Maine Elks Association

Order of Business

Waterville Elks #905

May 1, 2021

**Call to Order State President** Anthony Gause called the Meeting of the Maine Elks Association to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Invocation** – State Chaplain Wesley De Campos gave the Invocation

**Pledge of Allegiance** – All present.

**Roll Call of Officers**, **Secretary** DwayneGuy: Absentees noted: President-Elect Scott Monroe (arrived late), Chaplain David Kaplan, Past GL Asst to GER Roger Sicard, MEA Trustees Bath David Merrill, Rockland Tom Rizzo, Millinocket John Nicholson, Biddeford-Saco Roger Sicard, Presque Isle Patricia Lovely, Brunswick Rodney Bauer and York Mike Thomas.

**State President** Anthony asked that all past and present State Presidents, District Deputies, Grand Lodge Committee Chairs and Grand Lodge Officers stand and be recognized, 46 were present.

**Reading of the minutes** **of the previous meeting:** Dwayne Guy moved to accept the minutes of march 7, 2021 as printed and emailed, Corey Day seconded, and motion approved.

**Sickness and Distress:** Secretary Dwayne Guy presented the names of deceased members since March’s meeting: **188 Portland**: Ralph J Aceto, Warren R Gilman, LM, David J Nicholson, LM; **244 Bangor:** Antonio F Bushey, Steven P Morrill, LM; **835 Houlton**: Lawrence D Lowery; 9**05 Waterville:** Ralph L Dulac, LM, Reginald J Gagnon, LM, Carroll H Ouellette, LM, Deborah R Williams, **934 Bath**: George K Liakopoulos, LM, James E Oliver Sr, LM; **964 Augusta:** Leon E Allen; **1008 Rockland:** Laura K Bartlett, Ernest H Dugan, LM, Kenneth Morang, LM, Robert W Till, LM; **1470 Sanford:** Reynold R Pare, LM, PER, James A Smith, LM, John W Sullivan; **1521 Millinocket**: Jean Plourde, Robert Rosher, Anna Sears; **1597 Biddeford-Saco**: Raynold J Jalbert, LM; **2043 Brunswick**: Frederick C Benziger Jr, LM, Victor A Coffin, LM, Richard D Lewis, Marilla T Sparks; **2430 Farmington**: David P Hall, LM; **2531 Skowhegan-Madison:** Everett J Lidstone, LM, Robert G Pomerleau, LM, Bruce J Zira, LM; **2713 Sebasticook Valley**: Joyce B Williams, Terrance D Withee; **2738 Wells**: Roger O Messier and **2743 Ellsworth:** Barry H Clark, LM.

Andy Constantine reported Roger Sicard in Hospital expected to go home soon, keep in prayers.

**Reports of Officers:**

**State President** AnthonyGause: Report in book, other remarks given last night.

 **Drug Awareness** Anthony Gause: Report in book.

**President-Elect** **Scott Monroe:** Andy Constantine read message from Scott Monroe. Good morning everyone, Monika and I will be here this afternoon. Committee Appointments have been made, there are several available positions Business Practices, Lodge Activities, Government Practices and Fraternal Committee, still waiting for replies, please look in your own lodge for possible leaders perhaps as District Leader or Chairperson. Another goal is to update the Maine Elks Website, looking for members to assist with ENF News, Photographer to take pictures at events and a Content person, anyone with interest in these positions, please ask me or the Public Relations Committee. Last item is I’m asking all current MEA Committee Chairs to provide a short synopsis of what your committee is responsible for and what you do. Please send your response to me or the PR Committee, these will be posted on our website. We need to show our members and our communities what we do.

**First Vice-President** Al Ingraham: Elks Training, 4 lodges have already sent in responses and your certificates are in the envelopes here. As other lodges do the training, please submit to me and I’ll send certificates.

 **Elks National Foundation** Albert Ingraham: ENF had good year, $117, 000 which is $10.92/member will receive $202,000. Thanks to everybody who supported ENF this year, details are in the convention book.

**Second Vice-President Sandi Anderson:** Report in booklet but updated money for calendars is $22,100 raised.

 **Memorial Service Sandi Anderson:** Exalted Rulers be here tomorrow morning at 9:00 in Tuxedoes, white dinner jacket, black tie, shoes, socks and gold jewels. President Anthony reminded MEA Officers to also be here Sunday morning at 9:00 for rehearsal.

**New Lodge Committee Sandi** **Anderson:** no report

**State Secretary** DwayneGuy**:** No report.

**State Treasurer** FeleciaGaulin**:** No Report, but can use help to rearrange room for lunch, please clear your table.

**Administrative Assistant** ClarisRanger**:** no report

**State Tiler** Robert Kittridge: no report

**State Chaplain** Wesley De Campos**:** no report

**Sergeant at Arms** David Kaplan**:** absent

**State Trustee Chairman** TomChase**:** March’s Budget meeting started late, finished early, good attendance, will vote on budget under new business.

**GL Special Deputy** Andy Constantine: Congratulations to Lodges which received awards last night. Hope it inspires others for next year. Rowling “Duke” Morgan Elk of Year Don Piper, Elizabeth “Liz” Sicard Spouse of the Year Tricia Bolz, Maroon Nemeer Committee Person of the Year Mindy Voisine, Male Veteran Volunteer Bruce Sergeant from Presque Isle #1954, Female Veteran Volunteer Jeanne Oliver Bangor #244. Tonight we honor our youth and their families, so please respect them and behave accordingly.

**State Sponsor Michael Zellen, PGER:** Greetings from GER Ryan to all present. Despite Covid-19 Maine Lodges continued to reach out in support of those in need, veterans, youth and elderly in communities, take pride in what you’ve accomplished and the continued outstanding support and enthusiasm for Maine’s State Major Project, Maine Children’s Cancer Program.

I want to personally thank the Junior PERs and their Lodges for their support this past year of ENF, with 19 of Maine’s 20 Lodges surpassing the GER’s goal.

Due primarily to COVID-19 Maine has suffered a net loss of 457 members, dropping 735 for non-payment of dues. Each Lodge should be contacting those dropped, asking why they dropped and try to convince former members to reinstate. Secretaries and Membership Committees need to urge these dropped members to pay their dues for last year and this year within 60 days, the end of May, to reinstate with no loss of time.

I thank and congratulate new Exalted Rulers for stepping forward and I wish all a successful year.

I’d like to thank State President Anthony, the officers and committees for the good job this year.

I want to take this opportunity to talk about the Paycheck Protection Program Loans. I know some lodges have applied for and some have even received a loan. Under Grand Lodge Statutes 16.050, Lodges are required to request permission from their State Sponsor to do so. If you receive permission to apply you still need to comply with the statute completely, including getting permission from the members and a permit from Grand Lodge after the fact. This is regardless if the loan is forgiven, you still signed a note of 5 years at 1%.

I have sponsored a Resolution to be voted on at the Convention in Tampa, to designate the Exalted Ruler not able to attend the Convention in Baltimore, MD, as Grand Lodge Members and able to.

In the latest issue of the Elks Magazine, on page 5, it discusses this year’s convention in Tampa, FL, it is encouraged for those attending to pre-register or face long lines and perhaps hours of waiting at the Convention. Starting on May 7 you must sign up for all events you want to attend, including Opening Ceremony, Business Meetings, seminars and workshops. If you don’t sign up, you may not be able to gain entrance.

Again, this year I have pins for the endorsed candidate, Keith Mills, and if you’re going to Tampa and want a pin, see me after the meeting.

Now I have a pleasant duty to perform. State President Anthony, please join me at the rostrum. I present this Certificate of Appreciation, signed by Grand rand Exalted Ruler Ryan and Grand Secretary Bryan Klatt for Anthony Gause’s time, wisdom and effort leading Maine Elks Association and promoting “Dare to Be Great”, and creating momentum for the future of Elkdom.

District Deputy Coastal Corey Dewitt: Clinic held on April 25th with 26 present, Al Ingraham spoke ENF, Frank Ricker spoke of Ritual.

**District Deputy Northern** Michael Hannigan**:** DD Clinic on April 18th, thanked lodges for support

**District Deputy Central** Duane “Kip” Clark: DD Clinic also held on April 25th, 33 attended plus speaker, year has been fun with a learning curve. This year’s curve was Covid 19.

**Special Rep** James Ferland**:** no report

**Special Rep** RogerSicard**:**

 ***Credentials Committee Andy* Constantine***:* State President Anthony turned the mic over to SDGER Andy Constantine asked the 3 District Deputies to go out into the audience to assist with the counting of voting members. Credential tabulation totaled voting members = 164.

**Special Rep Robert Drisko,** PGLI, PGLCM: No Report.

**GL Activities Committee Member** Wayne Cotterly**:** Report in Convention book

**Accident Prevention/Insurance Risk Program** Darryl Nadeau: Lodges should be in spring clean-up mode, make sure walkways and driveways clear of debris and hazards, avoid accidents.

**Activities Committee** Debi Briggs: Claris said Debi is asking secretaries send info for Youth Activities

**Americanism Committee** David Hammond: American Essay, looking for Central and Northern Assistants. David is assuming ENF Chairmanship. Lodges, send names of your ENF Chairs to David.

**Antlers Program:** Mike Michaud stated Antlers is very important for every lodge, ages 12 – 21. Revamping Augusta’s Antlers to safely include children. Will help other lodges set up Antler Program.

**Auditing Committee** Scott Gray: Report on the table with the observations from our accountant.

**Business Practices Chairman** DavidAnderson: No report.

 **Fraternal Committee** DavidAnderson:

 **Government Relations** DavidAnderson: page 21 of the Convention Booklet it states LD 685 to legalize online gaming for non-profits has not been passed to the next level, but 4 more bills being considered for the same purpose. David emphasized the necessity of keeping your charitable records current, it is used to maintain our 501(c)(8) tax exempt status. Have not heard of any new legislation news.

 **Lodge Activities** David Anderson: No report.

**Convention** Kathleen Cotterly: Welcomed all to the convention and thanked Waterville for hosting the convention and doing an excellent job. Next years MEA Convention will be fon April, 29, 20 and May 1, 2022 at the Lewiston Ramada.

**Elks Education Seminar Committee** Roger Sicard & Claris Ranger: Report is in Convention Book.

**Endowment Fund** Mindy Voisine – No report.

**Membership Committee** Mindy Voisine. Unfortunately, we lost a lot of members this past year, but did come up with 440 new members. Immediate goal is to work toward reinstating the 730 members we dropped, with secretaries focusing on the 60-day reinstatements, sending out letters. Still looking for District Chairs to help, please contact me if interested.

**Motorcycle Riders** Mindy Voisine: Owie Box Ride is July 10th, leaving from Rockland Elks at 10:00, going to Bath, Brunswick and Gardiner Lodges, with a stop on Bailey’s Island planned. Looking to reinstate the Sponsor Program this year, packets are on the table in back. Looking at a Fall Run for September 25th leaving from Old Town Lodge, maybe going to Acadia National Park.

**Financial Reporting System (FRS):** Jo Spielvogel: No report.

**Hoop Shoot Committee** George Jones: No Report

**Legal Justice** Alan Harding: No report

**Major Project Committee:**

 **MCCP:** Michael Desjardins**:** Report is in the booklet. We are raffling 2 corn hole boards for $5.00 each. Haveitems to sell, please come but one, I don’t want to take these back. Also have MCCP ties for $20.00 each. I need to see representatives from York Lodge and Bath Lodge, I have some glorious prizes for you.

 **Elliott and Friends:** Michael Desjardins

**National Veterans Service Commission David Hassen:** Report is in Convention Booklet.

**Nominating Committee** Lori Howlett: Carlette Eaton reported for Lori: The nominating Committee is recommending President-Elect Al Ingraham, First Vice-President Sandi Anderson, Second Vice-President Alan Harding, Secretary Dwayne Guy and Treasurer Felecia Gaulin. Nominated from the floor for office are Kathleen Cotterly for First Vice-President and Corey Day for Second Vice-President.

**Public Relations Committee** Leon "Mac" McCreary:Several members meet a couple of weeks ago, deepen group with additional expertise, people who are tech savvy, people who are proficient with social media, maineelks.pr@gmail.com. Incoming DDs and Committee Chairs need you for pictures and new officers after Installation tomorrow.

**Ritual Committee** Frank Ricker: Report is in convention book

**Scholarship Chair** Lina Michaud report in convention book, 99 applications for MVS, all lodges represented, challenged lodges for goal of 200 applications next year.

**Soccer Shoot Committee:** No Report.

**Have I missed anyone?**

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** Tom Chase moved to approve budget as printed and recommended by MEA Trustees, Robert Kittridge seconded, passed.

Sue Piper moved to approve proposed revisions to the MEA Constitution and By-Laws, Jim Ferland second motion, passed by vote 163 in favor and 1 opposed.

SDGER Andy Constantine moved to have Claris Ranger cast 1 ballot for uncontested offices, seconded by Tom Chase and approved.

Claris Ranger cast 1 ballot for those candidates for uncontested offices: Congratulations to their election to the following offices: President-Elect Al Ingraham, Secretary Dwayne Guy and Treasurer Felecia Gaulin.

**Good of the Association:**

Receipts:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date Received | Amount | Received From | GL Account | GL Name |
| 5/1/2021 | 20.00 | PSP Account | 10201 | PSP Account - Fine No PSP Badge |
| 5/1/2021 | 277.00 | Portland #188 | 24450 | MCCP - Via Dues Payment |
| 5/1/2021 | 458.00 | Sue & Don Piper | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 3,000.00 | Ellsworth #2743 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 1,448.00 | Sebasticook Valley #2713 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 1,564.50 | Rockland #1008 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 3,967.00 | Skowhegan-Madison #2531 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 10,000.00 | Bangor #244 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 85,085.22 | Sanford #1470 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 5,774.00 | Donald Piper | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 2,768.00 | Susan Piper | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 20.00 | Bangor #244 | 24450 | MCCP - Phone |
| 5/1/2021 | 50.00 | Claris Ranger | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 86.00 | Presque Isle #1954 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 100.00 | John Navish | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 100.00 | Sandi Anderson | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 170.00 | Mike Desjardins | 24450 | MCCP - Honor President Gause |
| 5/1/2021 | 235.00 | 50/50 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 235.00 | 50/50 | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 330.00 | Mike Desjardins | 24450 | MCCP - Cups and Ties |
| 5/1/2021 | 130.00 | Mike Desjardins | 24450 | MCCP |
| 5/1/2021 | 415.00 | Gardiner #1293 | 24451 | MCCP - Elliott |
| 5/1/2021 | 230.00 | Ellsworth #2743 | 24461 | MCCP- Christmas Bells |
| 5/1/2021 | 60.00 | Gardiner #1293 | 30101 | MEA PER Dues |
| 5/1/2021 | 20.00 | Sandi Anderson | 31550 | MEA Calendar 2021 |
| 5/1/2021 | 120.00 | David Merrill | 31550 | MEA Calendar 2021 |
| 5/1/2021 | 20.00 | David Merrill | 31550 | MEA Calendar 2021 |
| 5/1/2021 | 40.00 | David Merrill | 31550 | MEA Calendar 2021 |
| 5/1/2021 | 20.00 | Biddeford-Saco #1597 | 31550 | MEA Calendar 2021 |
| 5/1/2021 | 120.00 | Andy Bolz | 31550 | MEA Calendar 2021 |
| 5/1/2021 | 20.00 | Andy Bolz | 31550 | MEA Calendar 2021 |
|   | 116,882.72 |   |   |   |

Wayne Cotterly introduced the new Roaming Elks, PBHOMES goes to Old Town Elks in Northern, Coastal’s Rocky goes to Biddeford-Saco and Central District’s now resides in Waterville.

President Anthony Gause announced the results of the election of MEA Officers: First Vice-President is Sandi Anderson of Waterville Elks and the Second Vice-President is Corey Day of Old Town Elks. Congratulations to all.

Tiler Robert Kittridge reported the 50/50 raised $960 with $480 going to the winner, ticket drawn is 390361.

The next Maine Elks Association meeting will be at Portland Elks Lodge, #188 on Sunday, August 8th at 10:00, Trustees at 9:00.

There being no further business to come before the Association I will now close this meeting of the Maine Elks Association.

Please stand as State Chaplain Wesley De Campos gives the benediction followed by one chorus of God Bless America.

I now declare this meeting closed!

Meeting adjourned at 12:45