the numerous messages sent on behalf of State President Antonio Sestito and the State Council.

Merchandise

Chairman Marisa Ranalli reported she would be attending Natick Days on September 8 and the Bocce Tournament on September 16 to sell merchandise.

Columbus Day Parade

Sister Kathi Young reported on the parade being held on October 7 in East Boston. She shared a few ideas to get more people involved: honoring some Filial Lodge members by selecting them to serve as Masters and Mistresses of Ceremonies for our division (which should in turn, foster participation from their respective Lodges) and to have an essay contest for high school students and age appropriate contest for younger students. She reported that 9 Lodges have committed to participate and that she is hoping for many more. Refreshments will be available prior to the kick-off of the parade. A motion was made and seconded to have Sister Kathi go forward with the essay contest and Masters and Mistresses of Ceremonies. Voted and so ordered.

5K Road Race

Sister Kathi Young spoke about a meeting she and State Financial Secretary Marissa Ranalli had with RaceWire for a road race in the fall of 2019. It is in the preliminary stages and more information will be forthcoming.

Pot of Gold

Chairman Margaret Olivieri reported a net profit of \$10,515.00.

MELA

State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri reported a net profit of \$1,633.17. State President Antonio Sestito thanked Immediate Past President Carmelita Bello for creating the MELA (which combined the Law & Justice Breakfast with the Scholarship Luncheon) during her presidency.

Ad Book

State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri read the report which showed a net profit of \$9,750.59.

State Convention

Convention Chairman Denise Furnari read the final report of the 2018 State Convention. She thanked all officers for their hard work. Sister Margaret Olivieri mentioned that every officer should make every effort to attend and be present through the conclusion of the convention.

Halloween Party

Chairman Margaret Olivieri asked for the support of the council to sell tickets and looks forward to seeing everyone there.

Meat Raffle

Chairman Margaret Olivieri reported that the Meat Raffle to benefit Cooley's Anemia will be held on November 18 at the Watertown Sons of Italy. There will be a 50/50 raffle during the event and she looks forward to everyone attending.

Calendar Raffle

Chairman Margaret Olivieri reported that 150 tickets have been sent out and will be giving tickets to Council members this evening.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Membership

Chairman Denise Furnari reported that membership report for the quarter ending June 30, 2018 showed a decrease in membership, mostly due to cancellations. She has contacted the Lodges that had the largest number of cancellations. The Commission members will continue to visit and assist Filial Lodges with any help that they may need.

Chairman Denise Furnari spoke about the new Lodge being formed in the North End and how enthusiastic they are and advised that National State President Vera Girolami will be present for the institution and installation of officers in October. She noted there are other new lodges in the works. She advised the Council members that the Santa Famiglia Lodge # 2834 of Lynn is planning a Membership Open House on October 21, and that the Commission is working on a new membership brochure.

Sports

Chairman Loreto Pellegrini reported that 110 golfers are registered for the upcoming Golf Tournament and spoke of his disappointment in the amount of donations received compared to last year. A motion was made and seconded to donate the autographed footballs and basketballs that we have at the Grand Lodge. Voted and so ordered.

Charity

Chairman Carol Rossi reported that various cards were sent out by the Commission, and that she is still waiting to hear from representatives from Texas and Florida regarding the distribution of the money raised at the Night at The Races.

Italian Culture/Historical

Liaison Kathleen Cammarata spoke about the Commission's upcoming events and the plans for the next phase of the Historical project.

OLD BUSINESS

State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri advised that she received a new list of lodges from the State President and that she will be in contact with Executive Director Paul Guida to go over the list and send the appropriate paperwork to National.

State President Antonio Sestito spoke about the formation of the Senior Member Study Committee that was mandated by the delegates at the 2017 State Convention. He advised that he will be selecting a committee and planning a meeting within the next few weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

The Council addressed the email received from Maria Stella Fiore tendering her resignation as State Trustee. State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri advised that a letter will be going out to all of the delegates to the 2017 State Convention from District 2 advising them of the vacancy and the process for submitting their name as a candidate.

The Council addressed the memo received from Mary Cooper, State Deputy Chairman, requesting the appointment of Russell Poirier of the Cristoforo Colombo Regina Elena Lodge # 169 of Fitchburg as State Deputy to the Worcester Lodge # 168. Motion made and seconded to approve the appointment. Voted and so ordered.

The Council addressed the memo received from Mary Cooper, State Deputy Chairman, requesting the appointment of Angelo Rossi of the Regina Margherita di Savoia Mixed Lodge # 1094 of Waltham as State Deputy to the Bandiera e Concordia Lodge # 240 of Marlboro. Motion made and seconded to approve the appointment. Voted and so ordered.

State President Antonio Sestito asked that we table the requested appointment of Dean Saluti as State Deputy to the Quincy Men's Lodge until he could speak with the President of the lodge.

State President Antonio Sestito advised that he would be scheduling a meeting of the Building Trust to discuss repairs and maintenance needed for the building, and for one vacant unit prior to it being rented. He will also invite the Chairman of the Italian Culture/Historical Commission to discuss their plans and needs for the Historical display on the first floor.

State President Antonio Sestito reported that he attended the National Summer Plenary Session in Crystal City, Virginia and that Joseph Russo was installed as a National Past President. He spoke about the unity between everyone on the Supreme Council and the members that attended the Plenary Session.

The following people volunteered to host the Council meeting collations for the coming year:

September	Kathleen Cammarata
October	Pio Frittitta
November	John Argiro
January	Carol Rossi
February	Vincent Perri
March	Justin DiNicola
April	Rodolfo Viscomi
May	Carmelita Bello

Loreto Pellegrini, Marisa Ranalli, Denise Furnari, and Rodolfo Viscomi volunteered to plan the Grand Lodge Christmas Party. They will begin checking on dates and locations.

WELFARE OF THE ORDER

The Council members thanked State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri for the collation.

State Orator Marissa Sestito advised that a fundraiser for State Trustee Shauni Turner to help with her medical expenses is being planned at the South Shore Lodge.

State First Vice President Denise Furnari advised that she is looking forward to working together as an organization to promote our Italian Heritage, increase membership, and reminded everyone to always be proud to be an Italian American.

State President Antonio Sestito, spoke about his involvement with many of the other Italian Organizations within the Boston area, and how he was upset with the way the Sons of Italy has been treated by the Italian officials, organizations, and the Consul General of Italy in Boston. He has asked to have a meeting with the new Consul General to explain what the Sons of Italy is about and what we do as an organization.

State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri congratulated State Second Vice President Rodolfo Viscomi on the birth of his first grandchild, Dante Michael Christman.

State Second Vice President Rodolfo Viscomi read the closing prayer.

Having completed all business in accordance with the by-laws, State President Antonio Sestito adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Olivieri
State Recording Secretary