

Summary of Grand Lodge Board Meeting

June 1, 2024

The Grand Lodge Board of Directors met in San Jose on Saturday June 1, 2024. This is a summary of some of the actions taken by the Board on that date.

Building Grant Program. The program was suspended in 2022 when funding was no longer readily available. Several projects were stopped unfinished. At the April Board meeting, approval was given to complete the unfinished projects with up to \$600,000 to be used from the OFHC Endowment Fund. The unfinished projects are being gradually resumed one at a time.

The Building Grant Program has not provided an accounting for members of projects completed, costs and scope of projects and expenditures for projects. Greg Schomaker has served as general contractor for the projects and has sub-contracted with local contractors for the work on the projects. The Board approved contract proposals for the projects. To date, over \$3 million has been spent. The Grand Treasurer was asked to provide information about the expenditures for projects approved under the program. The Grand Master is expecting that a full summary of the Building Grant Program activities will be presented at or before the 2025 Grand Lodge sessions.

Legal Assistance. Ed Burns, a lawyer, from Oceanside #346 volunteered to review documents and records relating to the OFHC and advise the Board of options they may have. The GL is interested in exploring ways to receive additional funding from the OFHC. For many years, the OFHC has paid the GL money. In the last few years, the payments have been over \$200,000.

2022 Grand Lodge Audit. The audit report has not yet been completed but should be received in the near future.

Advisory Committee. The Board approved the creation of an advisory committee with representatives from the GLBOD, the OFHC and the California Foundation. Each board will designate three members to participate. Rod Metoyer will lead the GLBOD representatives. GM will contact the OFHC and Foundation boards.

OFHC. DGM Rita Cooper was appointed to be the liaison to the OFHC Board. We would like to formalize in writing the annual payments and periodic increases from the OFHC to the GL. Also, it was discussed offering office space for the OFHC at the GL office.

Special Deputies Appointed. PGM Redgie Fleeman was appointed to serve as Special Deputy to Lompoc Lodge #248. Lompoc has had a Special Deputy in past years. GW Carlos Juarez was re-appointed Special Deputy to Chorro Lodge #168. Chorro has had a Special Deputy in past years. PGM Greg Schomaker was re-appointed Special Deputy to Ontario Lodge #168. Ontario has had a Special Deputy in past years.

Gilroy Lodge. At Grand Lodge sessions in May, members voted to re-institute Gilroy Lodge and to return the lodge building and other assets to the lodge. The Board passed a motion to prohibit the Gilroy Lodge from consolidating with another lodge for a period of ten years. Also, members of the new Gilroy Lodge pledged to repay Grand Lodge for the repairs done on the lodge

building. The cost of repairs was approximately \$100,000. The new Gilroy Lodge is expected to incorporate and obtain insurance before taking possession of the lodge building.

Jackson Lodge Building. The Jackson Lodge closed a few years ago. The lodge building is in great disrepair. In 2023, an unsolicited offer was made to purchase the building. Negotiations were unsuccessful in completing a sale. The Board approved contacting a realtor to put the building on the market.

Contribution from Davis Lodge. Davis #169 donated \$3,000 to the General Fund. Davis had their loan forgiven in 2021 when members passed a resolution to forgive all loans to lodges.

SGL Party Sponsors. At the GL sessions in May, all funding for the SGL Party was deleted from the final budget. The proposed budget had requested \$4,000 for the SGL Party. The Board approved a request to permit the GL to seek out sponsors from lodges and members to fund the SGL Party.

GL Board Committee Assignments. The Budget Committee will include GM Dave Reed, DGM Rita Cooper, Rod Metoyer, and Susan Waligore. The Investment and Endowments Committee will include GS Barry Prock, GT Ron Mills, Rick Boyles, Fred Dolling, and Peter Sellars. The Grand Lodge and Subordinate Properties Committee will include Greg Schomaker, GW Carlos Juarez, and Rick Boyles. The Membership Committee will include GW Carlos Juarez, Peter Sellars, and Fred Dolling.

Grand Lodge Sponsors. The Board approved a request to explore seeking sponsors for the Grand Lodge sessions as a way to reduce costs of the sessions. Rod Metoyer, Mel Astrahan and Marcus Marino of Davis #169 were appointed to explore sponsorships.

Next Board Meeting. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday August 3, 2024, at 9:00am at the Grand Lodge office in San Jose. Visitors are welcome. A zoom link will be sent out for those wish to attend remotely.

In F L & T,

Dave Reed