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

Minutes of the Executive Committee
July 13, 2022

The Executive Committee was called to order by the Chair, Executive Committee, IB Phil Harris, 33º, at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 13, 2022. Opening prayer was given and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was observed. Attendance is as follows:

● Joseph Oelgoetz, 32º, KCCH	Personal Representative	A
● 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	A
● Doyle Hatfield, 33º	At Large	A
● Mark Stillwell, 32º	At Large	A
● Jonas Barlow, 32º	Cdr, KSA	P
● Harry Ross, 32º, KCCH	Building	A
● Scott Lavelle, 32º	Stage/VMAP	P
● Cameron Davis, 32º	Communication/KM	A
● John Adams, 32º	Refreshments/Hospitality	A
● Jacob Robideaux, 32º	Fund Raising	A
● Richard Luna, 32º	Membership	A
● Russell Ward, 32º	IT	P

Also present were Bayardo Reyes, 32º and Chuck Hall, 32º, KCCH.

The minutes of the June 15, 2022 Executive Committee meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – In the absence of the Treasurer, the General Secretary gave the Treasurer's Report. The Scottish Rite Bodies checking account balance on June 1, 2022 was $13,051.24. During the month of June there was $2,186.70 in deposits and $3,791.83 in payments. The balance on June 30, 2022 was $11,446.11, which balances with the bank statement and QuickBooks. As of today the checking account balance is $11,281.19. The Scottish Rite Foundation account has a balance of $18,605.06 and the perpetual membership account has a balance of $73,600.63. The new Building Fund account has a balance of $3,981.91.

General Secretary (HB Roger Buterbaugh): None this evening.

Almoner's Report (IB John Ohrt) – there have been no requests for assistance since our last meeting. The checking account balance is $2,939.96.

Venerable Master – HB Torrey Knight reported that our guest speaker for August, IB Chuck Morgan, had to cancel. IB Norm Blankenbeckler, 33°, agreed to give a presentation on Sacred Geometry. Since this will be a tiled meeting the ladies will have a Wine and Cheese Tasting in the dining hall, hosted by Ms. Karen Oelgoetz, during the Lodge of Perfection meeting.

Committee Reports:

- Building (HB Harry Ross) – HB Ross was absent, but phoned in a report that the toilet in the library is repaired and that he has installed the new filters for our air conditioner.

- Stage – HB Chuck Hall said that we need speaker stands in the Lodge room to get the speakers off the floor. He presented two proposals and recommended the stand that costs $69.99. IB Harris tabled the proposal until after an evaluation is made as to where they should be mounted, what has to be moved to mount them, etc.

- Fundraising – IB Harris said that TNT Fireworks announced that the fireworks stand in the Victory Drive Walmart parking lot is available for New Year's, and sent him the contract. We need to vote at Friday's Lodge of Perfection meeting whether or not the Brethren of the Valley of Columbus will support this fundraiser. We need to ensure we have enough people to man the booth. It was announced that Brother Richard Luna, who works on Fort Benning, knows of Soldiers who need volunteer time in the community. We will ask him to see if any of the Soldiers would be willing to work the fireworks stand. IB Harris also announced a shotgun raffle to be held in conjunction with the Rite Care Dove Shoot in September. Proceeds from the shotgun raffle will go into the general operating fund and not Rite Care. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to authorize up to $1,000 to purchase a shotgun for the raffle. Brother Bayardo Reyes announced that he has sold 16 of the Silver 300th Anniversary coins. He continues to visit Lodges to sell them.

- Membership – no report. HB Buterbaugh reminded everyone of our next Reunion October 21-22, 2022. We have one carryover petition. We need to start recruiting candidates for our Fall Reunion. We discussed possibly charging new members for their hats, rings, etc. at our March 16, 2022 Executive Committee meeting. We need to decide on this before we start accepting new applications for membership.

- Communications – no report.

- Hospitality/Refreshment – no report. It was announced that the menu for Friday's meeting will be All American Cookout (hot dogs, potato salad, etc.).

- VMAP (Brother Scott Lavelle) – he continues to track input for the VMAP.

- DOW (IB John Ohrt) – no report. He defers to the Commander, Knights of St. Andrew (KSA) about this Friday's meeting.

- KSA (Brother Jonas Barlow) – the KSA is prepared to conduct its initiation of nine new members and its installation of officers at our meeting Friday night. They have conducted practices.

- Rite Care (IB Phil Harris) – on June 30 he, HB Oelgoetz, and HB Buterbaugh, along with three from the Autism Learning Center, attended a check presentation at Char Broil. Char Broil donated $1,000 to the Valley of Columbus Rite Care Foundation account. Thanks to HB Oelgoetz for working the donation for us. HB Ed Lynch, 32°, KCCH has planted the fields for our Dove Shoot scheduled for September 17. HB Rossi Ross, 32°, KCCH is making new signs for us to use – they will be reusable signs so that we can change dates every year (no need to make new signs every year).

Meeting Schedule of Events (HB Torrey Knight):
- August – IB Norm Blankenbeckler, Sacred Geometry. Wine and Cheese Tasting for the ladies.
- September – Feast of Tishri. Deputy Grand Master RWB Mike Kessler is confirmed to be our speaker.
- October – Scottish Rite Reunion
- November – Cap and Ring ceremony
- December – installation of officers and Christmas Program
- January 2023 – Burns' Night

We will have a backup program for October and November in case we do not have the Reunion in October.

Old Business: IB Harris said we need to renovate the ladies' room by the dining hall soon. The door doesn't swing right and the toilet needs to be replaced. HB Buterbaugh said that we have a line of credit account with Wells Fargo to pay for building renovations so money is not an issue. IB Harris will talk with HB Ross about the renovation, along with adding rails to the Deceased Honorman's Board wall.

New Business: It was announced that the Personal Representative has created a new committee, the IT Committee, which will be chaired by Brother Russell Ward. Brother Ward gave an update on his work to update Zoom for our Executive and Lodge of Perfection meetings so that Brethren who cannot attend can still participate in the meetings (such as Brother Cameron Davis in Germany).

Business for the Good of the Order:
- Brother Lavelle stepped out to call a contractor friend to see if he can give us an estimate on renovating the ladies' room. They will meet at the Scottish Rite Center Sunday morning. Brother Lavelle was asked to see if it's possible to get the work done before the Grand Lodge of Georgia meets in October.

- We need to look at the Scottish Rite Center to determine what repairs and updates need to be made before the Centennial Celebration in September 2023.
- The grate needs to be pulled out of the oven hood in the kitchen and cleaned.
- Brother Reyes asked for more volunteers to help him with the 100th Anniversary Celebration Committee. He proposed a black tie dinner at another venue? He is also looking at canons, pins, and coins for the celebration. We will add him to the Committee Chair list so that he can update us on the status of the celebration at each meeting.

Personal Representative's Comments – IB Harris read an e-mail note from HB Oelgoetz containing comments for tonight's meeting.

Our next meeting will be August 17, 2022.

IB Harris closed the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger W. Buterbaugh
32º, KCCH
General Secretary