



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons
 520 S. 1st Ave
 Sioux Falls, SD 57104
sec@minnehaha5.com
 (605) 351-5756

NOVEMBER 7, 2024

Opened in Due Form 7:00p.m.
 Closed in Due Form 8:27p.m.
 Attendance 30
 Visitors 0

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	CARLOS COBOS	SD	THOR BARDON
SW	RYAN HARRISON	JD	JAMES P BYERS
JW	JAMES BYERS	SS	-
TRES	JON GILL	JS	JOE THOMPSON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	ADDISON STUBBE
C-AP	CARLOS COBOS*	TYLER	CODY CHRISTIANSON

*PRO-TEM

Worshipful Master Cobos opened a Stated Meeting of Master Masons and greeted the Brethren in attendance. First order of business was to approve the minutes from the previous meeting of October 3, 2024. They were posted on Grand View in the File Vault prior to the meeting and emailed via for review. James Byers made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jon Woods seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE. Correspondence from the Mayer Room Project Committee:

Greetings Supporters of the Mayer Room refresh project. The committee that took this challenge on would like to continue to Thank You for your support throughout the proposal, approval, fundraising, and execution of the Mayer Room refresh project. The committee was very pleased with the response and the additional efforts that branched out from this project to make great improvements in the Masonic Center.

The project met our initial goals of fundraising and a completion date but our work is not yet complete. The room as you have noticed has been utilized for several different purposes over the last year other than it was intended for. All of those purposes though were for other improvements in the building which has led to much excitement overall for the functionality and use of the entire entry, lobby, and front part of the building. We are excited to see those projects coming to completion and the Mayer Room being finished as intended. Here are some of the things this initial project spawned:

- The former Grand Lodge office will now be the home of all of the building Secretaries and will include a board room and conference table for everyone to utilize.
- The front desk, which was no longer utilized, was removed to clear space for an expanded lobby.
- The Mayer Room will no longer need to serve the function of an MBA board room.

With all of these things in mind, we are seeking your advice and desires for what you and your lodge/body would like to see done with the surplus from the Mayer Room refresh project. The committee has been very good stewards of the money donated and frugal with spending it. With this surplus, we believe some additional furniture in the lobby would be the best use of the funds but we want your opinion on that. The committee has conceptualized seating on the South side of the lobby and possibly high-top tables on the North side that would serve as a multi-functional space.

Let us know your thoughts on how you would like this project to proceed. Additionally, we are looking at the decor on the walls and what best to do with the art or coverings of the lobby. If your lodge/body would like to appoint a representative to speak on your behalf please let us know. All of this of course would need to be approved through the MBA.

Thank You again for your continued support > Dustin, Cody, Brian, Aaron

Expenses		
WiFi Ubiquiti Dream Wall and 5 APs	DONATED	DONA
2000' of Cat6 Cable	\$ 195.00	paid by
TV#1	\$ 935.70	PURCH
TV#2	\$ 935.70	PURCH
TV#3 and Mount	DONATED	DONA
TV#4 (Lobby add)	\$ 955.79	Purchasi
2 TV Mounts	\$ 180.92	PURCH
1 TV Mount (Lobby add)	\$ 80.00	Purchasi
Fridge	\$ 2,110.13	purch
vacuum	\$ 77.37	purch
super smash bros	\$ 45.00	purch
switch	\$ 245.00	purch
Upright fridge/freezer	\$ 1,151.08	purch
hide it mount for switch	\$ 40.00	purch
Lodge Fridge Keychains (3)	\$ 49.00	Purchasi
Fridge Donation Boxes (4)	\$ 59.44	Purchasi
Trash can and garbage bags	\$ 47.22	Purchasi
Camera System	\$ 1,000.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 8,107.35	
SURPLUS	\$ 2,147.65	
Other Ideas:		
Total Pledged	\$ 10,255.00	Collec
Grand Lodge	ubiquiti donated	x
Brothers of Worthing Lodge (#141)	\$ 500.00	x
Anonymous (#5)		x
Mitch Aman (#5)		x
George Hahn (#5)		x
Anonymous (#5)		x
Tom Hoy (#5)		x
Gary Hinton (#5)		x
Tim Schendel (#5)		x
Tim Maloney (#5) (after holidays)		x
Mike Whitney		x
Austin Wolf (#5)	\$ 3,000.00	x
Art Kreins (#5)		x
Jim Block (#5)		x
Quentin Everson (#5)		x
James Jensen (#5)		x
Kierre Lias (#5)		x
Cody Christiansen (#5)		x
Kevin Congdon (#5)		x
James Hoy (#5)		x
Anonymous (#5)		x
Ethan Serck (#200)		x
Brian Melhaff (#200)		x
Brock Morgan (#200)		x
Ryan McCain (#200)		x
Mason Helpfrey (#200)	\$ 1,050.00	x
Ron Brandt (#200)		x
anonymous check		x
Jim Block (#200)		x
Dustin Johnson (#200)		x
Trinity Lodge	\$1,050.00	x
Brother Teddy's Light Tour #1	\$ 385.00	x
Brother Teddy's Light Tour #2	\$ 180.00	x
Brother Teddy's Light Tour #3	\$ 320.00	x
Brother Teddy's Light Tour #4	\$ 170.00	x
Liberty Chapter of DeMolay	\$ 1,100.00	x
Unity Lodge	\$ 2,500.00	x



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*PRO-TEM

PETITIONS. Petitions received and read for 1st reading for Tom Poust and Richard Sio. The WM will appoint an Investigation Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

TREASURER'S REPORT						
As of October 31, 2024						
	Balance per Bank	Deposits in Trans	Transfers	O/S Checks	Dedicated Funds	Funds Available
CHECKING ACCOUNTS						
LODGE CHECKING xxx7563	2,617.73		3,943.00	(260.32)		6,300.41
GOOD WORKS AND OUTREACH XXX1154	3,237.92		120.00			3,357.92
TOTAL	<u>5,855.65</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,063.00</u>	<u>(260.32)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,658.33</u>
SAVINGS ACCOUNTS						
ELMER C. ANDERSON SCHOLARSHIP XXX7779	6,052.11		(1,688.00)			4,364.11
LODGE SAVINGS (150th Fund) XXX1004	4,476.97		(2,375.00)			2,101.97
GWMNM XXX7824	5.00					5.00
MASONIC SERVICES ASSOCIATION XXX7808	5.00					5.00
MMSAT (Save a Child Program) XXX7816	5.00					5.00
SD CHIP DONATIONS XXX7787	5.00					5.00
SD MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION XXX7795	5.00					5.00
TOTAL	<u>10,554.08</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,063.00)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,491.08</u>
INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS						
FIRST INTERSTATE MONEY MARKET XXX9038	9,157.08					9,157.08
SD GRAND LODGE INVESTMENT FUND	10,461.96					10,461.96
SD GRAND LODGE INVESTMENT FUND MINNEHAHA LODGE SCHOLARSHIP	9,427.88					9,427.88
ELMER C. ANDERSON CD - 1ST NAT'L Matures 12/11/24 @ 4.4% Interest	10,000.00					10,000.00
TOTAL	<u>39,046.92</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>39,046.92</u>



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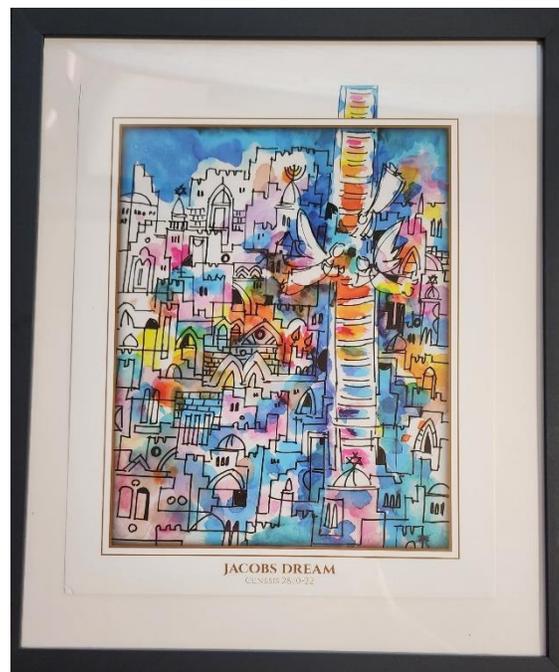
- Jon Gill will work on presenting an Annual Budget for the lodge
- Jon Woods and Mike Millard are working on formalizing an investment strategy

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- Update from Matt Gage on the Meal Committee. Matt has asked for volunteers for people to sign up for a month to bring the meal. There have been more to sign up. Please continue to sign up ~ with Matt as he makes a schedule.
- We reviewed the Events Calendar for all of the exciting events coming up. The Events Committee has several things planned including Parade of Lights, a MasoniCon for our December Stated Meeting, a Holiday Brunch. Please check the Grand View calendar for more info and to RSVP. Much time and effort has been put into the types of events to be well rounded, include everyone, and offer great experiences.
 - For the Parade of Lights the Events Committee has designed a top notch float. Aaron presented the idea using the Mason Mover as a platform. There are lights from Govee called Curtain Lights which are 14' long and 6' high. The idea would be to put these on each side of the bus. These lights could also be used in the Masonic Center after the parade as decoration not only for the Christmas season but other holidays. A proposal from Aaron to purchase these lights at a cost of \$600, making that a motion. Seconded by Tom Hoy. No discussion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- We will only have an EA practice on November 21 not an EA Degree.
- Jephtha Lodge is having their annual Oyster/Chili Feed & Masonic Jeopardy on Nov 19. We are taking the Mason Mover. Please let Aaron know if you'd like to go.
- Brian Pulling updated everyone on the Good Works of Solomon's Guard and presented a picture of Jacob's Ladder that the Synagogue gave Minnehaha Lodge in appreciation for standing guard and watching over their worship services.





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- Masonic Education. **By Bro. James D Byers.** *For the love of our fellow man. Charity and the Masonic Order. A Talk on Building us up Spiritually. The Latin translation of the word, charity is caritas the theological virtue by which we love God above all things for his own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God. In Christian theology, caritas is considered one of the seven virtues. Thomas Aquinas the great theologian and philosopher described it as "the friendship of man for God" and "the most excellent of the virtues". So this evening, I'd like to talk to us about what truly charity is within the Masonic order. multiple times during our obligations. We are reminded that nothing we do will interfere with any duty to God, or to our neighbor, it is with this thought in mind that I will give us time to ponder. What truly that duty is. Charity is one of our tenants within the order because it reminds us that we should exhibit compassion, care, understanding, support and love for all mankind and more especially every brother within the Lodge or that we encounter in the world abroad. We often only think of charity as a dollar amount, a thing that we give away to assist someone or some entity who through no fault of their own needs more money. My brothers this could not be farther from what our fraternity truly means by Charity The word "charity" originated in late Old English and originally meant "Christian love for one's fellows". Charity is in fact the emulation of the love God has for us. We as masons emulate this by demonstrating brotherly Love to one another. Not in offering a handout to one in financial need but in offering a hand of support to a brother who perhaps is struggling with finding his way, maybe sitting to listen to a brother vent about his bad day and offering wise counsel on a different view. It may be putting a hand on a brother's shoulder and giving corrections on an action that should not have been taken or words that should not have been said. (what love one must have to care enough to correct or admonish a brother's improper action it is like the love of your own child of whom you discipline because you love them too much to see them fail), or simply sitting in person or on the phone and discussing being a mason, or how to be a better one. While the Masonic fraternity is not as its chief goal a charity based organization although we do participate in many charitable works. Our main function is to converse with each other on or about the masonic principles and to use those principles to not only instruct but to support us in our journey to becoming better men but also to inculcate through them a strengthening of our spiritual betterment and when done so with conviction it will without question lead us to a deeper understanding and connection to our brothers. Thus, we find it at the heart of our fraternity Charity. Let us never forget the words of the Holy Writings, which remind us that "charity never faileth." It is the most lasting of all human virtues because it represents the eternal law of love, and thus my brothers, let us start this evening to truly remember our duty to God and our brothers and to love one another as the Great Architect has so truly loved us without hesitation or mental reservation in me whatsoever. Worshipful Master, Brothers, I Appreciate your time. Thank You.*

A hearty round of applause!



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- A proposal from Jeff Bruce. Building on the idea of a Junior Warden’s fund to establish a solid program to fund quality meals each month, taking the program from the proposal that was a part of the dues increase proposal where it would establish such a program in 2026, Jeff Bruce made a proposal to the lodge. Jeff shared a story about when his company was moving into a new space and needed to make some quick, large logistical business changes and needed help in doing so. One Sioux Falls man stepped up and made that happen for his company in an impacting way. What Jeff didn’t know at the time was that the man was a Mason. Doing Masonic things before Jeff knew what a Mason was. Inspired by this, Jeff wants to give back in honor of this Mason. Jeff Bruce motioned to establish and seed the George Hahn Food Fund in the amount of \$3,000.00. Matt Gage seconded. No discussion (including George, who was left speechless!!). Motion carried. Thank You, Brother Jeff. Thank You, Brother George.

- The George Hahn Food Fund will be a dedicated fund. It will be tracked separately but will be under our regular checking account. It can be and it is encouraged to be contributed to by all Brothers. This will contribute to the cost of meals which will cover the cost of meals for visitors, prospects, dignitaries, and potentially our Past Master’s banquet (including our ladies), lodge picnic, and other events where we enjoy food before our fellowship, allowing for all of members to partake in the fellowship and minimize the time the time preparing meals, at the serving counter, or dishwashing station. The George Hahn Food Fund will allow us to do what George loves for us to do: enjoy the fellowship by sharing a laugh and telling a short story!



- Committee Reports
 - Good Works & Outreach
 - Solomon’s Guard
 - October 2 Rosh Hashana (Anthony Neuroth, Gary Hinton, Mitch Aman, and Jeff Bruce)
 - October 3 Rosh Hashana (Brian Pulling)
 - October 4 Friday Services (Anthony Neuroth, James Jensen, Brian Pulling)
 - October 11 Yom Kippur Morning Services (Sam Vollmer, Anthony Neuroth, Gary Hinton, Jeff Bruce, Brian Pulling)
 - October 12 Yom Kippur Afternoon Services (Sam Vollmer and Anthony Neuroth)
 - October 12 Yom Kippur Evening Services (Sam Vollmer and Brian Pulling)
 - Tech Committee. Thank You Jeff Bruce for restoring the amp in the Intermediate Lodge Room and procuring an identical amp for the Large Lodge Room. From this we have a well functioning mic system for the Large Lodge Room which we are enjoying here tonight for our meeting! Jeff also added more pieces to the system. We have one at the Secretary’s desk as well including an input for future recording for the business portion! Great stuff!
 - Foster Network. The Christmas season will be a little different this year. They will not be doing the bag sorting like we did last year. This year, they will need help picking up gifts from businesses.
 - Events Committee.



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- The Events Committee is responsible for proposing and executing categorized events on behalf of or for the members of Minnehaha Lodge No. 5
- EVENTS Committee Members: Current Members Are: Anthony Neuroth, Jeff Bruce, Erik Reinholt, Sam Vollmer, Aaron Zahn (ex-officio)
- **Community Engagement Report**
 - The Lodge has hosted two public events in the hopes of fostering a relationship with the community and re-establishing a wider knowledge of Masonry and the Square and Compass.
 - The Downtown Sioux Falls Art and Wine Walk Summary
 - Low volume this year due to the closing of Phillips Ave. creating a hub that decreased traffic to less central businesses (this was noted by DTSF and affected many locations)
 - Three Participating Artists including our own chaplain, Jack Hogan
 - Many questions about freemasonry, many people tying the square and compass to freemasonry for the first time.
 - A Thank you to Brian Pulling for providing a tour and his knowledge to those who came in with inquisitive minds.
 - Downtown Sioux Falls Trick or Treat
 - Roughly just under 100 kids came through the building.
 - Widow's Sons Showed helped by handing out candy bars and Pokémon cards in addition to our licorice ropes
 - Very much Enjoyed by those who came through and can easily see word spreading and a larger turnout in following years
- **Upcoming Events**
 - Breakfast with the Junior Warden (Breakfast with Byers) 11/16
 - Pancake Breakfast, allowing us to force our JW to feed us between 7-10 AM
 - Parade of lights 11/29
 - Brothers, if there is one event you make it to this year, this would be the one; we kindly ask for your showing of support in this endeavor as we will be walking in the parade and would like a good turnout. Thousands of people from Sioux Falls attend this event.
 - The Mason Mover will be picking people up at Hy-Vee at 4:45 PM (South Minnesota)
 - Bus Decorating/Staging will start at 5 PM at the Masonic Center.
 - The MC will be open to the public to provide hot cider, snacks, and restrooms (as well as a respite from the cold for those working other floats) as a gesture to the community. Family and friends are welcome.
 - Masonic-Con
 - Watch Grand View and the Website for the Schedule





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- Holiday Brunch 12/14
 - An opportunity for fellowship and a holiday meal.
 - Potluck style, no duplicates please so sign up early (homemade items preferred so we don't all eat 15 Hy-Vee meat and cheese trays
 - Doors at 9AM, Food from 10-12PM
 - Wear your best pajamas! There will be prizes given out for people's choice of best individual and group outfit.
- Masonic Jeopardy 12/19
 - An event not to be missed, combining education with a bit of fun, this event is open to all Masons, all Lodges, and will be full of surprises.
- MBA Report. Matt & Aaron. MBA is refreshing the charity status to continue to maintain it. The MBA was named in the will of a Brother from Unity. Details of the will were not disclosed in the letter that was received, only that the MBA needed to respond to acknowledge receipt of the letter. Aaron updated on the status of the boiler. A full report will be available next month but the system is running. Girton Adams has been doing a great job of identifying the root cause of the issues and addressing them. They have pinpointed the issue to the system having a series of airlocks. Girton Adams has installed port valves to bleed the system of the air to ensure the lines are full of water and is leaving no pockets of air, which in turn are suspected to be giving the false readings of no or low water. Also as a reminder we have no building maintenance staff. We all are the building maintenance staff and need to work together to maintain the building. Thank You.
- Aaron asked for time to address the lodge. Reading a written and prepared letter, Brother Austin Wolf was accused of Unmasonic Conduct citing reasons within the written statement submitted to the Worshipful Master and to the Lodge in accordance with the Masonic Code. Brother Wolf will be notified and the proper steps will be taken according to the Masonic Code.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- Brian's skin cancer has been removed. His mother-in-law passed away. Please keep his family in your thoughts. Brother Byers the Elder had a health scare while at Grand York Rite in which he needed emergency gall bladder surgery. He dodged danger and made it through the procedure. Continue to pray for PM Tim Schendel as he continues his battle with cancer. He had surgery to remove the cancerous portion and will begin chemo.

MEAL

- \$110 collected from the meal after expenses.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Zahn
SECRETARY

