

INTERNATIONAL HIGH TWELVE
MID YEAR CONFERENCE
13-15 NOVEMBER 2008

CALL TO ORDER

The International President, George Tucker, called the Mid-Year Conference to order at 1:00 on 14 Nov 2008. The invocation was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Jerry Saville, Temporary International Secretary, called the roll of International Officers and State Officers and a Quorum was declared. Attendees: President George Tucker, Jr., 1VP Monty R McMinn, 2VP Robert R Smith, 3VP Mervyn Harris, Treasurer Ralph A Clemmer, Secretary Jerry Saville, General Counsel Robert David, Parliamentarian Don Griffiths, Immediate P/P Tom Bevington, Arizona Ralph Hooten, New Jersey David Jacobs, Missouri Don Doss, Texas James McCrae, Florida Raymond Turner, Michigan Donald Galaway, Ohio James Parker, Iowa/SD Mike Lavelle, Pennsylvania Don Whister and Illinois Nick Weisinger. Note: Jerry Saville represented California, George Tucker represented Colorado and Charles Lang from Kansas was in attendance Saturday only.

INTRODUCTIONS

The International President, George Tucker, led the round of introductions and thanked everyone for attending.

MINUTES:

There being no errors or omissions noted, the minutes of the 87th Annual Convention Pre-Convention Executive/Governing Board Meeting of 20 June 2008 were approved as presented.

There being no errors or omissions noted, the minutes of the General Session, 21-22 June 2008, were approved as presented.

The minutes of the Post Convention Executive/Governing Board Meeting, 22 Jun 2008 were approved as amended. The amendments being:

That the budget be accepted as presented to indicate that the Administrative Assistants salary be capped at a maximum of \$30,000. per year (m/s/p); and

It was moved, seconded and approved that the International Office may be moved. An amendment was made to change the word moved to relocate (m/s/p).

A motion was presented to ratify the appointed International Secretary, Jerry Saville, before we continue with the meeting. M/S/P.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA FOR MID-YEAR

The Mid-Year Agenda was reviewed and adopted. (Atch 1)

REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL/STATE OFFICERS:

The International Executive Board Officers gave their verbal reports. George Tucker gave the California and Colorado State report. The other State Officers/representatives present gave their report. Most of the comments and concerns expressed by the International and State Officers/Representatives track to the agenda and will be discussed during the meeting.

President Tucker announced that the 2009 Convention would be held in Laughlin, NV 25-28 Jun 2009. 2VP Smith announced that the 2010 Convention would be held 20-22 June in Michigan.

Ralph A Clemmer, Treasurer, presented a very detailed finance report. H12 funds, or lack of, are at an all time low. We need at least \$10k to get through Dec. The Pocket Pals have been mailed and, hopefully, the members will send money soon. For now we cannot write any checks and may have to borrow from the Wally Fund to pay our Administrative Assistant. Ralph had a question on the possibility of lowering the cost of insurance. We do not have enough members to drive down the cost and we are obligated to carry \$1M liability insurance. Other cost cutting ideas will be discussed during this meeting. President Tucker asked the State Presidents to consider paying their per capita dues early.

David Jacobs (NJ) announced that we, H12, could no longer afford the display expense at the George Washington Foundation and recommends the regalia be moved. No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

The President announced that we need a volunteer to chair the Jewelry/Regalia project. Sid Leluan (AZ) stated that he has a license, and his own business, to manufacture and sale Jewelry and would volunteer provided there was not a conflict of interest. A motion was made, seconded and passed to explore the possibility of manufacturing and outsourcing our sales of jewelry and regalia. Nick Weisinger resigned as the Jewelry and Regalia Chair and Sid was appointed to investigate the market place for possible competition and bids.

Jerry Saville, International Secretary, announced that the Executive Board Senior Officers made a decision to downsize the International High Twelve Office. The responsibilities of the current administrative staff will be divided among the International Secretary and other Masons and the International High Twelve Office will be moved to Tehachapi, CA. Jerry explained that Tehachapi Lodge 313 has agreed to rent office space for \$200 to include utilities. We will have a dedicated cell phone, and fax, number as soon as possible. This is a break away from the “tradition” office structure with full-time paid employees in the office 8-5 everyday – not unusual in the business world today. We will make the transition as painless as possible. To answer the question on the estimate of moving the office, the Treasurer stated that \$4500 is in the budget for the relocation and operation of the office.

A motion was made, seconded, and after discussion, adopted to downsize and relocate the office to CA.

The International Secretary and Treasurer will work out the logistics and financial details of this initiative. The General Counsel stated that the “Office” would have to be registered in CA.

The President asked the members if they wanted a Child I.D. Program demonstration with the purpose of adopting this project. The consensus of the attendees indicated no action.

The President asked for full financial disclosure of all clubs assets and requested the State Presidents submit a financial report to be discussed at the next Convention.

A question was asked regarding the filing of 990N with the IRS. The Treasurer will investigate and advise.

William Potashnick, Trustee International Endowment Fund, reported a balance of \$64,641 as of 14 Nov 08. He asked for permission to invest in some Bond Funds but stated a change in investment strategy, and moving funds, would require approval of the Governing Board. After a lot of discussion, a motion was made, seconded and adopted to retain current funds where they are and when additional funds become available we will check the market conditions for appropriate investments.

Terry Baker was removed from the Investment Committee and replaced by Don Whistler.

RESOLUTIONS:

2009-1: A Resolution, submitted by the International President and received by the International Secretary on 13 Oct 08, to incrementally, over the next succeeding three years, increase the Per-Capita assessment by one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) each year. Such incremental increases shall then establish the Per-Capital assessments to be eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50) for calendar year 2010; thirteen dollars (\$13.00) for the year 2011 and fourteen dollars and fifty cents (\$14.50) for calendar year 2012 and thereafter. A motion was made, seconded, and adopted that the Governing Board presents the resolution to the Convention with a no-pass recommendation. (Atch 2)

2009-2: A Resolution was submitted by the Arizona State Association to amend the by-laws that the International Secretary be elected instead of appointed. The Governing Board referred this proposed by-law resolution to the by-law committee for their review and comments. (Atch 3)

L. Nicholas Weisinger, ILL Quincy Masonic High Twelve Club #40 announced his plans to run for Third Vice-President of High Twelve International. His letter is on file with the Secretary.

Sid Leluan, AZ PSP, announced his candidacy for Third Vice-President of High Twelve International.

The President presented several 5-star awards to the Texas Team member for their time and effort in arranging for the Mid-Year conference. Well done!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30, 15 Nov 2008, following the announcement that luncheon reservations have been made for a "TEXAS BBQ".

B.O. Bryngelson gave the Benediction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Saville
International Secretary

3 Attachments

1. Conference Agenda
2. Resolution 2009-1
3. Resolution 2009-2