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

Minutes of the Executive Committee
November 16, 2022

The Executive Committee was called to order by the Chair, Executive Committee, IB Phil Harris, 33º, at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2022. Opening prayer was given by HB Ditmar Chavez, 32º, KCCH and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by IB Harris. 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	A
● Russell Ward, 32º	IT Cmte	P

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

The minutes of the October 19, 2022 Executive Committee meeting were read and approved.

In the absence of the Treasurer the General Secretary gave the Treasurer's Report. The Scottish Rite Bodies checking account balance on October 1, 2022 was $11,006.85. During the month of October there was $5,962.29 in deposits and $3,520.34 in payments. The balance on October 31, 2022 was $13,449.50, which balances with the bank statement and QuickBooks. As of today, the checking account

balance is $13,951.56. The Scottish Rite Foundation account has a balance of $33,715.70. 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 $80,925.24 and the Building Fund has a balance of $5,033.48.

General Secretary's Report:

- The General Secretary read a letter from Brother Kevin Harbuck requesting to demit. In his letter Brother Harbuck says he can no longer be a member of a secret society. The General Secretary was able to speak with Brother Harbuck's brother, who is also a member of the Valley of Columbus, who said he has associated with a group that believes Freemasonry is evil. He is not only demitting from the Scottish Rite but from his blue lodge as well. The letter will be read at the Lodge of Perfection meeting on Friday.
- The General Secretary reminded everyone of our new meeting time approved at our last Lodge of Perfection meeting. Dinner will now be served at 6:00 p.m. and the Lodge of Perfection will open at 7:00 p.m.
- AT&T has repaired our Internet and we are back on line.

Almoner's Report – IB John Ohrt reported a checking account balance of $3,009.96 with no requests for assistance.

Venerable Master: No report.

Committee Reports:

- Building Committee – HB Ross said the leak remains in the dining room roof and needs to be repaired. The kitchen sink is dripping and will be repaired. HB Ross requested feedback on what all needs to be done to spruce up the Scottish Rite Center for next September's Centennial and for volunteers.
- Stage Committee – No report.
- Fundraising Committee – HB Oelgoetz reported on the "It's a Wonderful Life Live Radio Show" fundraiser. Volunteers are needed for refreshments, ticket taking, ushers, and parking help. He asked the General Secretary to speak with our neighbor about using their parking lot for the show. A special deal is being offered for Scottish Rite members only – on December 10 it will be two for one; one pays and the other gets in free. Brother Robideaux reported that ticket sales for the grill raffle are going well. IB Harris reminded everyone of the fireworks fundraiser the last week in December. Brother Reyes reported that he has sold four more of the silver 300th Anniversary coins.
- Membership Committee – HB Oelgoetz discussed the Membership Event to be held on February 11, 2023 at Tyrian Lodge #111 starting at 10:00 a.m. IB Dean Alban, 33^{o}, and IB Arturo DeHoyas, 33^{o}, from Supreme Council will be presenting. It is targeted to Master Masons who are not Scottish Rite to encourage them to join. The program that IB DeHoyas will present is about our

ritual through the ages from Blue Lodge to Scottish Rite. The cost is $20.00 per person which includes lunch. Invite Master Masons from your lodge, this is a good way to introduce them to the Scottish Rite.

- Communications – no report.
- Hospitality/Refreshment Committee – Brother Adams reported that dinner Friday evening will be our Thanksgiving feast with turkey and all the trimmings.
- VMAP – our VMAP plaque is mounted on the wall in the hallway by the front door. Be sure to check it out. Thanks again to Brother Lavelle for his work on VMAP that allowed us to earn the plaque, he is already working on our submission for 2022.
- DOW – no report.
- KSA/Centennial Committee – Brother Reyes reported that the Centennial coins have been paid for. He is looking at a dinner Friday evening (September 22, 2023) at a local restaurant for VIPs prior to Saturday's ceremony. HB Oelgoetz said that the Valley of Columbus may be considered as a host for next year's KCCH ceremony. A draw would be that the SGC will be here. We could do our Centennial ceremony at 10:00 a.m., the KCCH ceremony starting at 1:00 p.m., and a formal dinner that evening. More planning will be needed if our Valley is selected.
- IT Committee – Brother Ward is Zooming this evening's meeting.
- Rite Care – IB Harris reported that the Shrine Club trunk or treat which the Autism Learning Center clients attended went well. The Valley of Columbus donated $200 worth of candy to support the event. However, the Autism Learning Center's new owner is not responding to us about why he hasn't deposited the $5,000 check we presented to him last July 27. We have given him formulas on how to distribute the money among his clients (that we obtained from other Orient of Georgia Valleys) but it appears he wants us to tell him how to distribute the funds (which we will not do). If he doesn't respond soon we may have to drop them as our Rite Care partner and find another.

Meeting schedule: November – IB Morgan and Albert Pike's sword, December – Christmas program and installation of officers, January – Burns Night and Awards Ceremony.

Old Business: The General Secretary reported that he contacted Swift Navigation, and the best they can do when they add the second antennae is a total of $1,450.00 per year. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept $1,450.00 per year.

New Business:

- HB Buterbaugh, as Chair, Nominating Committee, presented the officer nominations for the Valley of Columbus for 2023. The Executive Committee approved the slate. It will be voted on at the Lodge of Perfection meeting on Friday.

- HB Oelgoetz reported on the Zoom call with the Sovereign Grand Commander. He said he mentioned the Valley of Columbus four times during the call. That shows that he knows who we are and what we are doing.

Business for the Good of the Order: None

Personal Representative's Comments: Since rehearsal for "It's a Wonderful Life" is scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m., HB Oelgoetz deferred his comments to a later date.

Our next Executive Committee meeting will be December 14, 2022 (note that this is a second Wednesday).

After the closing prayer by HB Oelgoetz, IB Harris closed the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger W. Buterbaugh
32º, KCCH
General Secretary