



Richard Brouse Degree Lodge #190, IOOF

Formal Meeting: 08/25/2024

Degree Master, Mason Wolf, called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m. (by Zoom)

A quorum (10) was present with other members joining after meeting was called to order.

Roll Call:

Degree Master: Mason Wolf - present

Assistant Degree Master: Stacy Thomason - present

Secretary: Debra LaVergne - absent (pro-tem Larry Guenther)

Financial Secretary: Larry Guenther - present

Treasurer: Debbie Wolf - present

Financial Committee: Kevin Sitz

Robert Seibel

Carol W

Sara Bruce

Katie Dickinson

Sick and in Distress:

Sara B, Mason W, Debbie Wolf

Jane Beckman

Andrew Crockett

Tom Blackburn

Committees are listed in bylaws and summarized:

Props and Regalia:

Jane Beckman reports being in contact with Vallejo Lodge. Carol Wahrer offers to help. Mason appoints her to committee. White robes discussed. Katy suggests churches such as episcopal to find acolyte robes.

Larry might find white robes at Wilitz lodge.

Degree Logistics Committee: Mason Wolf is chair. Tom Blackburn to help. Let people know where to be and when.

Degree Teams: Same captains for each degree as August. Next year to be new.

Mason Wolf

Debbie Wolf

Jane Beckman

Stacy Thomason

Trustees:

The following members were voted in as Trustees at the August 17/18 weekend. Their terms expire as follows:

Michael Steineke 2027

Stacy Thomason 2026

Mason Wolf 2025

Minutes read: (Tom Blackburn)

Correction to add motion "when there be but one nomination..." by Larry Guenther, second by Debbie Wolf added to minutes. Chaplain for Sunday updated. A few typos were edited.

Minutes stand as corrected

Unfinished business: None.

New Business:

Email with Bylaws went out. It is read but not discussed in this first meeting.

1. Article VI

Article VI: Nominations and Elections

Sec 1. Nominations:

A. Initial nominations will occur during the two regular meetings before the special Friday night meeting before the degree weekend in Yreka.

B. Nominations may be accepted from the floor of the Friday night meeting for any office which does not already have at least one qualified nominee.

Sec 2. Elections: Elections will be held at the special Friday night meeting, and will follow the standard process defined by the Grand Lodge of California - Ch. V Sec.1(M).

Sec 3. Installation: New officers will be installed after the final degrees have been conferred during the annual degree weekend.

2. Bus ride:

- a. Mason Wolf reports bus was scary, unreliable, the owners are not interested in providing the service again, it was an infection point.
- b. Larry: shared experience with driving back roads, it's not that bad and doable by most cars, points out that the concern about parking there was not a problem - there was plenty.
- c. Paul: shared opinion that personal cars are fine and manageable
- d. Tom: shared that he and Mike Steineke went early and trimmed the trees along the road to allow bus passage, there are plans to improve the grading of the road and it will be in better condition next
- e. Larry Guenther moves, second by Tom Blackburn to cancel and not rent the bus for September and encourage drivers.
- f. Passed (unanimous)

3. Voting box donation from Katy Dickinson, found with Paul Dickinson-Goodman

4. COVID guidelines?:

- a. Larry: shares experience from an epidemiologist, it's endemic and he recommends that we encourage sick to stay home.
 - b. Katy: shares her appreciation that notice went out so people could know to test
 - c. Jay Thomason: Ask people with flu-like symptoms should stay home, no need to single it to just COVID spread
- 5. Meals and payments cost of catering,
 - a. Tom: Asks if our account can cover this, if we don't foresee expenditures until next year. Mason shares a summary of current balance and catering costs.
 - b. Meals for the degree team estimated cost to be \$800
 - c. Larry: asks how many people expected to participate in the degree teams: (not counting Encampment) 14. Patriarchal by Barnes Encampment can cover their members. (at catering cost of \$40/person and 13 members [one member does not require catering] yields \$520 in catering cost)
 - d. Larry moves that we pay for degree team meals out of the liquid assets of the lodge for September, reconsider for following year. Second by Debbie Wolf
 - e. Passed
- 6. Incorporating as a non-profit
 - a. Mason requests a volunteer.
 - b. Andrew M Crockett volunteers and summarizes the expected process. This meeting's minutes are required.
 - c. Mason asks that Larry, Tom B and Andrew Crockett determine necessary steps and report back to Lodge with same.
 - d. Larry asks if a motion should be made to declare this lodge a 501c3.
 - e. Andrew moves that we authorize this lodge to take all necessary and proper actions to file with all relevant authorities to become a 501c3 nonprofit.
 - f. Debbie Wolf seconds
 - g. Tom: shares his experience setting up his Aikido 501c3 and had to get an EIN as a first step.
 - h. Motion passed (Unanimously)
- 7. Finance committee: Kevin and Andrew - are receipts in order?
 - a. GL \$47.03
 - b. Fred Lake \$155.23
 - c. Lapel Pin Now \$166.39
 - d. Lisa at Yreka lodge \$60 for classic pins
 - e. Finance committee moves to pay bills
 - f. Passed
- 8. Income and Expenses:
 - a. Final balance after expenses this meeting: \$1,195.68
- 9. Tracking tax deductible donations
 - a. Larry asks if that will be a duty of the financial secretary to track this - yes
- 10. Good of the Order
 - a. Larry shares his appreciation for everyone who has put in the work to solving the difficulties involved in doing something admirable but difficult.