

Merchantville Lodge No. 119, F. A. M.
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MINUTES of a Regular Communication for Thursday, June 12, 2025 AD, 6025 AL

A Regular communication of Merchantville Lodge #119, F&AM was held. The Lodge was opened on the MASTER MASON DEGREE in DUE and ANCIENT Form at 7:50 PM with the indicated installed OFFICERS in their regular stations and places.

WM: Luis A. Valentin, PM X

X – Indicates PRESENT

SW:	Andrew S. Knaus, PM	X	JW:	Anthony J. Starkus, PM	X
TR:	David K. Martin, Jr, PM		SEC:	Shawn M. Roberts, PM	X
SD:	El Donaldo F. Vid Al, PM	X	JD:	Rev. Jorge A Martinez, PM	X
SMC:	Luis Francisco Ruiz		JMC:	Gerald D. Jeitner, PM	
SS:	David R. Saunders		JS:	Joseph M. McGuckin, Jr	X
CHP:	Raynaldo Santiago, PM	X	MLS:	Christian P. Kochon, PM	X
TYL:	DB Enrique Rosario, PM	X	HST:	David K. Martin, Jr, PM	

Filling in were: WB Eugene Wallace, Brother Steven McCormack

Members Present

Brother Will DeFoney

Greetings from the Worshipful Master

WM Luis A Valentin greeted the Visitors, RW Peter Buschert, WM Mozart Lodge 121, and thanked them for filling in officer seats.

Reading of Minutes

A motion was made by Brother SW to dispense of the reading of the minutes and accept as distributed, which was Seconded by Brother JW. The motion passed.

Reading of Bills

There was a plea by the Secretary asking for help by someone who is able to make calls during business hours, to try to see if we can save money on our bills, like renegotiate the Comcast contract, Security, Elevator, etc.

Reading of Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was given by Bro Secretary, where the current balance of \$7,256.79, minus outstanding bills and plus deposits, leaves \$2,689.307.

There was discussion to not pay Total Access, but to call and see if the job will be completed first.

Treasurers Report was accepted.

There was a motion made by Brother SW to request \$15k from investment monies to make it through to the end of the year, which was 2nd by Bro JD.

Reading of the necessary Correspondence

Father's Day email from the Grand Master

Deputy Grand Master Festival of Trees

Committee of Consolidations and Mergers.

Birthdays and Masonic Birthdays

Bro Will DeFoney, WB Raynaldo Santiago, WB AJ Starkus, WM Luis Valentin, WB El Donaldo Vidal

Reading of Petitions and or Balloting

None

Committee Reports

Square Club

None

Trustees

None

Consolidations and Mergers

A proposal was read and given to the Worshipful Master to Consolidate with Mozart Lodge #121 to create "Merchantville-Mozart Lodge No. 119".

Discussion by the SW was questions of the next steps, which the Secretary answered that a summons would need to be sent to all members to attend the September 11, 2025 meeting to vote on the proposal.

Membership

Open house went well, would like to have another without spending money.

Blood Drive

Next Blood Drive will be at Rising Sun Lodge in November.

Sick and Distressed

WB Martinez thanked the brethren for their support while his sciatic was acting up and said he was feeling better now.

WB Frazier Alberger passed away.

John Sari's son was diagnosed with cancer

WB Santiago thanked those who offered their words of kindness when his son going through cancer surgery. The cancer was removed and now he's going through the maintenance part.

Candy Butler's celebration of life will be at Indian Springs Country Club this Saturday at 6pm.

Rental\Building

There were a couple of rentals, most went well. The Merchantville Ladie's club will be using the building once a month for \$150/month cost. HVAC Filters need to be replaced every 4 months.

Striping the parking lot will need to happen over the summer, along with a dumpster day. Replaced the defibrillator, need batteries and paddles for the old one, then we will have one on each floor. Motion made by JW and 2nd by WB Santiago in the amount of \$400. Passed.

Patio furniture? WM said it would not be safe to just leave outside.

Old Business

Successful Ladie's night, it was open to other lodges, but was not the typical Ladie's night. Not well attended but those there enjoyed it.

New Business

Past Master's night there are 13 as of now, hoping for 20+

BBQ being run by Bro. Brandon Valentin and Bro. Luis Melendez of Campana de Libertad.

The WM mentioned that a salsa night would be fun in the summer, maybe fall. A cigar mobile unit for a cigar and bourbon event, maybe get the district involved. He wanted a table lodge on September 20th as well.

GLI is on Thursday September 4th, Bro. John Lynn of Mozart Lodge will be doing the meal but needs help.

Grand Lodge Appointments were announced at the last DLI, RW Mike Mattes will be District Education Officer, RW David Lane Assistant to Grand Master, WB Jim Bulger and WB Jim Stapleton, Grand Chaplain.

Masonic Light

None

Lodge Closing

Closed in due and ancient form at 9:20PM with the officers in stations and places.

Attest:

WB Shawn M. Roberts, PM

Secretary

Merchantville Lodge #119, F&AM