

Minutes of Lodge Meeting – Thursday, 14th March, 2024

1. The general meeting of the Perth Elks Lodge # 362 was held on Thursday, 14th March at 6:00 PM with ER Les Smith presiding.
2. Opening ceremony was held.
3. ER Les Smith asked if everyone had read the minutes of the 8th February 2024 meeting, and whether there were any questions, omissions, or errors. There being none, a MOTION TO ACCEPT was made by Janet Gee. SECONDED by Ron Hathaway. MOTION CARRIED.
4. Initiation of new Members – Franck and Wanda Allard were welcomed into the Lodges.
5. Treasures Report – Gary Grant reported on our accounts. He reported that property taxes and Liquor Licence have been paid for the year. He is waiting for the water/sewer bill. After some discussion a MOTION TO ACCEPT was made by Gary Grant. SECONDED by Jim Hathaway. MOTION CARRIED.
6. Committee Reports
 - Finance – Gary Grant reported that transfer of the bank account is all most complete. Ron Gaunce stated that all business with auto payment from BMO have been informed of the change in financial institutions.
 - Bar – Ron Dube reported on income through the bar. He identified Cecil Perry and Janet Gee as Door Persons.
 - Building – Les Smith reviewed the budget submission for FY 24/25.
 - Ron Gaunce reported that Mark McCarthy will supervise the construction of the wheelchair ramp at no cost.
 - Fundraising/Entertainment/Activities
 - I. March supper – Reservations are doing well. Volunteers were identified.
 - II. A chairperson is being sought for the spring basket fundraiser. This process will continue through the next month.
 - Charities
 - I. A \$1000 donation was made to PA Middle School for their new woodworking program.
 - I. John Larsen reported that the Lodge made donations to 25 organizations over FY 23/24.
 - II. Gary Grant mentioned the number of applications received for the education bursary. A discussion of who is able to apply followed. Gary Grant read the current policy. Al McPhail stated that the Finance Committee was reviewing this policy and will make a recommendation to the Executive at a later date.
 - Wellness – Diane Hathaway reported that she had sent 6 sympathy cards this month. They include:
 - I. Gordon Webster
 - II. Ronald Grant family
 - III. Sue and Pete McAloon
 - IV. Al and Pam McPhail
 - V. Jack and Michelle McPhail
 - VI. Joe McPhail

- Membership – Janet Gee reported the budget submission will cover new Lodge brochures, a welcome package and membership drive events. She reported the committees goal is 24 new members in 2024. Our current membership is 94. There is an exception of dropping 4 members.

7. New or Unfinished Business

- Jed Lockyer recommended the Lodge return to a seasonal break through the summer months. Due to numerous members travelling it was recommended General meeting be suspended for July and Aug, returning to pre-pandemic policy. Executive Meetings will continue to be held over this period to ensure Lodge business is not dropped. Ron Dube MOVED to suspend General Meetings for July and August, SECONDED by Jonny Gagnon.
- Ron Gaunce reported that the Woodstock Lodge has shown significant growth over the past year. As our April meeting coincides with theirs Ron recommended we suspend our meeting and, along with the Centerville Lodge, show support by attending the Woodstock meeting. Ron Gaunce MOVED. SECONDED by Jim Hathaway. CARRIED.
- Ron Gaunce reported on the NBEA AGM. Three Lodge members will be attending as Provincial Staff. A call went out for attendees. Four names were submitted.
- Jed Lockyer presented two new applicants for membership. Jed MADE A MOTION to accept, SECONDED by Paul Kinney. MOTION CARRIED. The Lodge welcomes Franck and Wanda Allard.
- The NBEA AGM is scheduled for 19-20 Apr in Moncton. A list of members interested in attending is being collected. Financial support from the Lodge and personal commitment will be confirmed at the March meeting.
- Ron identified the three-man committee for the upcoming Election of Officers. They are Ron Gaunce, Paul Kinney and Burpee Wagner.

8. Correspondence – Nil

9. Good of the Order

- Paul Kinney addressed the requirement for volunteers to assist with the private benefit breakfast being held 16th Mar.
- Ron Gaunce addressed the requirement for volunteers for the fundraiser breakfast being held on 6th Apr. This is support of a new gazebo for the PA Elementary School.
- Alan Young recommended purchasing Breakaway Tickets for the lodge Bar as a fundraiser. This will require further investigation and discussion.

10. Closing ceremony took place.

11. Meeting adjourned 7:00 pm.