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 9th of January 2025 A.L. 6025

Officers Present

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

Brothers Present

Current Grand Officers	Past Grand Officers	Brothers Present	
	RW Eric P Neuffer, PGC	WB Nelson Drobness	Bro Steve Dugan
	RW Steven Wescott, PGC		Bro Arjune Sharma
			Bro FC John Caruso

WB Moorhead sat in for the Treasurer.

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.

Petitions:

The investigation committee, consisting of WB's Park, Moorhead and Kaufman, submitted their report to the Secretary regarding the petition for membership by Mr. Steve Kazmierkiewicz of Blairstown, NJ. Their findings were favorable.

Ballots:

Having been cleared by Grand Lodge and the Investigation Committee report being favorable, The Worshipful Master spread the ballot to elect Mr. Steve Kazmierkiewicz for initiation. All Master Masons present voted. As the ballot was found to be clear in the South, West and East, the Worshipful Master declared Mr. Kazmierkiewicz officially elected for initiation.

The Worshipful Master closed labor on the Master Mason Degree and opened the lodge on the Fellow Craft Degree. After which, Bro FC John Caruso was granted admission to the lodge.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Annual Communication of December 12th, 2024 that were distributed via email, were discussed. Errors and omissions were reported and the minutes so amended. These minutes were approved as amended.

Sickness and Distress:

It was reported by the District Deputy Grand Master, Dwayne Dolly, via the GroupMe chat group, that RW Frank Vanalthuis passed away this day. There is no information regarding funeral arrangements yet. This information will be distributed as it becomes available.

Joys and Celebrations:

WB Orcutt noted that WB Rob Moorhead was yet again installed as Mayor of Blairstown.

Presentation of Bills:

There were no bills to present at this meeting.

Communications:

There we no new communications to report that had not already been distributed from Grand Lodge via Grand View email to all members.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer was not in attendance and no report was provided.

Committee Reports:

The Worshipful Master established the following committees for the coming year-

Audit Committee (WB Rob Moorhead, WB Dan Kaufman, Bro Bob Agolio)- to perform the annual audit as required by Grand Lodge.

By-Laws Committee (RW Eric Neuffer, Bro Barry George, Bro Tom Bulger)- to review the current by-laws and make recommendations for changes, if necessary.

Buildings & Grounds Committee (WB Rob Moorhead to chair)

Unfinished Business:

None at this time.

New Business:

RW Eric Neuffer advised of the upcoming Lodge Chili Cookoff, planned for Saturday, February 22nd. Further details to follow.

Program:

The Worshipful Master read an article from the Midnight Freemason podcast entitled "From Rough Ashlar to Refined Self", followed by a brief discussion. The article is attached to these minutes for your reading pleasure.

Announcements:

1/27 DLI @ Mansfield #36

Bro Bulger advised-1/10 Cigar Lounge event at East Stroudsburg Lodge (see Tom for more information).

Bro Dugan advised-4/5 Fisherman's Breakfast @ Harmony #8.

Closing:

As there was no further business, the Lodge was closed in harmony and good order at 8:37 pm by WM Matthew C Kaufman.

Fraternally,

Bro Barry W George

Secretary 2025 Blairstown Lodge No.165 F&AM

