

Blairstown Lodge No. 165 Free & Accepted Masons

Met in a Regular Communication in their hall at the Masonic Temple,
11 Stillwater Rd, Blairstown, NJ
On the 24th of April 2025 A.L. 6025

Officers Present

WB Matthew C Kaufman	X	Worshipful Master
Bro Joshua Williams-Como	X	Senior Warden
WB Edward Lubas	X	Junior Warden
WB Michael D Park	X	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
WB Daniel J Gialanella	Absent	Senior Deacon
Bro Tyrone Coronato	X	Junior Deacon
Bro Thomas J Bulger	Absent	Senior Master of Ceremonies
WB Daniel C Kaufman	X	Junior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Robert W Agolio	Absent	Senior Steward
WB William R Chadwick	Absent	Junior Steward
WB Stephen Z Gnall	Absent	Chaplain
RW Eric P Neuffer, PGC	X	Tyler
WB Walter S Orcutt, Jr	X	Marshal
WB Robert S Moorhead, Jr	X	Historian

Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
RW Nicholas J Kaufman DRI			Bro EA Steve Kazmierkiewicz

WB Dan Kaufman sat in for the Senior Deacon, WB Walter Orcutt for the Junior Deacon.

There were 11 Master Masons present.

Opening:

The Lodge was opened in due and ancient form at 7:30 PM at labor on the Master Mason Degree, with a salute to the Flag of the United States of America.

The Worshipful Master then closed labor on the Master Mason Degree and opened the lodge on the Entered Apprentice Degree.

After an alarm was reported at the outer door, the Worshipful Master granted admission to Bro EA Steve Kazmierkiewicz.

The Worshipful Master then invited RW Eric Neuffer and Bro EA Kazmierkiewicz to the East for the exemplification of the EA exam. After successfully completing the exam, the Worshipful Master congratulated Bro Kazmierkiewicz on a job well done for not only performing the candidates parts but prompting the examiner when needed.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Regular Communication of April 10th, 2024 that were distributed via email, were discussed. The Secretary reported that the minutes had been amended to correct a typo, but that overall, the minutes were well received by the crew, with a unanimous “AAAR”. These minutes were approved as amended.

After another alarm was reported at the outer door, the Worshipful Master admitted a tardy Bro Ty Coronato to the lodge.

Sickness and Distress:

None reported

Joys and Celebrations:

None reported

Presentation of Bills:

<u>Bill For</u>	<u>Bill For</u>
Postage \$73.00	

Motion was made, seconded. With some opposition to paying the government any money, the motion carried to pay the bills, when properly audited.

Communications:

N/A

Petitions:

N/A

Ballots:

N/A

REPORTS

Treasurer’s Report:

The Treasurer reported that the lodge is solvent. *(Secretary’s note: in spite of several of those present going to great lengths to speak louder for “benefit” of all in the room, Bro Treasurer was mumbling about balances that I could not make out.)*

Buildings & Grounds:

WB Moorhead reported that we are still waiting to schedule the vestibule repair project, likely sometime in July.

Charity:

No report provided

Rental Report:

WB Moorhead advised that rental activity has been high and there are many upcoming events on the calendar.

Unfinished Business:

Bro Josh Williams-Como reminded the Worshipful Master of the motions from previous meetings which he had tabled regarding the departure of our beloved WB DJ Gialanella. Bro Como again made a motion to forbid WG Gialanella from leaving the state, which was quickly seconded. There following discussion was impassioned with love, rainbows and unicorns from WB Moorhead and equal fervor from Bro Como to the opposite. WB Moorhead suggested that we relent and allow WB DJ to ride off into the New Hampshire sunset. While Bro Como suggested that WB DJ has not done nearly enough for the lodge and should be retained indefinitely. Bro Como did clarify his remarks as not including the rest of his family, just WB DJ. As entertaining as this was, the Worshipful Master then called for a vote and the motion was carried. Further discussion on a "penalty phase" should the WB not comply with the lodge's directive may be taken up at the next meeting. *(Secretary's note: for any readers that have not been following along, this is clearly tongue-in-cheek, and no animals were harmed during the proceedings.)*

New Business:

WB Moorhead reported that the initiative to pursue quotes to replace the leaky lodge roof have resulted in a reasonable quote from a reputable local contractor with a schedule that will allow the work to be done within the next couple of months. The sum of the quote is \$14,000. A motion was made and seconded to approve the expenditure, but then quickly amended to allow it to not exceed \$16,000, in the event of additional unforeseen expenses to replace any damaged underlayment. The specific details of the quote were read and discussed. The lodge then voted, and the amended motion was carried.

After another disappointing meal from our regular caterer (Chefs), a discussion ensued about finding a replacement for the next meeting. WB Moorhead advised of ongoing investigations, but that further study will be necessary. Several brothers offered alternate suggestions, including the "Hyde-Away". It was suggested that we may need to prepare some meals on our own until a suitable replacement caterer can be found. The Worshipful Master then advised that he imposes a \$150 budget per meeting on future meals and gaveled to discussion.

Program:

None for this meeting.

Announcements:

- 4/28 MWPM/DLI @ Blairstown (dinner 6:30pm)
- 5/8 Regular Communication
- 5/22 Regular Communication (tentative FC Degree)
- 5/25 Memorial Day Parade (more info to follow)
- 5/27 MWPM/DLI @ Mansfield #36

Closing:

The Worshipful Master then called RW Nick Kaufman to the East and tendered him the gavel.

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 8:40 pm by RW Nick Kaufman. *(Secretary's observation: It should be noted here that allowing the Kaufman family to linger together in close proximity during a lodge meeting can result in spontaneous auditory or other malfunctions and the appearance of stroke-like symptoms and giggling. It may be beneficial to avoid this whenever possible.)*

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025

Blairstown Lodge No. 165 F&AM

