Columbus Scottish Rite Bodies, Inc.
Post Office Box 727
Columbus, GA 31902-0727

Minutes of the Executive Committee
September 14, 2022

The Executive Committee was called to order by the Chair, Executive Committee, IB Phil Harris, 33º, at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. Opening prayer was given and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was observed. Attendance is as follows:

● Joseph Oelgoetz, 32º, KCCH	Personnel Representative	P
● Phil Harris, 33º	Chair, Executive Committee	P
● Roger Buterbaugh, 32º, KCCH	General Secretary	P
● Robert Lyon III, 32º, KCCH	Treasurer/Cdr, CK	A
● Torrey Knight, 32º, KCCH	VM, LOP	P
● John Ohrt, 33º	WM, KRC/DOW/Almoner	P
● Sid Cooley, 32º, KCCH	MK, CC	P
● Harold Culpepper, 32º, KCCH	At Large	A
● Ditmar Chavez, 32º, KCCH	At Large	P
● Doyle Hatfield, 33º	At Large	A
● Mark Stillwell, 32º	At Large	P
● Bayardo Reyes, 32º	Cdr, KSA/Centennial Cmte	P
● Harry Ross, 32º, KCCH	Building Cmte	P
● Scott Lavelle, 32º	Stage Cmte/VMAP	P
● Cameron Davis, 32º	Communication/KM	A
● John Adams, 32º	Hospitality Cmte	P
● Jacob Robideaux, 32º	Fundraising Cmte	P
● Richard Luna, 32º	Membership Cmte	P
● Russell Ward, 32º	IT Cmte	A

Also present were Chuck Hall, 32º, KCCH; Dan Dawson, 33º; and Rossi Ross, 32º, KCCH.

The minutes of the August 17, 2022 Executive Committee meeting were read and approved.

IB Paul Wells, 33º, asked to address the Executive Committee on two issues.

- The Social Order of the Beauceant requests to hold a meeting at the Scottish Rite Center on October 25, 2022. This is during the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia being held in Columbus. The Executive Committee approved the request and asks that they pay the $50 usage fee. Brother John Adams volunteered to open and close the Scottish Rite Center for them.

- IB Wells reported on the electrical issue in the stage area. One of the transformers for the neon lights leaked coolant causing it to overheat. We are fortunate that it did not catch fire. Since we no longer use the neon lights, he and his team cut the electric lines to the transformer. They will return later to cap the wires and check the electrical in the stage area.

In the absence of the Treasurer the General Secretary gave the Treasurer's Report. The Scottish Rite Bodies checking account balance on August 1, 2022 was $8,847.65. During the month of August there was $4,478.88 in deposits and $2,687.00 in payments. The balance on August 31, 2022 was $10,638.73, which balances with the bank statement and QuickBooks. As of today, the checking account balance is $11,878.88. This includes money for the Dove Shoot which will be transferred to the Foundation account later. The Scottish Rite Foundation account has a balance of $22,309.72. The Autism Learning Center has not yet deposited the $5,000 donation we made to them on July 27. The perpetual membership account has a balance of $76,647.79 and the Building Fund has a balance of $4,082.64.

General Secretary's Report:

- We only have one left over candidate for our Reunion in October. We have no new petitions. The Executive Committee decided to cancel our Fall Reunion.
- HB Buterbaugh has completed the on-line request to the Supreme Council to be able to use on line petitions. We are now waiting for Supreme Council to set it up for us.

Almoner's Report – IB John Ohrt reported a checking account balance of $2,939.65 with no requests for assistance. He recommended that we use some of the Almoner's fund to help pay the dues for those Brethren in financial distress.

Venerable Master:

- Since we will not have a Fall Reunion a recommendation was made that we open the October 21, 2022 Lodge of Perfection in full form and that the Knights of St. Andrew portray the 29th Degree. Brother Reyes, KSA Commander, concurred.
- The Venerable Master presented a request to change the by-laws to change the meal time from 6:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and to change the start time of the Lodge of Perfection from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The first reading of the proposed change will take place at the Lodge of Perfection meeting on September 16.

Committee Reports:

- Building Committee – HB Ross reported that the roof leak in the dining hall has returned. IB Harris said he will ask the roofing company that replaced our roof last year to look at the leak (that portion of the roof that is leaking was not replaced). He said Storm Pros should put a patch weld to that area of the roof. Also, we need to start thinking about sprucing up the outside of the Scottish Rite

Center in preparation for the Centennial celebration next year. We especially need to pressure wash the outside.

- Stage Committee – Brother Scott Lavelle reported that the Stage Committee will be cleaning up the transformer leak in the stage area.
- Fundraising Committee – IB Dan Dawson gave an update on the "It's a Wonderful Life Radio Show Fundraiser" to be held at the Scottish Rite Center December 2, 3, 9, and 10. The first read through will be September 25. The stage will be prepared starting after our October meeting. On October 1 advertisements will hit Facebook, the Valley of Columbus web site, and an e-mail sent to Scottish Rite members. On November 1 we will post a marquee sign at the front of the Scottish Rite Center. Tickets will be sold on line; we will need ticket takers at each performance. Brother Russell Ward will handle the audio. TNT has approved for us to run the fireworks stand at the Victory Drive Walmart December 26-31. Brother Bayardo Reyes volunteered to lead the effort, and will develop a schedule for manning the booth. Brother Reyes is still selling the 300th Anniversary coins, last month he sold one.
- Membership Committee – Brother Richard Luna reported that we still have 55 Brothers in arrears for their dues. He is developing a membership flyer about the Valley of Columbus with a QR code that will take the Master Mason to our on-line petition.
- Communications – no report.
- Hospitality/Refreshment Committee – Brother John Adams reported that dinner Friday night is Chef's Choice and will be a surprise. The Columbus DeMolay has requested to have a hot dog fundraiser in the Scottish Rite Center on November 5. The Executive Committee approved the request. Brother Adams will bring hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks to sell to the Dove Shoot next Saturday.
- VMAP – we received our 2021 emblem to attach to our VMAP plaque in recognition of the work we did last year. However, we have no plaque to attach it to. HB Buterbaugh will ask Supreme Council for the plaque.
- DOW – IB Ohrt distributed the Agenda for the Feast of Tishri to be held Friday (enclosed). All necessary preparations have been made.
- KSA/Centennial Committee – Brother Reyes reported that there will be a KSA Zoom meeting on October 15.
- IT Committee – No report.
- Rite Care – IB Harris reported that preparations for next Saturday's Dove Shoot are on track. 62 field positions have been sold. We need volunteers to help with the set up on Friday and to help with the shoot and tear down on Saturday.

Meeting schedule: September – Feast of Tishri, October – full opening of the Lodge of Perfection and the portrayal of the 29th Degree, November – TBD, December – Christmas program and installation of officers, January – Burns Night and Awards Ceremony. The Executive Committee asked HB Oelgoetz if he would contact IB Chuck Morgan about giving his presentation on Albert Pike's sword at our November meeting.

Old Business: The Executive Committee decided not to pursue speaker stands for the stage at this time.

New Business: Brother Judd Wolfe requested that Georgia AMD Council #304 be allowed to meet at the Scottish Rite Center on October 24. They always have a meeting the Monday before the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, and since the Annual Communication will be in Columbus this year, they wish to hold it at our Scottish Rite Center. The Executive Committee approved the request with the payment of the $50 usage fee.

Business for the Good of the Order:

- Fort Benning Lodge #579 will hold a sloppy joe fundraiser at their Lodge on November 5 (same day as the DeMolay hot dog sale).
- Lodge of Research #2 will meet on September 29 at Mount Hermon Lodge #304. WB Kevin Nishimura will speak on the Life Cycle of Freemasonry.
- School of Instruction on November 9. The Assistant Custodian of the Work will review the opening and closing of the Lodge for the presumptive Worshipful Masters, Senior Wardens, and Junior Wardens who will be elected in December.

Personal Representative's Comments: HB Oelgoetz discussed membership, the Dove Shoot, and the fireworks stand. He asked for input for additional opportunities for Scottish Rite Masons to fellowship. He thanked everyone for their hard work supporting the Valley of Columbus.

Our next Executive Committee meeting will be October 19, 2022.

After the closing prayer by HB Oelgoetz, IB Harris closed the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger W. Buterbaugh
32º, KCCH
General Secretary

Encl.