

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 8th of May 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	X	Senior Deacon
Bro Tyrone Coronato	Absent	Junior Deacon
Bro Thomas J Bulger	X	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	X	Chaplain
RW Eric P Neuffer, PGC	Absent	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>	
			Bro John Caruso

WB Rob Moorhead sat in for the Tyler, Bro Tom Bulger for the Junior Deacon and Bro John Caruso for the Jr Master of Ceremonies.

There were 12 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 24th, 2024, that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

Sickness and Distress:

None provided.

Joys and Celebrations:

WB Gialanella advised that offers on both his property in NJ and the one he wants in NH have been accepted and is anticipating a move by the end of June. *(A collective groan of grudging acceptance could be detected about the lodge room with this news.)*

Presentation of Bills:

<u>Bill For</u>		<u>Bill For</u>	
Harmony Lodge (GLI seed money)	\$200.00		
JP Luther (candidate bibles)	\$353.12		
Balbi (garbage pick up)	\$97.08		
Grand Lodge of PA (DC Beard Award)	\$35.00		

The total for bills this evening is \$685.20. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, when properly audited.

Communications:

N/A

Petitions:

N/A

Ballots:

N/A

REPORTS**Treasurer's Report:**

WB Park advised that the lodge is solvent, and the bills have been paid. He advised that the insurance premium of \$2,887.67 was paid, but that it had increased by approximately \$200.00. He detailed how lodges in general have limited options for liability insurance and are stuck with whatever the carriers charge.

**Bro George offered consolation by advising that Harmony Lodge is paying a much higher rate than #165 is being charged.*

Buildings & Grounds:

WB Moorhead advised that the roof replacement work had been completed on Friday May 2nd, as authorized by the lodge at the previous meeting.

Charity:

None provided

Rental Report:

WB Moorhead advised that there are two rentals this weekend and requested assistance in making sure the lodge is tidy before everyone leaves this evening.

Unfinished Business:

Bro Williams-Como reminded the Worshipful Master of the motion that was passed at the last meeting regarding the departure of WB Gialanella from the state. He suggested that penalties for ignoring the motion should be discussed.

**As there was little energy left in the group to oppose the WB's departure, suggestions as to how to make best use of the new property in NH by lodge members were briefly discussed. However, no motions were offered.*

WB Moorhead advised that this evening's meal was provided by a new vendor and was asking for feedback. It was noted that the meal was superior to that provided by Chef's recently. Options going forward will be to continue this way or prepare meals ourselves. No clear decision was made but will continue with the current source for the balance of the season.

New Business:

Bro Bulger advised that Friday, June 13th, is the annual event in Blirstown and requested guidance as to whether he should do any advertising for the upcoming Haunted Halls event in October. The Worshipful Master advised that he should do whatever advertising he sees fit.

The Worshipful Master advised that with the departure of WB Gialanella, the lodge will need someone to take over candidate instruction. Those interested should contact the Worshipful Master.

Program:

The Worshipful Master put the lodge on a tyled refreshment to discuss potential programming ideas for future meetings. After receiving several suggestions, the Worshipful Master returned the lodge to labor.

Announcements:

5/12 Rehearsal for FC Degree- 7pm
5/15 EA Degree @ Harmony #8
5/19 Rehearsal for FC Degree- 7pm
5/21 Rehearsal for FC Degree, if necessary- 7pm
5/22 Regular Communication- FC Degree
5/25 1st District Memorial Day Parade-Blirstown
5/27 MWPM/DLI @Mansfield #36
6/14 WB Gialanella is hosting a going away gathering at #165, details to follow.

Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 8:35 pm by WM Matthew C Kaufman.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025
Blirstown Lodge No.165 F&AM

