

June 14, 2021

To: Worshipful Masters and Officers of All Particular Lodges
Grand Lodge Officers
Past Grand Masters
District Deputy Grand Masters

Re: Summary of Legislation - 192nd Annual Grand Communication

Dear Brethren:

In compliance with Regulation 13.04 of the Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida, listed below are the Resolutions enacted at the 192nd Annual Grand Communication held in Orlando, Florida, on May 31, June 1, and 2, 2021. This summary should be reviewed by the Elected Lodge Officers and reported to the Brothers, in open Lodge at the next Stated Communication after its receipt.

At the 192nd Annual Grand Communication of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida the following Grand Lodge Officers were Elected and Installed:

M.: W.: Jeffrey S. Foster, Grand Master
R.: W.: Robert J. Lambert, Deputy Grand Master
R.: W.: Glen B. Bishop, Senior Grand Warden
R.: W.: Donald W. Cowart, Junior Grand Warden
R.: W.: Rudin J. Boatright, Grand Treasurer
M.: W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M., Grand Secretary

This report contains fifteen (15) Resolutions adopted which will amend various Constitutional Provisions and/or Regulations.

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS/REGULATION CHANGES ADOPTED BY 2/3 ELECTRONIC VOTE:

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET TO THE LODGES FROM 60 DAYS TO 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION

That Articles XIV, Section 3, Article XIV, Section 9 of the Constitution and Regulation 14.12 (2)(d) be amended to change the requirement of sending the Proposed Budget to the Lodges at least sixty days prior to the Grand Lodge Annual Communication each year be changed to thirty (30) days prior to the Grand Lodge Annual Communication.

REGULATION CHANGES ADOPTED:

Resolution to Restructure the Operation of the Masonic Home by The Grand Lodge of Florida:

That the Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida be revised to accomplish the restructuring of the operation of the Masonic Home of Florida, Inc., the Apartments. That the law firm of Fisher & Sauls, PA., be engaged to perform the following activities for the respective entities:

As to the Apartments: Prepare and form a limited liability company (“LLC”) for the Apartments with Grand Lodge as its sole member and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees or his delegate as manager; prepare and execute leases between Grand Lodge, as lessor, and the LLC, as lessee, for the Apartments; prepare a revised property management agreement between the LLC and Northstar Realty; prepare revised tenant leases between the LLC or Northstar Realty as its agent and all tenants of the Apartments; and prepare a mortgage and promissory note between the LLC and the Masonic Home Endowment Fund, Inc., for the outstanding obligation previously advanced by the Endowment Fund for the modification and construction of the Apartments. *As to the Masonic Home:* Prepare and execute a lease between The Grand Lodge of Florida, as lessor, and the Masonic Home of Florida, Inc., as lessee; and prepare and file with the Internal Revenue Service an application for the Masonic Home of Florida, Inc., to obtain separate charitable tax exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).

RESOLUTION TO REMODEL ASSISTED LIVING AND SKILLED NURSING PROPOSAL FOR REMODELING OF A CURRENT ASSISTED LIVING AND SKILLED NURSING

The Grand Lodge of Florida grant permission to the Board of Trustees to proceed with phase II of the Master Repositioning Plan – right-size and renovate the existing building constructed in 1988, create larger apartments in Assisted Living with studio and 1 bedroom options, redesign Skilled Nursing rooms as private rooms with showers in each room locating all skilled care services on one floor, create separate assisted living and nursing dining areas, house services, 3rd floor exterior terrace, and renovate select public spaces to have a more updated appearance - with a total estimated project cost of approximately \$21.8 million.

RESOLUTION FOR ADDING INSTALLATION PROCEDURES TO THE MERGED BOOK

That the “Procedure for Open Installation” as prepared by the Committee on Work by merging the written wording and directions from the “Florida Masonic Monitor” with the floorwork as included in the “Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures” be included in future printings of the “Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures” in place of the “Installation of Lodge Officers” that is currently on pages 121 through 126. And that the “Procedure for Closed Installation” as prepared by the Committee on Work be adopted as Official Work and included in future printings of the “Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures” immediately following the “Procedure for Open Installation.”

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW ALLIED AND APPENDANT BODIES TO ASSIST WITH OPEN INSTALLATIONS

That the Committee on Work will add wording to the Ritual for Open Installations stating when and where our Allied and Appendant Bodies will be able to participate in our Open Installations. This participation will only be allowed prior to the Installing Officer starting the section where he is explaining our Fraternity to the non-Masons and will be restricted to the area west of the Altar. And that any of these participants that are in a uniform that includes some form of a hat will be allowed to wear these hats and cover when they stand to participate in the ceremony and will uncover when they are finished and take their seats.

RESOLUTION TO RECONSTRUCT THE DIGEST OF THE MASONIC LAW OF FLORIDA

That the Grand Secretary be authorized to remove the Constitutional Provisions that are referenced and repeated throughout the Regulations of the Digest and replace them with a reference to the Constitution Article, Section, and page number; and no part of the Constitution or Regulations shall be amended without approval of the Craft. And that once these updates are made Digest Inserts will only be reproduced for the “new” form of the Digest and that the Grand Secretary provide each Particular Lodge in Florida with a new updated version of the Digest at no cost to the Lodges.

RESOLUTION ON VOTING REQUIREMENTS ON THE SALE OF LODGE PROPERTY

Change Regulation 24.05, By-Law Section 14.01, 28.02, Sale or Conveyance. The Master and Wardens of Lodges shall not sell, convey, dispose of, or mortgage property of their respective Lodges, except by special action of the Lodge, by written or ball ballot with three-fourths favorable vote, at a Stated Communication, after due notice to the Lodge membership of such contemplated action. All necessary documents, instruments, and papers relating to any such transaction required to be signed on behalf of the Lodge shall be executed in the name of such Lodge by the Worshipful Master under the Seal of such Lodge and attested by the Secretary of the Lodge. And further, change the language in Regulations 25.05 and 28.02 to reflect the requirement of a ball or written ballot with three-fourths favorable vote.

RESOLUTION ON THE SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION DISTRIBUTED AFTER THE ADJOURNMENT OF GRAND LODGE

Regulation 13.04 be amended as follows: Immediately after the adjournment of Grand Lodge, the Committee on Masonic Digest shall prepare a report together with a summary thereof, embracing all changes in our laws enacted at the Grand Communication, and shall furnish said report and summary, along with the final Budget adopted by the Craft to the Grand Secretary who shall ~~reproduce sufficient copies for distribution~~ distribute it to each Particular Lodge, all Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, District Deputy Grand Masters, and appropriate Committees. This summary shall be reviewed by the Elected Lodge Officers and report of the changes made in open Lodge at the next Stated Communication after its receipt. This Committee shall supervise and advise in the preparation of newly enacted legislation to be printed on loose leaf updated pages, of required size, for insertion in the Digest of the Masonic Law, immediately after each Grand Communication.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND REGULATION 22.05

Proposed Legislation was submitted to Craft at the 189th Annual Grand Communication and Regulation 22.05 was inadvertently not amended. The Grand Secretary and the Secretaries of the Particular Lodges, ~~upon request therefore, may~~

shall provide to appropriate officers of appendant, allied, or affiliated orders and organizations lists of names of persons that for any reason have been removed from the Lodge roll of members and the reason for such removal and such other lists of members as may be approved by the Grand Master.

RESOLUTION REGARDING SPANISH SPEAKING DISTRICT INSTRUCTOR

Regulation 10.10 be amended to read The Grand Master is authorized to appoint one District Instructor for each Masonic District, with one additional Spanish Speaking District Instructor in District 27, which District appointments shall not exceed ~~twenty-eight (28)~~ twenty-nine (29) in number, for a term of one year, to work in their respective Districts under Supervision of the Grand Lodge Committee on Work, subject to the approval of the Grand Master.

RESOLUTION AMENDING REGULATION 13, SECTION 7

Constitutional Provision, Section 7, in Chapter 13 be amended to read: Number of Committees – Except as specified above or elsewhere in this Constitution, each committee shall be composed of not fewer than three nor more than eleven members, except the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence which shall have such number of members as may be determined by the Grand Master, subject to provisions of Sub-Section (1) of Section 2 thereof. The Committee on Masonic Education shall be composed of not fewer than three nor more than twelve members. The Committee on Work shall be composed of not fewer than ten nor more than ~~fifteen~~ eighteen members, of which one shall be the State Chairman, another may be the Vice Chairman and at least of which one must be Spanish speaking.

RESOLUTION AS TO ELIGIBILITY OF WORSHIPFUL MASTERS AND SENIOR WARDENS OF PARTICULAR LODGES

19.03.3 Every Brother who is nominated and elected to the office of Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, or Junior Warden of any Particular Lodge shall have completed and received the Masonic Leadership Training and his completion be recorded on his profile at Grand Lodge before his installation to that office. This shall be done by the Senior Warden by January 2022 and the Worshipful Master by January 2023 in order to provide time to accomplish compliance with this Regulation.

RESOLUTION ON REQUIREMENTS OF AMENDING LODGE BY-LAWS

This Resolution was adopted to amend Regulation 24.05, By-Law Section 16.01 (2) to reflect the same amended Regulation 24.04 voted on at the 188th Annual Grand Communication amended to read: Any proposed amendment to these By-Laws shall be submitted to the Grand Lodge or its authority, as follows: An original and three copies of such By-Laws or revision signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary under the Seal of the Lodge, with date of approval and date of adoption shown thereon, shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary.

RESOLUTION ON THE INSTALLATION OF APPOINTED LODGE OFFICERS

19.06 It is not ~~necessary~~ required for an Officer re-elected or re-appointed to be re-installed, unless a term has intervened.

RESOLUTION ON ADMISSION REQUIREMENT TO THE MASONIC HOME

That the following amendments be changed to the Masonic Home Rules and Regulations, Chapter 6, Regulations 6.03 (c)(1): 6.03 (c) The ten year or 70-year age requirement may be waived under the following circumstances: (2014)

(1) Applicant ~~was Raised in a Florida Lodge and~~ has been a member in good standing continuously to date of application and meets all other requirements, and by unanimous vote of all Board members present, and by approval of the Grand Master.

This Summary has been reviewed by M:W: Stanley L. Hudson, P.G.M., Chairman, and R:W: Russell B. Glendinning, P.D.D.G.M., Vice Chairman, of the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee.