

# **ORDER SONS OF ITALY IN AMERICA**

**Grand Lodge of Massachusetts  
93 Concord Avenue  
Belmont, MA 02478**

## **Minutes of the State Council Meeting Friday, January 18, 2019**

The monthly meeting of the State Council was held on Friday, January 18, 2019. State President Antonio Sestito called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

Absent: State Treasurer John Argiro  
State Trustee Maria Stella Fiore

State First Vice President Denise Furnari read the Principles of the Order.  
State Second Vice President Rodolfo Viscomi 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 NOVEMBER 16, 2018 MEETING**

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

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

A thank you card was received from John and Patricia Romano thanking the Council for their expression of sympathy. Motion made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

A thank you note was received from National President Vera Ferrara Girolami thanking State President Antonio Sestito, the State Council, and all the members of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the hospitality shown to her and her husband, Al, during their recent visit. Motion made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

A memo was received from Ronald Hill, State Deputy Chairman, requesting the appointment of Irene Santoro of the Piave Fiume Lodge # 1036 of Watertown as State Deputy to the Sgt. Guido Petrilli Lodge # 1606 of Roslindale, and Paul DiBona of the Ambrose D. Cedrone Lodge # 1069 of Newton as State Deputy to the La Famiglia di Metro West Lodge # 2997 of Wayland. Motion made and seconded to refer to New Business. Voted and so ordered.

An email was received from Michael Salvaggio advising they would like to reinstate the disbanded Bello Chiesa Lodge # 2871 of Gorham, Maine. Motion made and seconded to refer to New Business. Voted and so ordered.

Newsletters were received from the following Lodges: Christopher Columbus # 216 (Brockton), Giuseppe Verdi # 278 (Weymouth), Piave Fume # 1036 (Watertown), Veturia Romana # 1200 (Salem), Quattro Eroi # 1414 (Franklin), Braintree Ladies # 1422, Wakefield # 1734, South Shore # 1850 (Hingham), Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli # 2183 (Wilmington), and the Grand Lodge of California.

### **TRANSFERS**

Joseph Cardarelli from the Victor Emanuel Lodge # 1646 of Haverhill to the Methuen Lodge # 902. 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 December 31, 2018 and informed the Council of the lodges that have since paid. She advised that she had spoken to Alfred Devito, President of the Arlington Men's Lodge # 1349, who advised that they were discussing disbanding the Lodge.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Executive Director Paul Guida presented the report. The Activities Fund, Balance Sheet, and P&L Budget Performance reports were reviewed for the month ending December 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 Educational Trust, and Benefit Insurance Commission for the quarter ending December 31, 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.

### **Meat Raffle**

Chairman Margaret Olivieri gave the final report of the Meat Raffle to benefit Cooley's Anemia. She thanked everyone who attended and supported the event and reported a net profit of \$3,418.71.

### **Website**

Chairman Carol Rossi advised the committee would be meeting by the end of January.

### **5K Road Race**

Sister Kathi Young advised the Council that the application has been completed and the race is being planned for October 6, 2019 at the DCR Hatch Memorial Shell in Boston. Many volunteers will be needed to make this a successful event. An application fee of \$45 is needed to file the application. A motion was made and seconded to approve the expenditure for the application fee. Voted and so ordered.

### **Business Directory**

Sister Kathi Young advised she was forming a committee to explore the possibility of creating a Business Directory on our website in order to generate revenue for the Grand Lodge.

### **Christmas Party**

Chairman Loreto Pellegrini gave the final report of the Christmas Party and thanked everyone that attended.

### **Senior Member Study Committee**

A question was asked regarding the amount of per capita that is being paid to the Supreme Lodge for our Senior Members. A lengthy discussion ensued. State President Antonio Sestito reminded the Council members that a committee was formed to examine the continued viability of M.L. Article 129 – Section 1 which waives the payment of per capita tax by Lodges for its Senior Members (over 80 with 25 years of continuous service). He advised the Council members that the committee has had one meeting to-date, and that he would be scheduling the next meeting soon. The findings and recommendation of the committee are to be reported to the delegates at the upcoming State Convention.

## **COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **Membership**

Chairman Denise Furnari reported that the membership report for the quarter ending December 31, 2018 showed a small increase in membership.

She reported that the Commission met on January 16, with three Commissioners present, and discussed finalizing the brochure and selecting pictures. She will bring the brochure to the next Council meeting for approval.

She reported that a meeting was held on January 3 with representatives from the La Famiglia di Metro West Lodge of Wayland to finalize plans for their institution. State President Antonio Sestito, State Second Vice President Rodolfo Viscomi, State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri, Organization & Education Chairman Anthony Panaggio, and sponsoring Lodge Piave Fiume # 1036 (Watertown) President Antonio Mastantuono were in attendance. The institution is being planned for some time in March.

Chairman Furnari reported that she received a call from Donna Quinno, President of the Woburn Ladies Lodge # 1584, advising her that the Lodge wanted to disband. She reminded her that, according to Article 44 of the By-laws, the Lodge cannot disband if at least three members do not want to. She advised that a letter should be sent to all the members calling them to a meeting to vote on the disbandment. She advised that she will follow up with the President of the Arlington Men's Lodge to discuss their options and guide them through the process.

Chairman Furnari reported that the Commissioners are getting ready to visit Lodges again, especially those that are in jeopardy of disbanding.

### **Sports**

Chairman Loreto Pellegrini reported that the Bowling Tournament has been scheduled for Sunday, March 31 at the Woburn Bowladrome.

### **Charity**

Chairman Carol Rossi reported that the Commission sent out 142 Christmas cards and numerous other cards and messages. She thanked everyone that attended the Commission's Christmas Parties at the North End Nursing Home, Don Orione Nursing Home, and the Casa Monte Cassino, and stressed the need for more involvement in the future.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri reported that the Supreme Lodge sent letters to all the Filial Lodges that have lost their non-profit status, and requested they report back as to where they are in the reinstatement process.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri made a motion that the Grand Lodge purchase a new American and Italian Flag. Motion was seconded. Voted and so ordered.

The Council addressed the memo received from Ron Hill, State Deputy Chairman, requesting the appointment of Irene Santoro of the Piave Fiume Lodge # 1036 of Watertown as State Deputy to the Sgt. Guido Petrilli Lodge # 1606 of Roslindale. Motion made and seconded to approve the appointment. Voted and so ordered.

The Council addressed the memo received from Ronald Hill, State Deputy Chairman, requesting the appointment of Paul DiBona of the Ambrose D. Cedrone Lodge # 1069 of Newton as State Deputy to the La Famiglia di Metro West Lodge # 2997 of Wayland. Motion was made and seconded to table the appointment until the Lodge's institution is complete. Voted and so ordered.

The Council addressed the email received from Michael Salvaggio regarding the request for reinstatement of the Bello Chiesa Lodge # 2781 of Gorham, Maine. A motion was made and seconded that a letter be sent to Michael Salvaggio requesting he to come to the Grand Lodge with some of the proposed members to discuss the reasons for and process of reinstating their charter. The motion was amended to require a non-refundable \$1,000 check and a list of at least 25 members including names, addresses, and phone numbers. Amendment was seconded. The amendment was moved and passed. The amended motion was moved and passed.

State President Antonio Sestito advised he, along with representatives from other Italian Organizations, met with the Consul General of Italy in Boston to begin preliminary discussions for co-sponsoring an event to help raise money for the Consul General's cultural programs and events. He also reported that representatives from the Town of Framingham are trying to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous People's Day and that a rally is being held on February 6 at Ken's Steak House to oppose the change. He asked that as many people as possible attend and reported that the State President and State First Vice President from the Grand Lodge of New York will be attending.

State President Antonio Sestito made the following appointments for the 2019 State Convention:

Ad Book	Pio Frittitta, Vincent Perri, and Kathleen Cammarata
Pot of Gold	John Argiro
Golden Lion Award	Margaret Olivieri and Marisa Ranalli

The following Council members announced their intention for the upcoming elections.

State Recording Secretary Margaret Olivieri will not be running.  
State Financial Secretary Marisa Ranalli will be running for re-election.  
State Trustee Loreto Pellegrini will be running for re-election.  
State Trustee Pio Frittitta will be running for re-election.  
State Trustee Vincent Perri is currently undecided.  
State Trustee Justin DiNicola will not be running.  
State Trustee Michele Goss will be running for Trustee At-Large.  
State Trustee Carol Rossi is willing run for re-election if there are no other candidates.  
State Trustee Kathleen Cammarata is currently undecided.  
State Second Vice President Rodolfo Viscomi will be running for State First Vice President.  
State First Vice President Denise Furnari will be running for State President.

### **WELFARE OF THE ORDER**

The Council members thanked State Trustee Carol Rossi for the collation.

Sister Kathi Young spoke about the upcoming fundraiser to help with the medical costs incurred by David Goss, C&E Trust member and member of the Regina Margherita Lodge # 1094 of Waltham, on March 2 at the St. Anthony Club of North Woburn. Ticket are priced at \$25.00 and raffle donations would be appreciated.

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 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Olivieri  
State Recording Secretary