



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

520 S. 1st Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

sec@minnehaha5.com

(605) 351-5756

JULY 2, 2026

Opened in Due Form	7:00p.m.
Closed in Due Form	9:02p.m.
Attendance	25
Visitors	4

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	JAMES BYERS	SD	ANTHONY NEURTOTH
SW	ADDISON STUBBE	JD	ERIK REINHOLT
JW	CODY CHRISTIANSEN	SS	KURT SWENDSON
TRES	CARLOS COBOS	JS	JACOB BUTTON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	GREG WESCOTT
CHAP	RYAN HARRISON	TYLER	CONOR PULLING*

*PRO-TEM

Worshipful Master James Byers opened a Stated Meeting in the Master Mason Degree at 7:00 pm and greeted the Brethren in attendance. The first order of business was to approve the minutes from the Stated Meeting Minutes from June. They were previously emailed out and posted on Grand View in the File Vault prior to the meeting for review. Hearing no additions or corrections, they stood approved as communicated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

- ✧ We received correspondence from the Grand Master with proclamations for the 2026-2027 Masonic Year. As instructed the proclamations were read in full by the Secretary. For the next 40 minutes and 2 seconds the contents of thirteen proclamations were read. This no doubt shattered any previous records that were established. At some point during the reading there was a refreshment break sponsored by Masonic Center Water. All Proclamations were sent out via email and can be found under 'Feed' on Grand View.

PETITIONS.

- ✧ A Petition for Affiliation was received from Brother Randy Eide. Brother Randy's petition falls under the dispensation from the GM to allow a hand vote if there are no objections. Brother Randy was voted upon favorably and Welcome to Minnehaha Lodge Randy Eide!

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- ✧ An update on our initiative to purchase water bottles and become a member of the 250 for 250 Club with the Sioux Falls Independence Day Parade. We had two members of Minnehaha Lodge step up to fund the \$250 on behalf of Minnehaha Lodge. Thank You Brothers! The South Dakota Masonic Charities did approve our Matching Grant Request of \$500 towards the purchase of the \$890 pallet of water (1,200 bottles). The Independence Day parade is scheduled for July 4th. We would like all hands on deck to help distribute our custom labeled water bottles. We will need as many wagons and water carrying devices as possible. Please check Grand View for RSVP details and the meeting time. With the parade we also needed to rent a refrigerated trailer to cool down the water and keep it cold. A \$400 trailer was rented and Aaron asked if the lodge would be willing to cover the cost of this trailer. Cody motioned that the lodge pay the bill for the trailer. Seconded by Jon Woods. No discussion. Motion carried.

REFRESHING. RESPECTFUL. REMARKABLE.

MASONIC CENTER WATER

It is Refreshing!

REFRESHING!
Pure, crisp, and ready when you need it.

QUIET!
Not the sound of a collapsing water bottle can be heard.

SCANNABLE!
Scan. Contribute. Make a difference.

COMPLIMENTS OF OUR MASONIC CENTER

We trust that you will use the honor system to scan the QR periodically to enjoy the water while you help contribute to the SUCCESS OF OUR BUILDER'S CLUB FUND.

BE TIDY. PACK IT IN. PACK IT OUT.
Make sure to dispose of your bottles and not leave them around. Feel free to take them home as souvenirs!

EVERY SIP SUPPORTS OUR FUTURE.
THANK YOU!

TOGETHER WE BUILD. | TOGETHER WE GIVE. | TOGETHER WE GROW.

CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250TH

HONORING OUR PAST.
CELEBRATING OUR PRESENT.
INSPIRING OUR FUTURE.

DISCOVER MORE!

MORE THAN 150 YEARS OF FREEMASONRY IN SIOUX FALLS



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

520 S. 1st Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

sec@minnehaha5.com

(605) 351-5756

JULY 2, 2026

Opened in Due Form	7:00p.m.
Closed in Due Form	9:02p.m.
Attendance	25
Visitors	4

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	JAMES BYERS	SD	ANTHONY NEURTOTH
SW	ADDISON STUBBE	JD	ERIK REINHOLT
JW	CODY CHRISTIANSEN	SS	KURT SWENDSON
TRES	CARLOS COBOS	JS	JACOB BUTTON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	GREG WESCOTT
CHAP	RYAN HARRISON	TYLER	CONOR PULLING*

*PRO-TEM

TREASURER'S REPORT. Treasurer Carlos presented the 2026-2027 Annual Budget. A summary of the presentation followed by the Budget ;

Our lodge's finances have shifted significantly: when we received a large influx of affiliated members last year, dues income rose sharply, and projects once treated as one-time efforts (lodge refresh, Washington Monument, Cody's around-the-altar work, parade and water) have effectively become recurring parts of our culture, making the last six years of history a poor budgeting guide. I therefore built this year's budget from forward-looking estimates rather than old averages; last year we took in about \$37,000 from dues, fundraising, and meals, putting us close to outgrowing the simple postcard tax return. To support better decisions and continuity, I have moved our books into QuickBooks, fully reconciled the prior fiscal year, and will provide nonprofit-style reports (cash flow and financial position) alongside the familiar spreadsheet so that, if needed, another brother could step in quickly. Overall, we have money in the bank, our investments are performing reasonably, and this budget represents my best estimate for 2026-2027 in light of our growth and new ongoing activities.

A motion was made by George Hahn to approve the 2026-2027 Budget along with all of the expenses listed on the budget and forgo the approval of all individual expenses listed on the budget with this one approval. Seconded by Addison.

Carlos proposed moving \$900 from our Scholarship Investment Fund to our General Fund so that we could award our \$1,200 scholarship. Jon Woods made this motion. Seconded by George Hahn. No discussion. Motion carried.



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

520 S. 1st Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

sec@minnehaha5.com

(605) 351-5756

JULY 2, 2026

Opened in Due Form	7:00p.m.
Closed in Due Form	9:02p.m.
Attendance	25
Visitors	4

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	JAMES BYERS	SD	ANTHONY NEURTOTH
SW	ADDISON STUBBE	JD	ERIK REINHOLT
JW	CODY CHRISTIANSEN	SS	KURT SWENDSON
TRES	CARLOS COBOS	JS	JACOB BUTTON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	GREG WESCOTT
CHAP	RYAN HARRISON	TYLER	CONOR PULLING*

*PRO-TEM

A.F.A.M. MINNEHAHA LODGE #5

510 S 1st AVE

SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104

INCOME STATEMENT

JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026 ACTUAL		26-27 Budget
INCOME		
INCOME DUES	32,354.04	34,000.00
INCOME FOOD FUND	3,938.46	4,300.00
INCOME FUND RAISING	1,320.00	2,000.00
INCOME G.W. & O DONATION	186.38	500.00
INCOME GRAND LODGE MATCH	0.00	500.00
TOTAL INCOME	37,798.88	41,300.00
EXPENSES		
APRONS, BLUE BOOKS, BIBLES, PINS, PROFICIENCY	(237.60)	(300.00)
CANDLES, POSTAGE, ENVELOPES, LABELS, ETC.	(750.17)	(400.00)
CHARITABLE DONATION	(5,006.00)	(5,500.00)
GRAND LODGE PER CAP	(10,610.00)	(10,600.00)
MASTER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND		(500.00)
MBA PER CAP	(12,915.00)	(13,000.00)
MEAL OR FOOD FOR MEAL	(5,077.79)	(5,100.00)
MMSAT, GWNMM, CHIPS, MASONIC CHARITIES	(239.00)	(250.00)
PROCESSING FEES	(494.80)	(250.00)
SCHOLARSHIP	(1,000.00)	(1,200.00)
SECRETARY FEE	(3,250.00)	(3,000.00)
SUPPLIES	(31.90)	0.00
TRANSFER	9.90	0.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS	0.00	(1,200.00)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(39,602.36)	(41,300.00)
GROSS OPERATING INCOME	(1,803.48)	0.00

CARLOS COBOS

TREASURER



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5
 Ancient Free & Accepted Masons
 520 S. 1st Ave
 Sioux Falls, SD 57104
sec@minnehaha5.com
 (605) 351-5756

JULY 2, 2026

Opened in Due Form	7:00p.m.
Closed in Due Form	9:02p.m.
Attendance	25
Visitors	4

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	JAMES BYERS	SD	ANTHONY NEURTOTH
SW	ADDISON STUBBE	JD	ERIK REINHOLT
JW	CODY CHRISTIANSEN	SS	KURT SWENDSON
TRES	CARLOS COBOS	JS	JACOB BUTTON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	GREG WESCOTT
CHAP	RYAN HARRISON	TYLER	CONOR PULLING*

*PRO-TEM

MINNEHAHA LODGE #5 A.F.A.M.

BALANCE SHEET

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

BANK ACCOUNTS

LODGE CHECKING	11,897.14
GEORGE HAHN FOOD FUND	1,826.73
GOOD WORKS & OUTREACH	705.39
OUTSTANDING TRANSFERS	391.00

TOTAL FOR BANK ACCOUNTS

14,820.26

INVESTMENT FUNDS

SOUTH DAKOTA GRAND LODGE INVESTMENT FUND	14,695.56
SOUTH DAKOTA GRAND LODGE ECA INVESTMENT FUND	17,204.32
SOUTH DAKOTA GRAND LODGE GHFF INVESTMENT FUND	8,939.21
FIRST NATIONAL BANK ECA SCHOLARSHIP CD	10,898.38

TOTAL FOR INVESTMENT FUNDS

51,737.47

FIXED ASSETS

REGALIA	10,000.00
DEGREE PROPS	3,000.00
TBD	0.00
TBD	0.00
TBD	0.00

TOTAL FOR FIXED ASSETS

13,000.00

TOTAL FOR ASSETS

79,557.73

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES

BANK ACCOUNTS

OUTSTANDING CHECKS & TRANSFERS	391.00
--------------------------------	--------

TOTAL FOR SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES

391.00

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

TBD	
TBD	0.00

TOTAL FOR LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

0.00

TOTAL FOR LIABILITIES

391.00

NET ASSETS

WITH RESTRICTIONS

GEORGE HAHN FOOD FUND	1,826.73
GOOD WORKS & OUTREACH	705.39
SOUTH DAKOTA GRAND LODGE ECA INVESTMENT FUND	17,204.32
SOUTH DAKOTA GRAND LODGE GHFF INVESTMENT FUND	8,939.21
FIRST NATIONAL BANK ECA SCHOLARSHIP CD	10,898.38

WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS

LODGE CHECKING	11,897.14
SOUTH DAKOTA GRAND LODGE INVESTMENT FUND	14,695.56
Regalia	10,000.00
Degree Props	3,000.00

TOTAL FOR ASSETS

79,166.73

TOTAL FOR LIABILITIES, NET ASSETS, AND EQUITY

79,557.73



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

520 S. 1st Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

sec@minnehaha5.com

(605) 351-5756

JULY 2, 2026

Opened in Due Form	7:00p.m.
Closed in Due Form	9:02p.m.
Attendance	25
Visitors	4

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	JAMES BYERS	SD	ANTHONY NEURTOTH
SW	ADDISON STUBBE	JD	ERIK REINHOLT
JW	CODY CHRISTIANSEN	SS	KURT SWENDSON
TRES	CARLOS COBOS	JS	JACOB BUTTON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	GREG WESCOTT
CHAP	RYAN HARRISON	TYLER	CONOR PULLING*

*PRO-TEM

NEW BUSINESS

- WM Doug from Huron Lodge along with other visiting Brothers from Huron Lodge were invited to present Brother Brad Wilkensen with his 25 year pin and certificate. Brother Brad is a member of Huron Lodge but now lives in Sioux Falls. WM Byers asked PGM Virgil, PGM Aaron, officers of Minnehaha Lodge, and the Grand Master of Masons in South Dakota, Brian Pulling, to attend around the altar to help present Brad with this distinguished achievement.
- Welcome to visiting Brother Zach Enochsson from Donatus Lodge #175 in Lund, Sweden!
- The Worshipful Master explained that at Annual Communication, Most Worshipful Grand Master Brian Pulling launched an initiative asking every lodge in South Dakota to donate \$357 to the Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI), a key Blue Lodge charity that many brethren—including the Master himself until recently—were not very familiar with. He noted that another lodge had already made the donation and jokingly “beat” Minnehaha #5 to it, and he expressed his desire for M5 to be the second lodge in the state to support the Grand Master’s initiative. He then requested a motion for Minnehaha #5 to donate \$357 to MMRI; Brother Jacob Button motioned to donate the \$357 to MMRI. Seconded by George Hahn. Discussion from the floor that the funds be drawn from the Good Works and Outreach Fund. Motion carried
- Worshipful Master Byers addressed concerns about lodge business and member engagement, noting that low attendance at some prior meetings had prevented certain brethren from weighing in on important decisions and reiterating that lodge business should ultimately be about helping each other become better men. To improve this, he announced the creation of a Business Development Committee, led by the Senior and Junior Wardens and including all members, which will meet between stated meetings (with both in-person and online participation available) to review all new business items over roughly a 60-day window. The committee will then present recommendations to the lodge, at which point no further floor debate will be entertained, as all brothers will have had ample opportunity to provide input in advance. The Senior Warden expressed strong support for this model as a way to streamline routine business and free stated meetings for more instruction and Masonic education, and the Worshipful Master asked the brethren to support this change over the coming year as an intentional shift in how the lodge conducts its work.
- The Worshipful Master delivered an extended reflection on long-standing challenges in lodge attendance and engagement, noting that concerns we voice today about low turnout, brothers not advancing, and meetings focused almost entirely on routine business were already being raised in Grand Lodge reports as early as 1898, 1914, and 1979. He reminded the brethren that the lodge room is intended to be a Masonic home—where men meet on the level, enjoy fellowship, and work on making good men better—rather than a place where we simply open, read minutes, hear a treasurer’s report, conduct minimal business, and close. In response, he outlined his plan for the coming term to reshape each **Stated Experience** so that it becomes a richer, more meaningful event: business will be streamlined and largely routed through the new Business Development Committee, while the time in lodge will be devoted more intentionally to Masonic education, thoughtful discussion, ritual and parliamentary instruction, and programs that address the real interests and growth of the brethren. He emphasized that this is not an attempt to change the craft itself, but to honor and fulfill long-standing Masonic ideals that past leaders have warned we were neglecting for over a century. The Worshipful Master asked the brethren to approach the coming year with open minds and support this re-focused model of the Stated Experience, promising that the lodge would revisit and evaluate the changes after they have been given a fair trial.



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

520 S. 1st Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

sec@minnehaha5.com

(605) 351-5756

JULY 2, 2026

Opened in Due Form	7:00p.m.
Closed in Due Form	9:02p.m.
Attendance	25
Visitors	4

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	JAMES BYERS	SD	ANTHONY NEURTOTH
SW	ADDISON STUBBE	JD	ERIK REINHOLT
JW	CODY CHRISTIANSEN	SS	KURT SWENDSON
TRES	CARLOS COBOS	JS	JACOB BUTTON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	GREG WESCOTT
CHAP	RYAN HARRISON	TYLER	CONOR PULLING*

*PRO-TEM

- ✿ The Junior Warden addressed the lodge regarding meals at the Stated Experience, explaining that, to better support the work of the stewards and marshal and to reduce waste, all brethren will be expected to RSVP for meals in advance if they intend to eat. He noted that those who RSVP may either pay online ahead of time or pay in the bucket at the lodge and emphasized that this change is not meant as a criticism or to exclude anyone, but rather to make meal planning more efficient and cost-effective. He invited any brother who needs help with RSVPs or payment to reach out, noting that officers and stewards are ready to assist. A steward further reminded the lodge that there are often leftover meals and urged brethren to take home available “doggy bags” from the cafeteria after meetings so that food is not wasted. Leftover containers are available for purchase. Do not waste food, Brother Kurt used several minutes to tell the lodge he does not like wasted food! Keep Kurt Happy!
- ✿ The Worshipful Master noted that several brethren had expressed a desire for food and fellowship on degree nights and announced that, going forward, there will be a potluck social from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. before each degree. He committed to being present for this time of informal fellowship, emphasizing that there will be no charge from the lodge or any food provided by the lodge and that brothers are invited to bring simple snacks or dishes to share as they wish.
- ✿ WM Byers has observed that members tend to sit with the same small groups at dinners, and encouraged broader interaction and fellowship. To support this, he introduced a new feature called “Dinner with George,” in which Brother George Hahn will provide a brief, approximately 10-minute Masonic or historically themed presentation during each meal, turning dinner into a more engaging and educational experience for the brethren.
- ✿ The Worshipful Master informed the lodge that a Brother had been in a serious accident some months ago and, despite initially attending lodge in a back brace while doctors monitored his condition, ultimately required major spinal surgery involving extensive hardware and a long incision to stabilize his spine and preserve his quality of life. He noted that the Brother and his wife have been bearing a significant physical and financial burden. The Worshipful Master then reported that Minnehaha #5 had recently conducted two funerals, during which the lodge performed excellent Masonic services, and that one of the bereaved families had donated \$250 to the lodge in appreciation. Believing that this gift should be used to do tangible good for a brother in need, he placed the check in the Secretary’s hand and requested that another brother move that the lodge match the \$250 from Good Works and Outreach, for a total of \$500, to be given to Brother Bulmer and his family to assist them in their time of need. Brother Nubs made the motion. Seconded by Brian Pulling. Discussion included several Brothers offering to add to the pot to increase the helpful contribution. Those private donations can be made after the meeting to the Secretary. Motion Carried.
- ✿ The lodge leadership recognizes the efforts of Aaron Zahn for his behind-the-scenes work in mentoring members, organizing lodge activities, and keeping everyone aligned with both grand lodge initiatives and local lodge needs. His efforts are praised for maintaining order, productivity, and a positive atmosphere, even when members fall behind on responsibilities. In appreciation for his sustained commitment and impact on the craft, James Byers presents him with the Temple Builders Award, emphasizing that his contributions are seen and valued by the brethren.
- ✿ Aaron reminded everyone of our one and only fundraiser, Hot Classics Night. It has blossomed into a fundraiser in which our lodge receives \$100 for each member that signs up on the signup sheet. Our very first year we had 15 people help out. To date we have four signed up.... Check Grand View.



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

520 S. 1st Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

sec@minnehaha5.com

(605) 351-5756

JULY 2, 2026

Opened in Due Form	7:00p.m.
Closed in Due Form	9:02p.m.
Attendance	25
Visitors	4

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	JAMES BYERS	SD	ANTHONY NEURTOTH
SW	ADDISON STUBBE	JD	ERIK REINHOLT
JW	CODY CHRISTIANSEN	SS	KURT SWENDSON
TRES	CARLOS COBOS	JS	JACOB BUTTON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	GREG WESCOTT
CHAP	RYAN HARRISON	TYLER	CONOR PULLING*

*PRO-TEM

- ✧ Brother Al Zahn, expresses his appreciation to Worshipful Master James Byers for his service as the lodge's Masonic liaison to the Shrine, noting that Shrine meeting minutes specifically mention how James keeps the nobles informed about upcoming Masonic activities and shares the many events the lodge is undertaking. He explains that James has been emphasizing the importance of communication and cooperation between El Riad Shrine and the local Masonic lodges so that petitions are processed efficiently and candidates can be initiated in a timely and orderly manner. Al highlights that, through the efforts of James and brothers like Scott Denny, they are working toward organizing a special evening when the Masons of Minnehaha Lodge will attend a Shrine stated meeting together, both to honor the work being done and to further strengthen the bonds between the bodies. He also mentions an upcoming Nobles party on September 26, the intention is to have a dedicated table for Masonic brothers and their significant others to attend in support and fellowship, as these bridges between the Shrine and the lodge are growing stronger. In addition, Al publicly compliments the Minnehaha officers for the dignified and professional way they conducted recent Masonic funeral services, observing that any Mason present could see the care and respect shown during the rites. To further honor those occasions, he personally donates \$20 to the lodge's Good Works and Outreach Program in recognition of the two services recently held for Brother Dwight Dexter and Past Potentate Denny Kaarup
- ✧ The last word of the evening was saved for Most Worshipful Brother, Grand Master of Masons in South Dakota, Brian Pulling. Brian Pulling shared that he spoke with Dick Costain, a longtime friend of Denny Kaarup, who said that Denny would have been "darn proud" of the funeral service the lodge conducted for him. Brian explains that Dick was deeply moved and impressed by what the lodge did and, although he could not attend the meeting himself, he asked Brian to convey his heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the brethren for their excellent work.
- ✧ WM Byers asked if MWB Brian would conclude this extended Stated Experience by closing by Proclamation of the Grand Master. Many Brothers smiled 😊

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- Congratulations to Brother Cody Christiansen on his marriage to his new bride Alexandra this past weekend!! We wish you the best. Mr. Cody Christiansen has a nice ring to it!
- Brother Alex Greer announced that he is set to wed his fiancé Alexis on August 1. Everyone is welcome to attend! It will be at the El Riad Shrine. Ceremony starts at 3pm, followed by a feast of ribs, brisket, wings, cold salads! Thank You Alex and we wish you the very best.

MEAL

- ✧ \$185 in cash received from the meal. \$150 in online payments



Webster's dictionary defines wedding as:



The fusing of two metals with a hot torch.



MINNEHAHA LODGE #5
Ancient Free & Accepted Masons
520 S. 1st Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
sec@minnehaha5.com
(605) 351-5756

JULY 2, 2026

Opened in Due Form	7:00p.m.
Closed in Due Form	9:02p.m.
Attendance	25
Visitors	4

STATED MEETING ~ MASTER MASON			
WM	JAMES BYERS	SD	ANTHONY NEURTOTH
SW	ADDISON STUBBE	JD	ERIK REINHOLT
JW	CODY CHRISTIANSEN	SS	KURT SWENDSON
TRES	CARLOS COBOS	JS	JACOB BUTTON
SEC	AARON ZAHN	MAR	GREG WESCOTT
CHAP	RYAN HARRISON	TYLER	CONOR PULLING*

*PRO-TEM



Respectfully Submitted,


AARON ZAHN—SECRETARY

