

Harmony Lodge No. 8 Free & Accepted Masons

Met in a Regular Communication in their hall at the Masonic Temple,
519 US Highway 206, Newton (Andover Township), NJ
On the 1st of May 2025 A.L. 6025

Officers Present

RW Fred W Fox, PGC	X	Worshipful Master
Bro Stephen J Dugan	X	Senior Warden
WB Christopher A Bailey	Absent	Junior Warden
Bro Arjune M Sharma	Absent	Treasurer
Bro Barry W George	X	Secretary
RW George Stypolkowski, PDRI	X	Senior Deacon
Bro Curvey A Purkett, Jr	X	Junior Deacon
Bro Ryan M Carroll	Absent	Senior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Carlos Torres	X	Junior Master of Ceremonies
Bro Chris Brown	X	Senior Steward
Bro Patrick Harrison	Absent	Junior Steward
WB Clay Kraemer	X	Chaplain
WB Matt Kaufman	X	Tyler
Bro Henry F Repp	Absent	Organist
WB Dan Kaufman	X	Marshal
Bro Robert Woldt, DB	Absent	Historian

Brothers Present

<u>Current Grand Officers</u>	<u>Past Grand Officers</u>	<u>Brothers Present</u>	
	RW Eric G Grove PDDGM		

WB Dan Kaufman sat in for the Junior Warden and Bro Chris Brown for the Senior Master of Ceremonies and Bro Carlos Torres for the Treasurer.

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.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Regular Communication of April 17th, 2025 that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

Sickness and Distress:

WB Chris Bailey reported (via the Worshipful Master) that his father-in-law was still in the hospital after knee replacement surgery and was the reason for his absence this evening.

WB Matt Kaufman reported that RW Nick Kaufman was not in attendance this evening because he was preparing for the arrival of his future mother-in-law from the west coast. *The lodge was very empathetic and offered its emotional support (at a distance).*

Joys and Celebrations:

None reported.

Presentation of Bills:

<u>Bill For</u>	<u>Bill For</u>
ShopRite (BOL supplies) \$59.71	

Bills totaled \$59.71 this evening. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, when properly audited.

Communications:

N/A

Petitions:

The committee report on the petition of Mr. Jose Ascencio was received by the Secretary in good order and the favorable results were presented in lodge.

Ballots:

The ballot on the petition for membership of Mr. Jose Ascencio was spread by the Worshipful Master. All Master Masons present voted. With the ballot, being clear in the South, West and East, the Worshipful Master declared Mr. Jose Ascencio elected to membership by initiation.

REPORTS**Treasurer's Report:**

Per the Treasurer's recent email, the balance of our primary operating account stands at \$6,197.77, and the investment account balance at \$352,175.06.

Buildings & Grounds:

Bro Dugan advised the following-

1. The remaining lighting work in the lodge room is still planned for this summer.
2. A replacement lawn maintenance contractor has been secured.
3. We still need to line up a replacement snow plowing contractor for the coming season.
4. We are still seeking a contractor to affect the necessary repairs to the damaged gutter downspout on the NW corner of the building.
5. The old ride on mower has been removed.

After some discussion, Bro Purkett advised that he will reach out to a contractor he knows to see if they can assist with some of the issues around the lodge.

Charity:

RW Eric Grove reported that the previous Bread of Life event was very successful. It was well attended by the brethren, and they were able to serve 50-60 people.

Bro Dugan advised that due to a scheduling conflict with the church on the same day as BOL in May, the indoor church facilities will not be available. As such it will be necessary to modify our regular hot meal plan. A box lunch is being planned for outdoor distribution. This will require much more support and preparation the night before the event. Cutting, wrapping sandwiches, and bagging the contents will go much faster if there is enough help. The preparation will happen at the lodge on Friday 5/23 @ 6:30pm. Please plan to assist if possible.

Rental Report:

WB Matt Kaufman reported that there are no new rental bookings to report. There are none booked in May, but one in June.

Unfinished Business:

RW Eric Grove reported that the plans for the Washington DC bus trip continue to move forward. That he is now taking reservations and deposits. An email with the itinerary will be shared with other lodges in the area this week.

New Business:

Regarding the upcoming GLI on September 29th at Harmony Lodge, the Worshipful Master requested that the Secretary send out invoices to the other lodges in the district for seed money to help fund the purchase of the necessary food items for the GLI dinner that evening.

Announcements:

5/6 EA Rehearsal @ Harmony 7pm

5/13 EA Rehearsal @ Harmony 7pm

5/15 Regular Communication-EA Degree

5/24 Bread of Life event

5/25 1st District Memorial Day Parade- Blairstown

5/27 MWPM/DLI @ Mansfield #36

Closing:

The Worshipful Master called RW Eric Grove to the East and tendered him the gavel of the lodge to close in short form.

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 8:47 pm by RW Eric Grove, assisted by the Worshipful Master.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025

Harmony Lodge No.8 F&AM

