

GRAND CHAPTER OF MANITOBA, ROYAL ARCH MASONS

Grand Scribe Nehemiah - MEC Rick Porter
7 Riverheights Drive, Brandon, Manitoba R7B 2Y1
Cell 1-204-570-0534, email: raporter@wcgwave.ca

In Attendance: As per registration sheet

Opening: The meeting was opened by REC Chibu Uson at 2:02 P.M.

President's Welcome (GH): REC Uson welcomed the Companions to the meeting being held March 17th, 2024 at 2:00 pm at the Portage la Prairie Masonic Center.

Invocation: The invocation was delivered by Grand Chaplain REC Rev. Brian Rountree.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: The Minutes of the last Executive Council meeting held on Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. at the Portage la Prairie Masonic Center, and which were e-mailed to all members.

Motion: Moved by MEC Rick Porter and MEC Rick Laronde
"That the Minutes of the March 21, 2024 Executive Council meeting be approved as circulated."
Carried

Correspondence: MEC Rick Porter advised that he had received several emails from the Grand Scribe "E" concerning the following:

A note re invitations sent out but not aware of registrations. Annual report from Keystone No. 2 turned in at January 21, 2024 meeting but it has disappeared. The electronic copies of 2016 and 2017 Proceedings will go on the website soon and he will be able to complete the 2018 Proceedings before the change-over to new Grand Scribe Ezra.

A note concerning the fact that only two of five Chapters have submitted nominations for 2024 Philanthropic Fund donation.

A note regarding need to purchase 50 Year Medals.

MEC Rick Porter advised a letter of regret from REC Jim Murray. His wife will be released from hospital shortly and he has equipment coming soon and will be unable to attend our meeting.

Business Arising:

Update on Grand Convocations: MEC Jon Romu spoke with a new person, Steve, at the hotel and we will get correct rate at check-in. People can call Steve at 204-786-4801 if they have questions.

With regard to Past Grand "Z's" contributions to Hospitality Room Refreshments, Jon Romu will send out a list of all liquor in boxes.

Jon will also send banners to Vic Bryll for changes.

When asked if Jon's wife Tracy wants PGZ's wives to make dainties for

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the Hospitality Room the answer was yes.

**Current
Status of
R.A.M.
In Manitoba:**

REC Chibu Uson spoke about the status of various chapters:
Prince Rupert No. 1 is doing well.
Keystone No. 2 is struggling.
Keystone No. 5 had a business meeting in January where they accepted applications from 5- 6 brothers; 2 of whom attended the November 18, 2023 field day.
Prince of Wales No. 11 is struggling but they had 3 members from field Day. They have 34 members but only one third are active.
Red River No. 21 is moving from the 4th Tuesday to the 4th Monday and Will be meeting at the Sturgeon Creek Lodge building.

REC Ted Yorke stated he had negative feelings about the field day; he thought memory work suffered and the used of old and new aprons seemed to upset some candidates.
Jon Romu and Ted Yorke will work on field day plans.

MEC Stan Payne stated that he did not agree with rushing new members on the other bodies right away.

MEC Jon Romu stated that we must educate new companions in chapters to make sure they know about Royal Arch before they go on to other bodies.

MEC Al Hadley suggested that we not mention other York Rite bodies at Chapter meetings. He also noted that they should receive new regalia.

MEC Rick Laronde stated that he was in favour of field days but there should be more planning. He noted that the last field day was planned on the same day that Vermillion Lodge No. 68 was celebrating their 125th anniversary.

MEC Jon Romu said that all chapters were supposed to have been invited. He also suggested that the next field day should be held in Brandon.

REC John Bjore said he believes in field days because we have fewer members and they are involved in all York Rite bodies.

Discussion ensued on various chapters conferring orders and it was suggested that we should get reports from all chapters on retention of new field day members.

Committee Reports

A. Laws and Jurisprudence: (Chairman TBD) nil

B. Nominations: (MEC R. Laronde) MEC Rick Laronde advised that he had received one nomination for each of the following positions for the 2024-25 term:

Grand "J" -	Daniel Fardoe
Grand "H" -	Chibu Uson
Grand "Z" -	Jon Romu
Grand Treasurer -	Victor Bryll

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Grand Chaplain - Brian Rountree

He also advised that he had not received any nominations for the positions of Grand Scribe "E" or Grand Scribe "N".

MEC Laronde mentioned that he had received nominations on three different forms, one of which noted the position was for a two year term. He suggested the form needed correction.

- C. **Custodian of the Work:** (MEC R. McMillan) nil
- D. **R. A. R. A.:** (MEC R. Church) nil
- E. **Constitution and Revision:** (MEC R. Porter) MEC Rick Porter submitted his annual report which is attached to these minutes.
- F. **Philanthropic Project:** (MEC J. Hooper) MEC Jack Hooper circulated the financial report of the Philanthropic Fund (a copy of which is attached to these minutes) and advised that we will have approximately \$4,674.38 to give to this year's project. There was a brief discussion on the number of projects submitted for this year's donation. Apparently one was submitted at the January 21, 2024 Executive Council meeting but has gone missing.
- G. **Education:** (Chairman TBD) nil
- H. **Budget and Finance:** (MEC V. Bryll) MEC Vic Bryll presented the list of Bank Balances to date (copy attached).
- I. **Grievances and Appeals:** (Chairman TBD) nil
- J. **Condition of Capitular Masonry:** (REC A. J. Murray "GH") nil
- K. **Regalia:** (MEC R. Laronde) nil

MEC Rick Porter advised he had received an e-mail from the Grand Scribe "E" advising that four 50 year medals are required for presentation this year and he needs approval of the expenditure.

Motion: Moved by MEC Rick Laronde and MEC AL Hadley

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“That the Grand Scribe “E” be authorized to purchase four 50Year
Jewels.” **Carried**

L. **Grand District Superintendent Report:** nil

M. **Grand Chapter Convocation:** (REC C. Uson “GJ”) covered under Business Arising.

General Business:

MEC Rick Laronde the Grand Ambassador for General Grand Chapter advised that he had spoken with the General Grand Chapter High Priest, Teko Foley, and they had discussed which awards were to be presented. MEC Laronde asked about the following awards:

Sweetheart Award
Kirby Award
Bronze Medal
Grand 1st Principal Plaque

MEC Laronde asked about the position of Guardian for the Kirby award; a previous Ephraim Kirby Award winner from our jurisdiction who is responsible for the selection of future Kirby Award winners. He also asked if we will be paying for MEC Teko Foley’s meals and Hotel room while he is with us.

Motion: Moved by MEC Al Hadley and MEC Bob McMillan
“That MEC Teko Foley’s expenses will be covered while he visits us.” **Carried**

MEC Rick Laronde asked times and location for Registration for the Convocation and was informed by MEC Jon Romu that the hotel had said we can set them up wherever and when ever we want.

Motion: Moved by MEC Rick Porter and REC Ted Yorke
“That we pay the Portage Masonic Center \$50.00 for use of their facilities for our meeting here today.” **Carried**

Closing Comments: MEC J. Romu stated that he was glad to see everybody here today and that they were all taking part in the discussions/

Next Meeting: usually at the call of the “Chair Person” in September.

Adjourned: REC Chibu Uson closed the meeting at 4:37 P.M.