

# 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 11<sup>th</sup> of September 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	X	Junior Steward
WB Stephen Z Gnall	X	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>	
		WB Nelson Drobness	Bro John Caruso
			Bro Steve Kazmierkiewicz
			Bro Steve Dugan

WB Dan Kaufman sat in for the Sr Warden.

There were 16 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 June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, that were distributed via email, were discussed. These minutes were approved as distributed.

### Sickness and Distress:

None offered

### **Joys and Celebrations:**

RW Neuffer advised that WB Moorhead had his neck brace removed (no get well card required).

### **Presentation of Bills:**

The Secretary advised of but one bill, an invoice from Kittatinny Lodge No. 164 for our portion of the expenses for the recent Master Mason Degree (with the Kilties), totaling \$272.25. A motion was made to pay the bills when properly audited, which was seconded and carried by the lodge.

### **Communications:**

The Secretary reported that there have been several communications from Grand Lodge that all brethren have received regarding events and lodging at the upcoming GL Annual Communication in November. Please review your emails and see the Secretary with any questions.

A communication was received from Musconetcong Lodge No.42 regarding their Casino Night this Saturday, 9/13 and encourage everyone to attend.

A communication was received from Blairstown Hose Co. No.1, seeking donations for their annual fund drive. A motion was made to donate \$150 from the charity account for the this cause, which was seconded and carried by the lodge.

### **Petitions:**

The Secretary received reports from the investigation committees for the following candidates:

1. Mr. Timothy Stuart Berkheiser, 1 East Side Dr, Newton, NJ
2. Mr. George Eric Lohman, 181 Cedar Lake Rd, Blairstown, NJ
3. Mr. Anthony Quan, 19 Barone St, Netcong, NJ

All reports returned a favorable response.

\*A motion was made, seconded and carried to vote on the candidate memberships collectively.

### **Ballots:**

The Worshipful Master spread the ballot for membership for Mr. Timothy Truart Berkheiser, Mr. George Eric Lohman, and Mr. Anthony Quan. All Master Masons present voted. The ballot, being clear in the South, West and East, the Worshipful Master declared the candidates elected for membership.

The Secretary led a discussion regarding feedback received after the recent dispatch of NPD notification letters. The notification letters were a procedural step in the NPD process, required by the Grand Lodge Constitution. Some of the brethren are advising of hardships with meeting the dues payments. The Secretary requested assistance with addressing their concerns. RW Neuffer and WB Orcutt offered to assist.

## **REPORTS**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer advised that we are solvent and the current account balances are:

Main operating account: \$7,797.80

Charity account: \$6,987.45

Petty cash: \$161.00

### **Buildings & Grounds:**

WB Moorhead advise of the recent work done to weed the parking lot (ant bullies with torches).

**Charity:**

N/A

**Rental Report:**

WB Moorhead advised of a lot of rental activity, with bookings lining up this fall. Two in October and one in November.

**Unfinished Business:**

N/A

**New Business:**

RW Eric Neuffer advised of an anonymous brother that in need of financial support and made a motion to make a loan from the charity account in the amount of \$2,500.00, which was seconded and carried by the lodge.

The Worshipful Master discussed the upcoming DLI (9/22) & GLI (Grand Lodge of Instruction, 9/29). #165 has been tapped to exemplify the 2nd section of the Master Mason Degree. To do so, the effort will require as many of the brethren as possible. He went around the room and poled each of the brethren present as to their availability. Few commitments were made.

The Worshipful Master called RW Eric Neuffer along with Bro Steve Kazmierkiewicz to the East to perform the Master Mason Proficiency. The Worshipful Master congratulated Bro Kaz and RW Neuffer on a job well done.

\*(Secretary's note: After closing, Bro Kaz was invited to sign the constitution book)

**Announcements:**

9/13 Casino Night @ Musconetcong #42

9/22 **MWPM/DLI @ Harmony #8 (GLI Rehearsal)-all hands on deck**

9/25 Regular Communication

9/29 **GLI @ Harmony #8- This is a must attend event**

**Closing:**

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 8:45 pm by WM Matthew C Kaufman.

Fraternally,

*Bro Barry W George*

Secretary 2025

Blairstown Lodge No.165 F&AM

