

Robert Russell Eastern Star-Masonic Center of Colorado, Inc.
Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates Session
September 22, 2010
Doubletree Hotel

Call to order: Terry Hudson, President at 9:00 a.m.

Invocation: Patricia Dewey

Welcome & Introductions:

Roll Call of Trustees and confirmation of Quorum: Present: Terry Hudson, President; Karen Karns, Vice President; Tammy Oldson, Treasurer; Shirley Woodward, Secretary; Steve Hubbard, Margaret Benton, Art Moore, Rick Haskell, Randy Penn. All Trustees present and quorum of delegates confirmed. Also present were Larry Lillo, Executive Director and Teressa Hudson, Recording Secretary.

Absent: No member of the Board of Trustees was absent.

Delegates and Guest: 25 delegates or proxies were confirmed and 18 guests in attendance in addition to the Trustees. Quorum confirmed.

Introduced and welcomed the following: Robin Terry, Associate Grand Matron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES; Lloyd Hannah, Associate Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES; Bill Carlson, Past Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES; Charles Anderson, Grand Sentinel, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES; Bob Swope, Past Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES; Carol Neiswonger, Grand Ruth, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES; Russell Sharpe, Past Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES; Steve Hubbard, Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandary of Colorado; Jack Stubbs, Past Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES; Judy Domenico, Past Grand Matron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES and Margaret Rominger, Past Grand Matron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda by Karen Karns, seconded by Art Moore – Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes from September 16, 2009: Correction: David Wilcox, Worthy Grand Patron. Motion to approve minutes as corrected by Rick Brown-Jones, seconded by Tammy Oldson – motion approved.

Management Report – Larry Lillo

Larry introduced Louise Bates, Regional Director of Operations, Ridgeline and Pati Sawyer-Boex, Fraternal Relations Director.

Larry welcomed and thanked everyone for his or her time and generosity to the Center this past year.

Ridgeline has been operating the ESMRC for over a year now and has brought in new polices & procedures, financial controls and changed how the community is being run. A lot of changes have been made. We now have a Resident's Fund program. We have had a positive cash flow over the last twelve

months. Our average occupancy rate is approximately 94%, we are currently at 93%. With the present market situation we are very fortunate to maintain an occupancy rate of over 90%. We have redesigned the marketing pamphlet and the new website is up and running. You can access the website at www.esmrc.com.

This year we have introduced a punch card meal system. Village residents can purchase a card and get meals delivered to them when they want them.

We have put several large service contracts out for bids this year and have gotten some better contracts as a result.

We are working at having a 24-hour turnaround time on maintenance issues.

We had hail damage two years ago, the roofs have now all been replaced and the siding replacement is being completed.

Cosmetic building renovation is being done. The Center has been repainted; we will be getting new carpeting and furniture and the kitchen will also be updated. We hope to have these renovations done by November.

The addition of the Fraternal Relations program has brought huge changes to the Center thanks to Pati, who he then introduced to talk about the program.

Pati talked about the activities at the Center. She said that there have been a lot more activities over the past 9-10 months thanks to all the delegates and other volunteers; your support makes this happen.

Pati thanked the Board members and Larry for their support; she also thanked Valerie Grundvig, Grand Secretary, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES, for all of her help and guidance on OES matters.

There was a dinner in February to thank all the volunteers. The idea for the Helping Hands program started there and the residents are now able to get things they wouldn't have otherwise been able to afford. Thanks to Rita Bucholtz, Worthy Grand Matron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES for getting contributions from individual chapters to the Helping Hands fund started.

Jean McDaniels and Russell Cummings donated a gourmet popcorn wagon. Popcorn is made every day and the residents really enjoy it.

We raised over \$6,000.00 in June with the Golf Tournament. We will be doing it again next year on June 17 at Park Hill Golf Course. We had a fabulous turnout from the Fraternal Family and the entire community and hope to improve upon it next year.

The Adopt-A-Resident program is going very nicely. There are some new residents who need to be adopted. Please remember these residents through the upcoming holidays, but please keep chocolate donations to a minimum.

There will be another Shred-A-Thon on October 16 with donations going to Bethel #40; another Shred event will be held in April.

We are having a 2-day AARP driving class, on October 22 and 23, 4 hours each day. You must sign up to attend and space is limited. Please call Cora at 303-756-9489 to sign up. Cost is \$12 for AARP members; \$14 for non-members.

Ashley Buss will be doing a free technology seminar on Thursday, October 21 at 10:00am at the Pic-a-dilly clubhouse. He will be discussing texting, spam, facebook, twitter, using voice mail, etc. Call Diane Martini at 303-753-2179 or Pati at 303-753-2160 to RSVP or for more information.

There will be a presentation on Senior Fraud called "Play it Safe" at the Pic-a-dilly clubhouse on November 5 at 10:00am. AARP Elderwatch is doing the presentation that will include the safest way to pay your bills, the 3 R's of Fraud Protection and avoiding telemarketing scams. Call Pati for more information.

Guys don't forget about the Men's Club on the last Wednesday of every month at 4:00. Snacks, beer and non-alcoholic beer is provided. If you would like to donate beer or non-alcoholic beer, that would be appreciated.

We will be doing the Fraternal Family picnic again on the second Saturday in August. This year's was a great success.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee, Tammy Oldson, chairperson

Tammy introduced Terry Bartell, Scofield & Scofield who presented the Audit Report and year-end financials with a handout for all to follow along. Highlights included an Operating Loss before contributions and other support of (\$69,128) which is \$28,681 less than 2009 Terry noted that this loss is due to an the loss of our property tax exemption, and a write-off on property which resulted in an unexpected expense. We will not experience this again. If we had not had this unexpected expense we would have had a profit, before donations, of \$65,082. Several years ago the operating loss was \$750,000, so this is a very major turnaround. Our overall operating income for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 was \$150,022, 5% of which will go to payback the Home Endowment Fund loan. Terry noted that Ridgeline has done a fantastic job. The auditing was much easier this year than it has been in the past. He said he couldn't say enough good things about Larry and Angel, thank-you to them. Terry answered questions from the delegates: Question to clarify the buildings and improvements value in our assets; it is the same as last year. Terry explained that this is the historical cost, not the market value.

Clarification was made that the 5% being paid back toward the Home Endowment Loan is \$10,565. The Board has a plan in place to start paying down that liability.

Barry Bruner, Wedbush Morgan presented two handouts one showing the monthly and annual investment percentages for our funds for the fiscal year and one showing our portfolio allocation. We are out of the recession and we should see a future low rate of economic growth (1-2%) with a slow economic recovery. We should stay diversified in the portfolio. We had an overall annual Return on our

Portfolio of a gain of 12.61%, that is less than the gains experienced by the Dow Jones at 15.84% and S&P500 at 12.8%.

Question – Is there any consideration given to having exchange-traded funds? Answer – We have some included in our portfolio.

Question from Pati – Will you sponsor our Golf Tournament again next year? Answer – Of Course.

Fraternal Relations/Volunteer Committee, Shirley Woodward, chairperson

The committee has worked to support Pati, the Golf Tournament and the Fraternal Family Picnic. We appreciate all of the support you have given us, and are hoping to have your support again this next year. Larry is compiling a list of small chores that can be done by small groups from Chapters and Lodges. Please encourage your Lodges and Chapters to be involved with these activities.

Planning Committee, Terry Hudson, chairperson

This is a long process and we are still meeting. We are working on an action plan for the short and long term. We received a report from Lantz-Boggio in the last 2-3 weeks regarding the center and we are in the process of evaluating that report. We have some tough decisions ahead and we want to proceed slowly and intelligently.

MCSA (formerly MHEANA) 2011 Conference Committee, Rick Haskell, chairperson

We will be having a meeting immediately following this to finalize the educational tracks for the conference to be held here in Denver, June 19-22, 2011. There will be three tracks for continuing education: Board Members, Operations People and Children's Homes. The MCSA official committee will be here next month to review our plans, which we can then finalize. We are looking for volunteers to assist in working the conference and for events at the Center. We also have fun events planned, a trip to Heritage Square and day trips for the spouses of attendees. The conference will coincide with the Gold Tournament, we are hoping to get people to come in for the Tournament and stay over the weekend and then attend the conference. The Grand Lodge will be involved as they are celebrating their 150th anniversary. We are the only facility operated by Eastern Star AND Masons. We are one of the smallest Masonic facilities out there, but we are one of the leaders in what we are doing and accomplishing.

New Business

*Appointment of Tellers – Terry Hudson appointed Sisters Cathy Wooley, Chairman; Alice Demspey and Brother Gary Malara to act as Tellers for the election of the new Eastern Star Board of Trustee.

Ballot declared open.

*Election of OES Trustee to the board – Two brothers and one sister have submitted resumes to the Board to fill the open five year position on the board; Russell Haugey, Areme #124; Jeff Brothers, Oriental #98, Denver; and Linda Wingate, Southgate #104, Denver. A written ballot was held with OES delegates voting and the election of Linda Wingate for a five-year term was announced. Terry thanked the candidates for putting their names forward and encouraged all to stay involved. Linda thanked everyone and said she looked forward to being on the Board.

While the ballot was being counted Terry thanked Idella Cummings for helping everyone get registered today and for all of her help.

Pati added some thanks she forgot earlier: The Alpha Club purchased a large gas grill for the Center. It is great and can cook a lot of hamburgers and hot dogs at one time and the Neiswongers planted flowers and plants in the Star outside again this year. She also let everyone know that there would be a classic car show at the Center this spring. If you or someone you know has a classic car to show, please contact Pati.

*Recognition of Trustee appointment by Most Worshipful Grand Master Charlie Johnson, A.F. & A.M. –Most Worshipful Grand Master Charlie Johnson was unable to attend today due to a scheduling conflict. He sent a letter to Terry Hudson, who read the letter that announced the appointment of Brother Gary Malara to a four-year term on the Board of Trustees for the Grand Lodge.

*Recognition of Service by Board Members –President Terry Hudson presented Steve Hubbard and Shirley Woodward with a plaque of appreciation for their years of work and dedication to the Board. Steve thanked everyone and said that the Home has a special place in everyone’s hearts, which is well deserved. The Board works hard and deserves your support and recognition.

President’s Comments:

Terry thanked Louise Bates, the Regional Director for Ridgeline for her hard work, she is responsible for guiding us through the changes and getting Larry on Board. He also thanked Larry for the great job he has done over the past year. Terry told everyone that Pati had done a fantastic job working with the Masonic family bodies; she has stepped up and helped the residents of the Center who have had problems with their Masonic membership.

We are very excited that we have had an actual profit month to month despite the unexpected expenses that we took a hit from. Terry thanked all previous Board members who have helped us to move forward through the years.

The activities going on at the Center are great and the residents are having fun.

Remodeling is being done throughout the Center as Larry said earlier. We are also making some changes in the Chapel. The pews will be taken out and chairs will be put in, this will make it easier for residents to get in and out. While this will remain a chapel and place of worship, this will allow us to use the room for other things as well, such as Lodge/Chapter meetings, dinners, meetings, etc.

The Golf Tournament was such a great success. Many people Terry has talked to are amazed that we made over \$6,000 in our first year.

As you heard earlier the Board does have a plan in place to pay back the money that was borrowed from the Home Endowment Fund. It is important to remember that if that money had not been borrowed at that time, the doors of the facility would have probably been closed.

Terry asked for questions or comments.

Question: Any news on drilling for oil on our land? No, the area is currently very inactive. We are looking at it, the lease is up in 6-12 months, and so we are investigating our options.

Comment: It is wonderful how positive everything is. I commend the Board; Pati's activities are great. The financial situation is wonderful. I am pleased that you are keeping everything up.

Judy Domenico volunteered to help with the MCSA conference.

Comment: Congratulations to Linda for being elected to the Board.

Comment: Pati's attitude at the Home is very contagious. Everyone has more energy.

Comment: This issue of the Spotlight is one of the best we have had. It is very easy to read.

Comment: The highlight of the year was watching Pati do the Hula at the Polynesian Party!

Announcements

There will be a tour of the Center at 12:30; the bus leaves from the Conference Center doors.

Rita Bucholtz, Worthy Grand Matron, Grand Chapter of Colorado, OES, addressed the group. She thanked everyone for all of his or her hard work. She said that she and Leonard have had someone talk about the Center at each Official Visit and that has really helped to educate people about the Home. Please keep up the good communication.

No Delegate meeting in October, Board of Trustees has an offsite meeting on the 23rd.

November 20, 2010 will be the next delegate meeting at the Eastern Star-Masonic Center Chapel at around 10:30 a.m.

Motion to adjourn by Steve Hubbard, seconded by Rick Haskell – motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Teressa Hudson, Recording Secretary