

Richard Brouse Degree Lodge #190

March 22, 2026

Roll Call

Stacy Thomason Degree Master - present
Debbie Wolf Deputy Degree Master - present
Debra LaVergne Secretary - present
Mason Wolf Financial Secretary - present
Annie Cronin Treasurer - absent
Jay Thomason LS to DM - present
Carol Wahrer RS to DM - present
Andrew Crocket Warden - present
Jane Beckman Conductor - present
Katy Dickinson Chaplain - present
Sara Bruce Inside Guardian - present
Lisa Harrigan Outside Guardian - present
Larry Gunther RS to DDM – present
Paul Goodman LS to DDM - present
Toby Hanson Musician
Tom Blackburn Flagbearer - present
Jack Cain Trustee for 3 years - present
Michael Steineke Trustee 1 year - absent
Nan Klein - present
Katrina Hazen - present
Alison Holeman - present
Elizabeth Pidgeon - present
Charlie Sweeny - present
Robert Seibel - present
Angela Commean – present

Opening of the Degree Lodge.at 8:03pm.

Opening prayer - *O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we,*

remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; we ask this in your holy name. Amen.

Reading of the Minutes from February 22, 2025. Minutes were approved as distributed.

Sick or in Distress - none

Bills read and referred - none

Communications read and disposed of - none

Reading of application for membership – none

Report of Interviewing Committee - none

Report of Committee on finance – none

Report of committees

Stacy Thomason was invited to Yreka #19's installation of officers. She went out to the Cave the next day. She met with Lizzie Martinez and Joseph Ouellette. Joseph Ouellette was unsure about getting the welding done without explicit permission from Grand Lodge. GM Rita Cooper gave verbal permission. Lizzie Martinez is looking into getting fire suppression work done at the Cave. Lizzie Martinez has gotten a welder who is an instructor at a local cottage.

Joseph Ouellette and Mark Ellenger were supposed to be paid as sub-contractors from the money Grand Lodge paid to Michael Steineke as lead contractor. This is an issue coming to the Grand Lodge Board meeting in April.

The cast spreadsheet is getting filled in. People are encouraged to avoid taking roles in every degree.

The Grand Lodge bylaws committee has received the RBDL #190 bylaws.

Stacy Thomason is following up with musicians.

The resolution committee met before this meeting to discuss the resolution to be presented to Grand Lodge so that the Degree Lodge would be the manager of record for the property, and added to the title. Andrew Crockett pointed out that adding anyone to the title will trigger reassessment. If the Degree Lodge leases the property, that would not trigger reassessment. Does the Degree Lodge need a lease rather than a power of attorney? A resolution giving the Degree Lodge management authority only is valid for 12 months. A 99-year lease avoids the annual renewal.

It was moved by Larry Guenther and seconded by Mason Wolf to empower the committee named by the Degree Master to draft and submit a resolution to Grand Lodge for the Degree Lodge to lease the Pythian Cave for 99 years.

Tom Blackburn asked what the cost of the insurance would be.

The motion carried.

Committee is Mason Wolf, Secretary Debra LaVergne, Katy Dickinson, Larry Guenther, Nan Klein, Elizabeth Pidgeon, Jack Cain with Andrew Crockett as an advisor.

Mason Wolf has the registration form ready to post on the website but we need to set the price.

It was moved by Debbie Wolf and seconded by Larry Guenther to charge \$25 for the dance and \$10 for all the degrees, with meals separately purchased directly from Yreka #19. Jane Beckman proposed a friendly amendment to have the price increase after a cutoff date. Robert Seibel proposed an amendment to have the Degree Lodge prebuy a fixed number of meals that Yreka #19

agrees to. People would have an option of paying for the degrees or paying for the meal package of standard meals.

Debbie Wolf retracted the motion and asked the Degree Master to create a committee to get prices and numbers from Yreka #19.

Mason Wolf pointed out that that committee is the logistics committee. Robert Seibel was added to the committee. Debbie Wolf suggested adding Mariko Kawaguchi from Ocean View.

Katrina Hazen asked about having the ambassador activity at Grand Lodge. If she needs funding, she can bring that request to a future meeting.

The meeting is long and will get longer as we get closer to the event. Instead of changing the bylaws, we can designate the 7:00pm hour as Committee meetings, using breakout rooms.

Unfinished business - none

New business - none

Receipts and Disbursements

\$17,098.73 is still the closing balance

Good of the Order

Valediction

Closing of the Degree Lodge

Almighty God our heavenly Father, you declare your glory and show forth your handiwork in the heavens and in the earth: Deliver us in our various occupations from the service of self alone, that we may do the work you give us to do in truth and beauty and for the common good; I ask this in your holy name. Amen.

Closed at 9:37pm.

Andrew Crockett 8:50 PM

Note: we should seek a 99-year lease, as English Common Law views 100-year leases (or more) as "implying final ownership transfer" and could trigger a tax reassessment.

Katy Dickinson 9:00 PM

If needed, Chuck Harmon is a realtor and real estate lawyer with whom I have worked several times - he is very capable, patient and honest. <https://charlesaharmon.com/about-us>

Andrew Crockett 9:26 PM

Having a referral is good. I recommend consulting with at least two lawyers to get a sense of who can provide us the draft language in the turnaround we need.

Andrew Crockett 9:20 PM

This attorney seems to be a good fit to work with on getting the 99-year lease drafted:

<https://www.jennifersheltonlaw.com/>

She lives in Yreka, and has experience with "real estate contracts".

<https://www.hcd.ca.gov/sites/default/files/docs/planning-and-community/memorandum-of-ground-lease-template.pdf>

[Memorandum of Ground Lease](#)