

**ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA**  
**Grand Lodge of Massachusetts**  
**85 River Street Suite 2**  
**Waltham, MA 02453**

**Minutes of the State Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 16, 2024**

The monthly meeting of the State Council was called to order by State President Rodolfo Viscomi at 7:02 pm.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

Absent: State Second Vice President Kathi Young  
State Recording Secretary Rita Anderson  
State Trustee Ian Hatfield

State First Vice President Marisa Ranalli read the Principles of the Order and the opening prayer.  
State President Rodolfo Viscomi asked for a moment of silence for our departed members.  
State President Rodolfo Viscomi led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 MEETING**

Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes as submitted. Voted and so ordered.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

An email was received from Milford Lodge # 1356 President Andrew Diorio advising the Lodge has polled its membership and only two members voted against disbanding the Lodge. Andrew advised that the officers have agreed to meet with the State President to discuss the next steps for the Lodge and requested available dates and times. A motion made and seconded to refer to Old Business. Voted and so ordered.

A letter was received from Joanne Ciannavei tendering her resignation as State Deputy to the Quattro Eroi Lodge # 1414 of Franklin. A motion was made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

An email was received from David and Allison Crisci tendering their resignations as Organization and Education Commission Chair and State Deputy Commission Chair, respectively. A motion was made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

A memo was received from Charitable & Educational Trust Chair Marc DeLuca requesting the appointment of Brian Patacchiola of Quincy Men's Lodge # 1295 to the Trust. A motion was made and seconded to refer to New Business. Voted and so ordered.

An email was received from Angelo & Carol Rossi, National Co-Chairs to the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum Overseers, updating the Council on the brick program, advising that the reservation deadline for the annual fundraiser is October 19, checking the status of the ad that was taken from the restricted funds, and the status of the request for an additional \$1,500 donation. A motion was made and seconded to refer to New Business. Voted and so ordered.

Newsletters were received from the following lodges: Wakefield # 1734 and the Grand Lodge of California. A motion was made and seconded to pass and file. Voted and so ordered.

## **TRANSFERS**

None

## **FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Paul Guida presented the report for the month ending September 30, 2024 and informed the Council of the lodges that have since paid. Motion made and seconded to accept the report. Voted and so ordered.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

State Treasurer Armand Buonanno presented the Activities Fund, Balance Sheet, and P&L Budget Performance Reports for the month ending September 30, 2024. Motion made and seconded to accept the reports. Voted and so ordered.

## **ORATOR'S REPORT**

State Orator Brenda Buonanno reported that she received a complaint from a Lodge requesting clarification of the requisites and qualifications required for admission as a Regular member vs. a Social member. She advised that the complaint will be handled by the local lodge arbitration committee and that she responded with the relevant by-laws. Motion made and seconded to accept the report as progressive. Voted and so ordered.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Sunshine**

Chair Marisa Ranalli advised the Council of the messages sent on behalf of the State President and the Council.

### **Merchandise**

Chair Marisa Ranalli advised there was nothing new to report.

### **Five-Year Budget**

State President Rudy Viscomi advised he would like to schedule a meeting to include himself, Armand Buonanno, Matthew Ezekiel, and Paul Guida. A meeting was scheduled for Saturday, October 26 at 10:00 am.

### **Calendar Raffle**

State President Rudy Viscomi reported that the Calendar Raffle will be scheduled for May 2025. He asked Paul Guida to move forward with getting tickets printed.

## **COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **Charitable and Educational Trust**

State President Rudy Viscomi reported that the Trust held a meeting on September 30. The Trust voted to cover the \$4,000 expenditure that National is billing us to make up their budget deficit with the understanding that the profit from the board and squares that are being sold will be reimbursed to the Trust. Paul Guida advised that the Trust addressed the outstanding request from Angelo and Carol Rossi that the Trust donate an additional \$1,500 to the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum. The Trust voted against the request. He also reported that the \$150 that was taken from the restricted funds for an ad has been added back to the restricted fund balance.

## **Membership**

State President Rudy Viscomi advised he had reached out to Chair Renee Ouellette for a status update on the Italian Festa in September 2025. He is waiting to hear back from her but will request that she set up a meeting with the committee.

## **Junior Division**

Brenda Buonanno reported that the St. Padre Pio Lodge # 3013 of Springfield is working on establishing a new Junior Lodge in Springfield. She reported that the Bocce Tournament held by the Samuel J. Musumeci Junior Lodge # 2693 was successful and that the Lodge has planned their calendar of events and fundraisers for the coming year.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

State Orator Brenda Buonanno reported that she reviewed the letters of intent for the vacant State Financial Secretary position that were received from Matthew Ezekiel, Dario Gagliano, and Brian Patacchiola that were forwarded to her at last month's meeting. After review, she advised that the only qualified candidate per M.L. Article 18 was Matthew Ezekiel. There being no other qualified candidate, Matthew Ezekiel was declared elected as State Financial Secretary.

The Council address the email received from Milford Lodge # 1356 President Andrew Diorio. State President Rudy Viscomi advised he will contact Andrew to set-up a meeting with the officers.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A question was asked if we would be collecting for the National Hurricane Relief Effort to support those affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Paul Guida advised that National had already sent an appeal to all members. A suggestion was made that we send the appeal to all members via iMembersdb.

The Council addressed the memo received from Charitable & Educational Trust Chair Marc DeLuca requesting the appointment of Brian Patacchiola of Quincy Men's Lodge # 1295 to the Trust. A motion was made and seconded to approve the appointment. Voted and so ordered.

The Council addressed the email received from Angelo & Carol Rossi, National Co-Chairs to the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum Overseers, checking the status of the ad that was taken from the restricted funds, and the status of the request for an additional \$1,500 donation. A motion was made and seconded to have Paul Guida respond to Angelo & Carol advising them of the actions taken by the Trust. Voted and so ordered.

State President Viscomi advised the Council members that since this meeting was held via Zoom the November meeting would be in person. He advised that a Zoom option for in-person meetings would no longer be available in the future.

## **WELFARE OF THE ORDER**

Marisa Ranalli congratulated President Viscomi on a well-run meeting.

Having completed all business in accordance with the By-Laws, State President Rodolfo Viscomi declared the meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul M. Guida  
Chief Operating Officer