

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and
Accepted Masons of the State of Maine

Office of
Grand Secretary

TRANSMITTAL MEMO

SUBJECT

The enclosed pages have been printed in accordance with the amendments and regulations, which were adopted by Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication, held in May,

By inserting these new sheets in proper place, destroying the old sheets, you will always have an up-to-date Grand Lodge Constitution.

Hollis G. Dixon
Grand Secretary

NOTE: If some of these revised pages are not needed or used, please return them to the Grand Secretary.

CONSTITUTION
AND

**STANDING
REGULATIONS**
OF THE

GRAND LODGE
OF

**ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASONS**

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE GRAND LODGE

State of Maine

*In the year of our Lord one thousand
Eight hundred and twenty.*

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE MASTER, WARDENS AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MAINE.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature Assembled, That WILLIAM KING, SIMON GREENLEAF, WILLIAM SWAN, NATHANIEL COFFIN, their associates and successors, are incorporated into a body politic, by the name of the Master, Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of Maine; with power to sue and be sued; to have a common seal, and to change the same; to make any by-laws for the management of their affairs, not repugnant to the laws of this state, nor to ancient Masonic uses; to take and hold for charitable and benevolent uses, any real estate and any personal estate and to give and grant, or bargain and sell the same; and with all the privileges usually granted to other societies instituted for purposes of charity and -beneficence.*

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted, That the first meeting of said corporation shall be held at such time and place, and be notified in such manner, as the majority of the persons herein named may direct.*

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted that the powers granted by this act may be enlarged, restrained, or repealed, at the pleasure of the Legislature.*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, June
15, 1820.

This bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted. BENJAMIN AMES, *Speaker*.

IN SENATE, June 16, 1820.

This bill having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

JOHN CHANDLER, *President*.

June 16, 1820.-Approved. WILLIAM KING.

Copy from original:

Attest: AsHUR WARE, *Secretary of State*.

Chapter 4, Private and Special Laws of 1820, as amended by Chapter 7 Private and Special Laws of 1961.

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Decisions, with such other propositions of Masonic law as seem to be useful in the work of the lodge, are set forth in the Digest following the Constitution and Standing Regulations.

The Constitution is referred to by sections, the Regulations by numbers, and the Decisions by page of the year's Proceedings in which they are found.

When no reference is made, the proposition is one of general Masonic law.

The Digest of Decisions should be examined in conjunction with the Constitution and Standing Regulations in determining all the Maine Masonic law on a given subject.

In 1991, M.W. Robert V. Damon appointed the following committee to review and revise the Constitution and Digest of Decisions. A major consideration was to make the information and organization of the book more readable and easier to locate. The Digest of Decisions was the major consideration to be worked on. In as much as Decisions are made by Grand Masters and cannot be changed, there was wording that was rearranged for clarification and easier reading.

Dedication

**This book is dedicated to III. Franklin G.
Hinckley
For his dedicated service as
Chairman of the
Constitution and By-laws Revision
Committee.**

**Even at the time when Brother Hinckley was
ill,
He worked and persevered
To have the project completed.**

**It is with regret that he passed away
Before he could see
The fruits of his labor come to fruition.**

Committee Members:

**Franklin G. Hinckley, Chairman
M. Donald Gardner
Wayne T. Adams
John E. Anagnostis
Waino Ray
Hollis G. Dixon**

PART FIRST

THE GRAND LODGE

**GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT
FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASONS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE**

PREAMBLE

We, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Maine, in order to form perfect fraternal union, establish order, insure tranquility, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the Fraternity the blessings of Masonic privileges, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

Declaration

Freemasonry is a charitable, benevolent, educational, and religious secret society, adhering to its own peculiar ancient landmarks. Its methods of recognition and of symbolic instruction are secret and thereby a test of membership is provided, though a Brother is traveling in foreign countries and among those who would otherwise be strangers.

It is religious in that it teaches monotheism, the Volume of the Sacred Law is open upon altars whenever a Lodge is in session, worship of God is ever a part of its ceremonial, and to its neophytes and Brethren alike are constantly addressed lessons of morality; yet it is not theological.

It is educational in that it teaches a perfect system of morality; based upon the Sacred Law, by a prescribed ceremonial; and it also provides libraries and opportunities for study therein.

It is benevolent in that it teaches relief of the poor and distressed as a duty, and exemplifies the duty by relief of sick and distressed Brethren by caring for the widows and orphans of the Brethren, by maintaining homes for the aged and distressed Brethren and their dependents, and by providing for the education of orphans.

It is charitable in that none of its income inures to the benefit of any individual, but all is devoted to the improvement and promotion of the happiness of mankind.

It is a social organization only so far as it furnishes additional inducement that men may foregather in numbers, thereby providing more material for its primary work of training, of worship, and of charity.

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In ancient times, the Brethren met in General Assembly for the ordering of the affairs of the Craft. With growth in numbers, however, it became necessary, in 1717, to adopt a representative form of government, since which time the Brethren have met in Lodges and each Lodge has sent its delegates to a legislative body known as the Grand Lodge.

Style and Title

SEC. 1. The style and title of this Grand Lodge shall be, "THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF MAINE."

Officers and Members - Rank and Title

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodge shall consist of the following officers and members, and their rank and title shall be as follows:

A Most Worshipful Grand Master;
A Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master;
A Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden;
A Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden;
Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters;
Right Worshipful Past Deputy Grand Masters;
Right Worshipful Past Grand Wardens;
Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary;
Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Masters
Very Worshipful District Representatives
Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer
Very Worshipful Assistant Grand Lecturers;
Worshipful and Reverend Grand Chaplains;
Worshipful Grand Marshal;
Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon;
Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon;
Worshipful Grand Stewards;
Worshipful Grand Historian

Worshipful Grand Sword Bearer,
Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer
Worshipful Grand Pursuivants;
Worshipful Grand Organist
Brother Grand Tyler.

All of whom, together with the Worshipful Masters and Wardens, for the time being, of the several chartered lodges under this jurisdiction, or their legally appointed proxies, said proxies to be a member of said lodge whose officers they are representing, shall be entitled to vote as members of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Organist and the Grand Tyler excepted.

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It shall be the duty of each chartered lodge under this jurisdiction to be represented in each Grand Lodge Annual Communication by at least the Worshipful Master or one of the Wardens or a legally appointed proxy who is a member of said lodge.

Each member of the Grand Lodge shall have one vote, and one only, in his own right; *provided, however*, that if but two of the officers of a lodge who are members of the Grand Lodge, are present, the superior officer shall have two votes, and the other one vote; and if only one of such officers, or in the absence of all the proxy of the lodge is present, he shall have three votes.

[See Sec. 44-Rule 7]

That all Past Grand Treasurers will be accorded Permanent Member status. That all Past Grand Secretaries will be accorded Permanent Member status, and that District Representatives, while in office, be accorded Grand Lodge Member status. [1994, p.1041]

Time and Place of Meetings

SEC. 3. The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held at Portland, Maine on the first Tuesday in May, at eight o'clock A.M. Eastern Standard Time (nine o'clock Daylight); provided however, that Grand Lodge may vote at any Annual Communication to hold the next Annual Communication on some other date or at some other place.

Special Communications may be called as the Grand Lodge or Grand Master may direct.

Powers of the Grand Lodge

SEC. 4. The Grand Lodge, by the ancient Constitutions and uses of the fraternity, is invested with certain original, essential and unalterable powers and privileges belonging to the ancient craft, and has powers especially:

First - To enact and enforce all laws and regulations for the government of the fraternity, and to alter, amend and repeal the same at pleasure.

Second - To constitute new lodges by granting dispensations and charters under seal; and, for good cause, to suspend, revoke or annul the same at pleasure.

Third - To establish and preserve a uniform mode of working and lectures in accordance with the ancient landmarks and customs of Masonry.

Fourth - To assess and collect from the several lodges under its jurisdiction such sums of money as may be deemed necessary for the benefit of the craft.

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Fifth -To hear and determine all questions of dispute between two or more lodges.

Sixth -To hear and decide all cases of appeal from the decisions of subordinate lodges.

Seventh -To demand and receive such fees and charges for granting dispensations, charters, certificates and diplomas as may be reasonable.

Eighth -To hear and decide all charges and complaints against any officer of the Grand Lodge or Master of a lodge, and to inflict such punishment on the delinquent and guilty as may appear just and proper.

Ninth -To exercise all such powers and perform all such acts, as by custom are exercised and performed by Grand Lodges within the ancient constitutions and landmarks of Freemasonry. [See Sec. 44]

Qualifications of Grand Officers

SEC. 5. No brother shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden, or District Deputy Grand Master unless he shall have been regularly elected and duly installed Master of a duly constituted lodge, and shall have faithfully discharged his duties in such office for one term. And no one of the officers above named during his continuance in office shall be Master or Warden of a lodge. And any such Past Master, notwithstanding he may be, at the time being, the Master or Warden of a lodge, shall be eligible to any office in the Grand Lodge; but upon installation into either of the offices above named, vacates his said office in the lodge.

SEC. 6. No brother shall be eligible to an office in the Grand Lodge, except he be a Permanent Member thereof, or a member of a subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction; and a brother having been duly elected to either of the stations of Grand Warden, and having served in said station for one year, shall not be re-elected to the office of the year following.

Elections

SEC. 7. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, shall be elected by ballot at the annual communication in May. The first ballot for all officers will be collected by the tellers immediately after the craft is called from labor to refreshment at lunch. Such ballots shall be printed by the Grand Lodge for all candidates who have made known their candidacy for office in writing to the Grand Secretary before March 15th prior to the opening of the Grand Lodge session. Any "write in candidate," so called, may be submitted to the Grand Secretary at the Grand Lodge Office in Portland, Maine, in at least seven working days prior to the Grand Lodge session. Balloting will close one-half (1/2) hour after the craft is called from Labor to Refreshment at lunch. If a majority is not obtained for any office, a further ballot may be collected as soon as convenient; however, such further balloting shall take priority over all other matters at two o'clock p.m. Eastern Standard Time (three o'clock Daylight).

A majority of the votes collected shall be necessary for a choice. All Grand Lodge Officers not herein designated for election shall be appointed by the Grand Master, with not more than six Assistant Grand Lecturers to assist the Grand Lecturer in imparting instruction to the officers and brethren of lodges.

CROSS REFERENCE

SECTION 44:

Rule 2. When the hour arrives for the election of the officers of the Grand Lodge, the Committee on Credentials shall announce the number of votes in Grand Lodge and it shall go into an executive session for that purpose, and none but members of the Grand Lodge shall be present without the consent of the Grand Master in each case.

Rule 4. Before proceeding to vote for Grand Officers, the brethren shall be seated and supplied with printed or written ballots, or slips of paper upon which each may write the names of candidates. The tellers shall pass around among the brethren and receive their votes, while they remain seated, until all the officers have been elected.

Installation

SEC. 8. The officers of the Grand Lodge, elected and appointed, shall be installed at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, as soon after their election or appointment as may be. The Grand Master shall be installed by his immediate predecessor, or by such Past Grand Master as the retiring Grand Master may appoint, and in the absence of the retiring Grand Master by such Past Grand Master as the Grand Master elect may select.

SEC. 9. In case the Grand Master elect be absent at the time of installation, he may be installed at such time and place and by such person as the Grand Lodge may specially authorize and appoint; and if he decline the acceptance of said office, the Grand Master shall call a special communication of the Grand Lodge to elect his successor.

Sec. 10. All other elected or appointed Grand Officers, if present, shall be installed in open Grand Lodge; and any not present may be installed in any open subordinate lodge by some brother specially authorized by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. The installing

officer shall cause a certificate of the installation to be transmitted to the Grand Secretary, who shall note the same on his record. No officer can be installed by proxy.

Sec. 11. The several Grand Officers, previous to their installation, shall make the following declaration: "I solemnly promise upon the honor of a

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Mason, that in the office of, I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the Constitution and Regulations of this Grand Lodge, and all other ancient Masonic uses, so far as the same shall come to my knowledge."

Sec. 12. All Grand Officers, elected or appointed, when installed, shall be proclaimed by the Grand Marshal and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are duly elected and installed.

Sec. 13. No elected officer of the Grand Lodge, or of any lodge, shall act as such, until he is duly installed.

Of the M. W. G. Master

Sec. 14. The Grand Master has power and authority, during the recess of the Grand Lodge, to grant dispensations to new lodges to continue in force until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge; and for dereliction of duty or other unmasonic conduct, he may suspend a brother or lodge until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge at pleasure, giving reasonable notice to the lodges and members of the time and place intended for the meeting, and stating therein the object of it. He may convene any lodge within his jurisdiction, preside therein (with his officers or otherwise), inspect their proceedings, and require their conformity to the regulations and edicts of the Grand Lodge.

He may, *in the event of any civil emergency or disaster*, grant a dispensation permitting a change of time or date for Stated Communications of a constituent lodge; provided, that such dispensation shall expire whenever: the by-laws of the constituent lodge have been amended to meet the situation; the civil emergency or the results of the

disaster have ceased; the next regular Communication of Grand Lodge; whichever shall first occur.

SEC. 15. The Grand Master has authority from time to time, as he may think for the good of Masonry, to divide the State into districts and assign their limits. Every newly constituted lodge shall be assigned by him to some district, and notice given to the District Deputy Grand Master of the same.

He may grant dispensations for processions, and for conferring degrees, and do all other acts and deeds that are warranted and required of him by the regulations and ancient customs of the fraternity.

The Grand Master, or presiding officer, at every annual communication of the Grand Lodge may, at his discretion, give or cause to be given, one section of the lecture of each degree or an exemplification of the work in one or more degrees, or designate such other ceremonial of a Masonic character as he may deem advisable.

[See Sec. 9, 36-44, 47, 67, 74, 83, 88, 89, 130, 49 (2), (3), (4b), (4f), (4k), (5), 120, 5. R. 5, 11, 14, 22]

Of the Deputy Grand Master

SEC. 16. It shall be the duty of the Deputy Grand Master to attend all the communications of the Grand Lodge and render to the Grand Master such assistance as may be required of him. In the absence of the Grand Master he shall preside in Grand Lodge and perform such duties and possess such authority while presiding as appertain to the Grand Master.

SEC. 17. In case of the death, or removal from the State, of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master shall, *ex-officio*, exercise all the powers, and perform all the duties of the Grand Master as herein provided until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge; and during the temporary absence of the Grand Master he may, by and with the advice and consent of the Grand Wardens, call special meetings of the Grand Lodge, should the interest of the craft in their opinion require it.

Of the Grand Wardens

SEC. 18. It shall be the duty of the grand Wardens to assist the Grand Master in the Grand Lodge; and when required, they are to attend in the examination of any particular lodge, and act as his Wardens.

SEC. 19. In the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden shall preside over the Grand Lodge; and in his absence, the Junior Grand Warden; and, in the absence of all these, then the Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy grand Masters, and Past Grand Wardens, according to seniority; and if no such officer be present, the Senior Past Master is to preside, unless he waive his right to another brother who is a Past Master. In any of these cases, the presiding officer, unless he is a Past Grand Master, shall wear the jewel of the Deputy Grand Master. In case both the offices of Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master are vacant, the ranking Grand Warden succeeds to the duties of Grand Master as provided in section seventeen.

In case of vacancy in any office ranking below that of Junior Grand Warden, the Grand Master shall fill the vacancy by appointment for the remainder of the term and cause the appointee to be installed as provided in section ten. If a bond be required of such officer, it shall be in such amount and with such sureties as the Grand Master and Finance Committee shall approve. [See S. R. 41]

Of the Grand Treasurer

SEC. 20. The Grand Treasurer shall receive and have the custody and charge of all the property and funds of the Grand Lodge. He shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, give bond with surety or sureties to the satisfaction of the Grand Master and Finance Committee, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his trust. He shall deposit Grand Lodge funds in such depositories as shall be approved by the Grand Master and Finance Committee, and disburse said funds for bills approved by the Finance Committee, or for appropriations made by the Grand Lodge or the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Charitable Foundation, attested by the Grand Secretary.

SEC. 21. He shall lay before the Grand Lodge, on the first day of the annual communication thereof, a statement of his accounts, exhibiting the amounts received and paid out, and on what account, with the respective dates of receipts and disbursements.

SEC. 22. He shall have in his care all charters, records, seals and regalia returned to the Grand Lodge, and all charters and dispensations for constituting new lodges. He shall annually render to the Committee of Finance a statement of his accounts with vouchers and a schedule of the funds of the Grand Lodge. He shall deliver to his successor in office the funds and other property of the Grand Lodge, taking duplicate receipts therefore, one of which he shall deposit with the Grand Secretary.

[See S. R. 23,28,41]

Of the Grand Secretary

SEC. 23. The Grand Secretary shall attend upon the communications of the Grand Lodge, observe and record the proceedings thereof and preserve the same in suitable books kept for that purpose.

He shall give notice of all communications of the Grand Lodge by addressing a circular to the several officers, permanent members and standing and special committees thereof and one to each lodge which shall also state the time when the returns must be made and the dues paid.

He shall receive all petitions, applications and appeals, and lay them before the Grand Master.

He shall have the custody of the seal of the Grand Lodge.

He shall engross, attest, and affix the seal to all warrants, charters, commissions, diplomas and certificates, when ordered by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge.

He shall send the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge, blanks for applications for the charity fund, blanks for returns, with a circular stating when they must be returned, and diplomas from his office directly to the lodges, keeping an account with each lodge of the number of diplomas furnished.

He shall keep a list of all lodges under this jurisdiction according to seniority.

He shall furnish the chairman of every committee with a copy of the vote of his appointment; attend all committees with the records and papers of his office, when required; and record all reports of committees which may be accepted by the Grand Lodge.

He shall, as soon as may be after its several communications, forward to each member of the Grand Lodge such number of copies of the edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, including a list of the Grand Officers for the time being, as shall be directed by the Grand Master; and all such other transactions of the Grand Lodge as may be

necessary for the information and regulation of the subordinate lodges.

When required, he shall cause a transcript of the journal of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge to be printed, as soon after the annual communication as the same can be done, and shall forward two copies thereof to each of the Grand Lodges of the United States and such other jurisdictions as are recognized by this Grand Lodge, one copy to each officer and Permanent Member of this Grand Lodge and two copies to each lodge.

[1990, p. 87]

During intervals between communications of the Grand Lodge, he shall, at his discretion, answer all correspondence addressed on the subject of Masonry.

He shall act as Librarian and Curator of the museum.

[See Sec. 65, 72, 58; S. R. 9, 10, 17, 20, and 35]

Of the District Deputy Grand Masters

SEC. 24. The District Deputy Grand Masters are the personal representatives of the Grand Master and it is their duty to visit the several lodges in their respective districts at least once in every year; preside in the same when officially present; inspect the charter or certificate of charter, by-laws, records and mode of working, and make report thereof to the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary immediately after each inspection on such forms and in such manner as required by the Grand Master or the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge. If unable to visit any lodge, they may appoint some suitable brother to perform that duty.

They shall communicate to the lodges all such edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge as may be received by them from the Grand Secretary.

They shall annually, before the first day of April in each year, make report of their doings to the Grand Master. They shall attend in Grand Lodge during their term of office. They shall be reimbursed their necessary expenses in visiting the lodges at inspections, their accounts being first examined and passed by the Committee of Finance.

Each District Deputy Grand Master, on receiving from the Grand Treasurer the jewel of his office and the record of the district over which he is appointed, shall give a receipt to the Grand Treasurer, in substance, as follows, viz:

"Whereas, I _____, have been appointed and duly commissioned District Deputy Grand Master for the _____ Masonic District and have received the collar and jewel appertaining to said office, and the book of records of said district, I hereby promise to return the same, at the expiration or revocation of my commission, to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Maine; and in default thereof I promise to pay the Treasurer of said Grand Lodge the sum of three hundred dollars." [See Sec. 47, 68, 83, 86, 89]

CROSS REFERENCE:

S.R. 8: *Resolved*, That it is the duty of, and is hereby enjoined upon, the District Deputy Grand Masters in the several Masonic districts, to use their best endeavors to impress upon the various lodges in their several jurisdictions, and their Masters and Wardens, the importance of the attendance of said officers upon the communications of the Grand Lodge, and to make use of their best efforts to have every lodge represented at all such communications by their first three officers.

S.R. 11: *Resolved*, That lodges be allowed to occupy halls with other associations, provided the District Deputy of the district first personally inspect, and in writing approve, the occupation. However, this inspection shall not be necessary in cases where other societies seek to have joint occupation of previously dedicated Masonic halls.

A hall can be built for joint occupancy with another association, provided the plans of such building shall be submitted to the Grand Master, and after his approval, permission may be given to build a building in common.

Voted, That application to a lodge for joint occupation of its hall by another society, shall be granted only by a two-thirds vote of the lodge, the application having been laid over from one stated meeting to another. *Provided*, however, that in special cases the Grand Master may give permission to act upon such application at any stated or special meeting, if he shall find sufficient cause therefore.

S.R. 15: *Resolved*, That the District Deputy Grand Master be seasonably notified in writing, by the secretary of each lodge in his district, of each and every meeting of that lodge to be held.

S R. 17: (III). Upon the visitation of the lodge by the Grand Master or the District Deputy Grand Master, or any special representative of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, the charter shall be produced, provided that notice to that effect shall have been seasonably given.

Of Grand Chaplains

SEC. 25. There shall be not less than four Grand Chaplains, appointed by the Grand Master on the day of his installation, who shall attend the communications of the Grand Lodge, perform such duties as may be suitable to the occasion and as are established by Masonic uses.

Of the Grand Marshal

SEC. 26. The Grand Marshal shall direct the organization of the Grand Lodge before it is opened; collect from the members and petitioners in the Grand Lodge all communications and place them before the Grand Secretary; introduce visitors; direct the formation

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of and conduct processions; call the lodges when required, and execute all commands of the Grand Master.

Of Grand Deacons

SEC. 27. The Grand Deacons shall carry messages and attend the Grand Master in processions.

Of Grand Stewards

SEC. 28. The Grand Master shall annually appoint four Grand Stewards, who under the direction of the Grand Treasurer, shall have in charge all the jewels, clothing, furniture and regalia of the Grand Lodge and properly distribute the same.

Of Grand Historian

SEC. 28A. It shall be the duty of the Grand Historian to keep and maintain an up-to-date narrative history of the Grand Lodge in Maine and, at the request of the Grand Master, to present the same to the Grand Lodge at regular intervals.

[1987, p. 443]

Of Grand Sword Bearer

SEC. 29. The Grand Sword Bearer shall rank as Assistant Grand Marshal and in his absence perform the duties of grand Marshal.

Of Grand Standard Bearer

SEC. 30. It shall be the duty of the Grand Standard Bearer to carry the Grand Banner of the Order in processions and public ceremonies.

Of Grand Pursuivants

SEC. 31. The Grand Master shall annually appoint two Grand Pursuivants. Their stations shall be at the inner door of the Grand Lodge. It shall be their duty to attend to the officers, members and visitors; to see that they appear in Grand Lodge suitably clothed and, under the direction of the Grand Marshal, that they take their proper stations. In all public processions of the Grand Lodge they shall precede and assist the Grand Marshal.

Of Grand Tyler

SEC. 32. The Grand Tyler shall duly guard the outer door and see that none, except the Grand Officers and members, enter without permission of the Grand Master.

Of Grand Lecturer

SEC. 33. The Grand Lecturer shall exemplify the work and lectures in Grand Lodge, if required, and impart instruction to the officers and brethren of lodges in Schools of Instruction held for that purpose at such times and places as shall be directed by the Grand Master.

Clothing in Grand Lodge

SEC. 34. The clothing of a Grand Officer shall be, as the Grand Lodge shall, from time to time, prescribe. Permanent members of the Grand Lodge shall wear the apron prescribed for Grand Officers.

An officer of a lodge shall wear white or figured apron.

CROSS REFERENCE:

STANDING REGULATION NO. 16:

The clothing of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

The aprons of the Grand Officers shall be of white lambskin, lined with purple, and may have the emblem of his office suitable embroidered in the center and with other suitable embroidery on the edgings thereof, with purple edging and strings.

That the jewels of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

That of the Grand Master, the Compasses extended to 45 degrees, with the segment of a circle at the points and a gold or metal gilt plate included, on which is represented an eye, eradicated, with a triangle, also eradicated. That of the Deputy Grand Master, the Compasses and Square united, with a five-pointed star in the center. That of the Senior Grand Warden, the Level; Junior Grand Warden, the Plumb; the Grand Treasurer, a Key; Grand Secretary, Crossed Pens; Grand Chaplain, Book with a Triangle; Grand Marshal, Crossed Rods; Grand Deacons, Dove and Olive Branch; Grand Stewards, Cornucopia; Grand Sword Bearer, Crossed Swords; Grand Standard Bearer, Banner; Grand Pursuivants, a Rod and Sword, crossed; Grand Organist, Lyre; Grand Tyler, Sword.

Each Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master and Past Grand Warden may be distinguished by the jewel prescribed for the office he has filled, with this difference, that such jewel shall be fixed within a circle or oval of gold or metal gilt. It shall be worn over the left breast.

The collars of the Grand Officers shall be purple velvet suitably embroidered. [See S. R. 41]

Of Committees of the Grand Lodge

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

SEC. 35. There shall be a Committee of Finance consisting of five members to be elected by ballot for a term of three years, provided, however, that at the first annual communication following the adoption of this amendment, one new member of this committee shall be elected for two years and one new member shall be elected for three years and thereafter the member or members whose term or terms expire shall be elected for three years. In case of vacancy, the Grand Master may appoint a member of said committee to serve until the next

annual communication when the vacancy shall be filled by election for the unexpired term. In case of the absence from the State or disability of a member, the Grand Master may appoint a member pro tem of said committee to serve during the continuance of such absence or disability. It shall be their duty to examine and pass all bills against the Grand Lodge, audit, or cause to be audited by a public accountant as may be directed by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the accounts of any other officer or committee entrusted with funds of the Grand Lodge; to examine the records of the Grand Secretary and see that they are properly kept. They shall, with the Grand Master, designate proper depositories for the funds of the Grand Lodge. They shall report to the Grand Lodge at each annual communication and before the election of officers the result of the audits of receipts and expenditures of the preceding year. The Finance Committee shall prepare and distribute to the permanent members, and constituent lodges during the month of January of each year, a draft budget and offer the Brethren the opportunity to comment in writing or in person during the months of February and March.

STANDING COMMITTEES

SEC. 36. There shall be appointed after the installation of the Grand Officers and before the close of the Annual Communication the following committees to be composed of three members each, with the exception, however, of the committee on Masonic Education and Lodge Service, which shall be composed of seven members, and the Committee on Ritual.

1. *On Credentials*

The Committee on Credentials shall make a proper record and report to Grand Lodge the attendance of Grand Officers, Permanent Members, Officers and Proxies of Lodges and Grand Representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions in attendance at the annual communication, and before the election of officers report the number of votes in Grand Lodge.

[See S. R. 9]

2. *On Returns*

The Committee on Returns of which the Grand Secretary shall be *ex-officio* a member and chairman, shall prepare and report in tabular form an abstract of the returns of the several lodges and submit such other statistical data relative to the work of the lodges as may be of interest to the membership of the Grand Lodge.

3. *On Grievances and Appeals*

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall have referred to it all matters of controversy and grievances and petitions or applications for reinstatement or restoration to Masonry; and shall hear appeals from recommendations of the Commissioners of Trials, and on receiving and

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hearing such appeals shall review the proceedings and findings of the Board of Commissioners of Trials and make appropriate recommendation to the Grand Lodge.

[1994, p. 1040]

4. *On History of Masonry in Maine*

The Committee on History of Masonry in Maine shall have referred to it histories of the several lodges as compiled, review and file the same in the office of the Grand Secretary.

[See S. R. 2]

5. *On Dispensations and Charters*

The Committee on Dispensations and Charters shall examine the work and records of lodges working under dispensation and make such recommendations on the petition of a lodge working under such a dispensation for a charter as appears to be in the interests of the craft and the petitioners. It shall also have referred to it all matters concerning suspension and revocation of charters.

6. *On Amendments to the Constitution*

The Committee on Amendments to the Constitution shall have referred to it all proposed amendments to the Constitution and Standing Regulations entertained by Grand Lodge.

[1971, p. 596]

7. *On Masonic Jurisprudence*

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence shall have referred to it all acts of the Grand Master involving questions of Masonic law and practice and shall report on such other matters as are referred to it for consideration.

8. *On Fraternal Relations*

The Committee on Fraternal Relations shall review the proceedings and documents emanating from other Grand Masonic Jurisdictions and report thereon; also make recommendations in cases where other Grand Jurisdictions ask fraternal recognition by this Grand Lodge.

9. *On Condition of the Fraternity*

The Committee on Condition of the Fraternity shall examine the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters and the returns of the lodges and make such suggestions and recommendations as may be in the interests of the subordinate lodges and the Grand Lodge.

10. *On Library and Museum*

The Committee on Library and Museum shall have general charge of the library and museum. It shall report at each annual communication the number and title of the publications added to the library and such articles having historical or sentimental value connected directly or indirectly with Freemasonry or Freemasons presented or collected for the museum.

10a. *On Masonic Education and Lodge Service*

This committee composed of seven members is charged with the duty of providing and supplying approved Masonic material for educational programs in the lodges, including methods and means of candidate instruction, and to publish and supply lodges such bulletins on Masonic subjects as may be approved by the Grand Master.

It shall have the further duty of recommending speakers, organizing a speakers' bureau, recommending motion pictures, illustrated slides and assisting anniversary programs and special programs of all sorts that will give assistance to lodge problems coming under the scope of this committee.

The Grand Master shall appoint District Education Representatives for one year terms, taking into consideration recommendations made by the Committee. The committee shall forward to the Grand Master its recommendations by January 1, each year." [1996, p. 1555]

11. *On Doings of Grand Officers*

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers shall have referred to it the addresses and reports of the Grand Officers and shall refer all matters contained therein to the committees especially charged with particular duties under this Constitution and the Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

12. *On Pay Roll*

The Committee on Pay Roll shall assist the Grand Treasurer in the preparation and distribution of the per diem and mileage of the members present at the annual communication.

13. *On Unfinished Business*

The Committee on Unfinished Business shall examine the printed proceedings of the previous communication and report at the first session of the Grand Lodge all matters therein pending and undetermined; also before the close of the annual communication submit a report that all matters of business presented at the communication have been acted on.

14. *On Ritual*

The Committee on Ritual shall be charged with the Preservation of the Ritual and the perpetuation and continuity of accurate interpretation.

15. *On Bylaws*

This Committee shall draw up a uniform code of bylaws to be approved by the Grand Lodge and to be available for adoption by the constituent lodges. They shall also examine proposed bylaw changes of constituent lodges and make recommendations to the Grand master for his approval.

SEC. 37. All vacancies in the Standing Committees shall be filled as soon as convenient after the opening of each annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 38. Members of the Standing Committees shall hold office until the close of the next annual communication. The Grand Master may refer to any of those committees, during the recess, any matter for their consideration, and he or the Chairman may call the committee together, if deemed expedient; and, in all cases in which it is practicable, said committees shall be in readiness to report on the first day of the annual communication.

SEC. 39. The appointment of these committees shall not preclude the Grand Master or Grand Lodge from appointing Special Committees whenever it is deemed expedient to which any matters may be referred.

SEC. 40. All special committees shall be appointed by the Grand Master, or in his absence by the presiding officer, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 41. No brother, not a member of the Grand Lodge or past master of a subordinate lodge, shall be appointed on any committee. This, however, is not intended to militate against the right of the Grand Master to commission any brother in writing for a specific purpose. [See Sec. 43;Reg. 14]

SEC 42. The first brother chosen or appointed on a committee shall be the Chairman and shall duly notify each member of the committee of the time and place of meeting; unless the Grand Master, who, *ex-officio*, has a right to act as a member and chairman of every appointed committee, shall see fit to act.

SEC. 43. The necessary expenses of all committees shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 44. The Grand Master shall direct the business of the Grand Lodge according to his own judgment, except as specially provided in the following rules.

Rules for the Government of the Grand Lodge.

Rule 1. None but members of the Grand Lodge, officers or past officers of other Grand Lodges excepted, shall be present at the opening of the same, nor shall any visitor be admitted during the session except by permission of the Grand Master or by vote of the Grand Lodge.

Rule 2. When the hour arrives for the election of the officers of the Grand Lodge, the Committee on Credentials shall announce the number of votes in Grand Lodge and it shall go into an executive session for that purpose, and none but members of the Grand Lodge shall be present without the consent of the Grand Master in each case. However, at the discretion of the Grand Master, Committee reports of a non-debatable nature may be read and received while ballots are being counted.

[1990, p. 87]

Rule 3. Members and visitors shall keep the seats assigned them, except the Grand Marshal and officers whose duties may call them about the lodge.

Rule 4. Before proceeding to vote for Grand Officers, the brethren shall be seated and supplied with printed or written ballots, or slips of papers upon which each may write the names of candidates. Such ballots shall be printed by Grand Lodge for all candidates who have made known their candidacy for office in writing to the Grand Secretary before March 15th prior to the opening Grand Lodge, and slips of papers to be used as ballots shall be provided by Grand Lodge for other candidates. All such ballots and slips of paper shall be distributed under the direction of the Grand Master or the presiding officer of Grand Lodge and no other ballots shall be received, if other ballots than those provided by Grand Lodge shall be cast, they shall not be counted. The Tellers shall pass around among the brethren and receive their votes, while they remain seated, until all officers have been elected. Provided, however, that notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, election of any officer may be by acclamation if there shall be but one candidate for that office and if Grand Lodge shall unanimously approve such method of election.

When more than three candidates are running for election to a Grand Lodge office and a candidate does not receive a majority of the votes on the first ballot, all candidates but the three having the highest number of votes on the first ballot shall withdraw; if on the second ballot, a candidate does not have a majority of the votes cast, the candidate with the least number of votes shall withdraw.

Rule 5. All resolutions shall be submitted in writing, as shall all motions, if the presiding officer or any brother desire it.

Rule 6. All questions shall be decided by a show of hands, unless five members shall call for the yeas and nays, in which case the members shall vote as provided in section two, upon the call of the roll; at the request of any ten members, the yeas and nays shall be recorded, the representatives of lodges by the number of their lodge and the other members by name, or the title of their office.

Rule 7. Each member shall vote on all questions, except where he is personally interested, unless excused by the Grand Lodge; and no member can delegate his right of voting to another.

Rule 8. Every member who speaks shall rise and remain standing, addressing himself to the presiding Grand Officer; nor shall he be interrupted without his consent, except by a call to order from the presiding officer, or from some member of the Grand Lodge.

Rule 9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received except to lay on the table, to commit, to postpone, or to amend, which motions shall take precedence in the order above named.

Rule 10. A motion to amend, until decided, shall preclude all other amendments of the main question.

Rule 11. Any member may call for a division of the question, where the same will admit of it.

Rule 12. No new motion, which totally changes the subject matter on which the original motion was intended to operate, shall be admitted, under color of amendment, as a substitute for the motion under debate.

Rule 13. A motion for reconsideration may be made on the same day the decision was made, or on the next day, and not afterwards, and no member, except one of the majority which decided the question, shall be allowed to move for a reconsideration.

Rule 14. After a motion is stated by the presiding Grand Officer it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the Grand Lodge, and shall not be withdrawn by the mover, against the objection of any member, without the consent of the Grand Lodge.

Rule 15. There shall be no debate upon any question after it has been put by the presiding Grand Officer.

Rule 16. All motions and reports may be committed at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge.

Rule 17. While the presiding Grand Officer is addressing the Grand Lodge or putting a question, or a brother is speaking no member shall entertain any private discourse or pass between the speaker and the chair.

Rule 18. No brother shall leave the Grand Lodge during the session, without permission of the Grand Master.

Rule 19. No brother shall speak more than twice upon the same question, unless to explain, without permission of the Grand Lodge, if any member object.

Rule 20. All matters not finally disposed of at the close of the Grand Lodge, unless in the hands of a committee or postponed to the next communication, are lost.

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Discipline

SEC. 45. The Grand Lodge may punish summarily, as for contempt, any offence committed in its presence or by any member while in attendance upon a communication thereof.

SEC. 46. The Grand Lodge has exclusive power to try and punish its own officers for any offence.

SEC. 47. It shall not be competent for a lodge to entertain proceedings against its Master. Any five members of the lodge, or the District Deputy Grand Master, may impeach him before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges; and if in his opinion they are well founded, and of a character to justify the proceedings, he may suspend the delinquent, and summon him to appear at the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge, to show cause why he should not be dealt with according to the regulations and uses in such cases established. However, the Grand Master, without such impeachment, may proceed in the same manner.

[See Sec. 14]

SEC. 48. The Grand Lodge has power to try and punish any mason residing within its jurisdiction, whether a member of one of its lodges or not, for any offence

committed by him; and when the Grand Master shall suspend a brother and present the reason of such suspension, as provided in section fourteen, the Commissioners of Trial shall take jurisdiction and act upon such reason as upon an accusation duly transmitted to it as under section 49 (4) (b). [Sec. 14,116]

SEC. 49. 1. Every lodge shall have original jurisdiction, except as otherwise provided, to entertain proceedings against a member thereof.

2. The Grand Master shall annually appoint a Board of five Past or Present Masters of Lodges, to be styled Commissioners of Trials he may in his discretion appoint a special Board of Commissioners for the trial of any given cause. The first named of said Board shall be the Chairman thereof and three members shall constitute a quorum. A single member may take testimony. In the absence of the Chairman, the Board shall elect a Chairman pro tempore.

3. The Grand Master may also appoint a Past Master of a lodge to be styled Judge Advocate, to perform such duties as may be delegated to him by the Grand Master and who shall receive for his services, and for necessary expenses, such compensation as the Grand Master shall determine.

4. Whenever a Brother shall be accused of any offense, which, if proved, might subject him to expulsion or suspension from the rights and privileges of Masonry, the proceedings in the premises shall be conducted agreeably to the following rules:

24.

a. The accusation shall be made in writing, with specifications of the offense, under the signature of one or more Master Masons, and delivered to the Master, who shall thereupon summon his Lodge to act upon the accusation.

It shall be the duty of the Junior Warden of any lodge under this Grand Jurisdiction to prepare specifications and prefer charges against any member of the lodge or a mason sojourning within its jurisdiction at the request of any member of such lodge, upon reasonable evidence of a Masonic offence having been committed.

b. If the Lodge by a majority vote of its members present determines that the charges require investigation, the accusation shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary,

who shall, under the direction of the Grand Master, transmit the same to the Chairman of the Board.

c. The accused shall be served with an attested copy of the charges, together with a summons to appear at a time and place to be named in said summons. The summons shall be served upon the accused fourteen days, at least, before the return day thereof.

i. Upon the receipt of the summons the accused shall respond by certified mail to the Grand Secretary within fourteen days whether he contests the charges and whether he wishes to have a hearing on the charges or upon the disposition to be recommended if the charges are admitted

ii. If the accused does not respond within fourteen days the Grand Master's suspension shall be automatically affirmed except that charges which are a felony under the laws of the State of Maine or of the United States of America shall result in an automatic expulsion from the rights and privileges of masonry.

iii. Any accused, or his lodge, may request a hearing solely upon the disposition to be recommended by the Commissioners.

d. If the residence of the accused be unknown, the Commissioners may proceed to examine the charges and accusation EX PARTE; but if known and out of the State a summons shall be sent him, by mail or otherwise, thirty days, at least, before the time appointed for his appearance. The service and return thereof shall be according to regulations to be made by the Commissioners, and, when so made, shall be conclusive.

e A Lodge or Brother aggrieved by the failure of a Lodge to determine that the charges require investigation may appeal to the Grand Master, who may, in his discretion, cause the charge to be transmitted to the Chairman of the Board and the Board shall thereafter proceed in the same manner as above provided.

f If a member of a lodge in this jurisdiction shall be convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of an offence involving moral turpitude and accusation shall not be made against him therefore in the lodge it shall be the duty of the Grand Master to prefer and forward such accusation to the Grand Secretary who shall transmit the same to the Chairman of the Commissioners of Trials. Said Board of Commissioners of Trials shall take jurisdiction and act upon the accusations as upon other accusations duly transmitted to them.

g. The examination upon the charge and accusation shall be had at some convenient place and time to be designated by the Commissioners not later than 90 days prior to the next communication of the Grand Lodge, of which said place and time due notice shall be given, and no visitors shall be admitted except as counsel or witnesses. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commissioners, the testimony may be taken by the Chairman, or any member designated by him, who shall reduce the substance of the same to writing, to be submitted to the Board. Witnesses, if Masons, shall testify on their honor as such. Other witnesses shall be duly sworn before their testimony is taken. [1994, p. 1041]

h. Each Commissioner shall have the power to issue a summons to any member of the Fraternity then being or residing within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge commanding him to appear at said time and place and testify as a witness. A summons may be served by copy delivered in hand or by registered mail, return receipt requested. Witnesses summoned or appearing at the request of the Board or any Commissioner shall be paid their actual necessary traveling expenses.

i. Any Brother duly authorized may appear as counsel in support of, or in opposition to, the charges during the taking of the testimony and in the argument of the cause.

j. A report of the proceedings and summary of the facts in each case, including the finding and recommendation of the Commissioners thereon, shall be signed by the Commissioners acting in such case and shall be sent by registered mail to the accused, at his last known address, within 30 days of hearing such case, together with a notice that he may appeal the recommendations of the Commissioners of Trials, said appeal to be filed with the Grand Secretary within 15 days of receiving said notice. Upon receipt of notice of appeal, the Grand Secretary shall forthwith file with the Chairman of the Committee of Grievances and Appeals, the report, findings and recommendations made by said Commission pursuant to

Section 36, subparagraph 3. Failure to file an appeal within the time provided for herein shall terminate any right of appeal and findings and recommendations of the Commissioner of Trials shall be reported directly to the Grand Lodge for review and final determination.

[1994, p. 1041]

k. Lodges may, by a two-thirds vote, refuse to entertain charges presented after a lapse of four years from the time of the commission of the alleged offence, unless the reasons for delay in presenting charges grow out of the absence of the accused from this jurisdiction, the absence of material witnesses or the concealment of the offence, or be decided by the Grand Master to be sufficient.

4.1 Any Brother may appeal a finding of the Commissioners of Trials, in his case, to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, which will hear said appeal and make appropriate recommendation to the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge. Said appeal must be made within 15 days of receiving notification from the Commissioners of Trials.

[1994, p. 1041]

5. The Commissioners shall receive for their services and for necessary expenses in each case, such compensation as the Grand Master shall determine and allow upon the certificate of the Commissioners and the same shall be paid from the funds of the Grand Lodge.

6. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to prevent the Grand Lodge from taking original jurisdiction in any case and proceeding according to any method which it may adopt; provided, however, that no action shall be taken against any Brother whose address is known without reasonable notice to him and an opportunity to appear and be heard in person or by Masonic Counsel.

SEC. 50. An expulsion or suspension of a brother from any other Masonic organization shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from the lodge of which he is a member.

SEC. 51. No lodge shall suspend or expel a member from the rights of Masonry for non-payment of dues. The penalty of such delinquency shall be forfeiture or suspension of membership. The member shall be notified of the charges, and summoned to appear at a time and place to be named in said summons, and make such answer as he may desire. The summons shall be served upon the member, either in person or by registered or certified mail at his last known address, fourteen days at least before the date of the hearing. If, however, the residence of the brother be unknown, the lodge may proceed to trial *EX PARTE*; but if known and out of state, notice and summons shall be sent him by registered mail, certified mail, or otherwise, thirty days at least before the date appointed for hearing.

A brother suspended from membership for non-payment of dues will be restored by the payment or remission of the amount due at the time of his suspension at any time within three years thereafter but after that time he can be restored only upon his application, after payment or remission of the amount in arrears, *which shall take the same course as an application for initiation*, and if rejected said applicant shall not again petition until six months after the rejection.

SEC. 52. Any brother who has lost his membership in a lodge because of non-payment of dues shall not be admitted to membership in any other lodge until the same are paid or remitted. The recommendation of the Master and Wardens of the lodge, of which the applicant was last a member, should accompany such application. [Sec. 51]

SEC. 53. The Grand Lodge shall hear all appeals upon the record as sent up, unless for special reasons it shall determine to hear other testimony; and, according to its immemorial usage, may confirm, modify or reverse the proceedings appealed from, and it may give such final judgment and sentence as its deems just.

[See Sec. 49, 54, and 57]

SEC. 54. The Grand Lodge shall review the proceedings in all cases in which the penalty of suspension or expulsion is inflicted, with the same power of confirmation, modification or reversal, as contained in the preceding section.

[See Sec. 49J]

SEC. 55. When the Grand Lodge reverses or abrogates the judgment, suspending or expelling a brother, he shall at once be entitled to all his Masonic rights and privileges, including membership in his lodge.

SEC. 56. A Mason expelled by the Grand Lodge of Maine loses his membership in the Order. A Mason suspended by the Grand Lodge of Maine loses absolutely his membership in any Lodge in this jurisdiction in which he holds membership, and his status becomes that of an unaffiliated Mason.

SEC. 57. A petition for restoration of a Mason expelled or suspended by the Grand Lodge of Maine shall only be entertained if presented in writing, and filed in the office of the Grand Secretary, not less than sixty days before the date of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge at which its consideration is requested and restoration upon such a petition shall not take effect until confirmed by the Grand Lodge. Provided, however, that before action shall be taken by the Grand Lodge upon a petition for restoration, a copy thereof shall be filed at a stated communication of the Lodge of which the petitioner was formerly a member, lay over until the next communication and a favorable recommendation made thereon to the Grand Lodge and after review and report to the Grand Lodge by the Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Whenever the Grand Lodge shall release a Mason from a penalty of expulsion or suspension, he shall not thereby be restored to membership within any lodge of which he was formerly a member without its consent expressed by an unanimous ballot.

If a lodge of which an expelled or suspended Mason was formerly a member has ceased to exist, a petition for restoration may be made direct to the Grand Lodge, on a favorable recommendation made thereon by five or more Master Masons in good standing.

SEC. 58. No subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction shall publish the suspension or expulsion of any of its members, unless by authority of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 59. A lodge or brother offending against any law or regulation of the craft, to the breach of which no penal-ty is attached, shall be subject to admonition, suspension, or expulsion.

PART SECOND

Masonic Charitable Foundation of the Grand Lodge

SEC 60. The Masonic Charitable Foundation, a Maine charitable corporation, established by the Most Worship-ful Grand Lodge of Maine, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, shall consist of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and such other funds or other property as are established or accepted for charitable, education or other specific purposes, which are in accord with Masonic principles and practices.
[1992, p. 585]

SEC 61. The Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge shall from time to time be increased by adding thereto such moneys as may be voted into it. [Sec. 75, 1984, p. 642]

SEC 61(a). The Corporation shall have the care, custody management, and administration of the Museum and Library owned by the Grand Lodge of Maine.
[1992, p. 585]

SEC 62. The interest arising from the charitable funds of the Masonic Charitable Foundation, and such other funds as may be available, may be appropriated in whole or in part, for the relief:

First, to poor and worthy members of lodges, their widows and orphans, under this jurisdiction, in cases where the funds of their own lodges are not adequate to the exigency of the case.

Second, to all other worthy causes within and without the Masonic Fraternity, as the Grand Lodge or the Trustees of the Masonic Charitable Foundation through a Committee on Distribution appointed by the Trustees from their own members may consider worthy of assistance, to the DeMolay and Pine Tree Youth Foundation, and to other charitable, literary, educational, research, scientific or medical purposes as the Trustees or the Grand Lodge, may deem appropriate and consistent with Masonic Principles and practices; and if the whole be not distributed the residue may be used for the payment of ordinary expenses necessary for the proper administration of the funds, and any amount over the appropriation for relief and expenses may be added to the Charity Fund.

SEC 63. The several funds and other property constituting the Masonic Charitable Foundation shall be held in the name of the corporation, but under the management of a Board of Trustees, consisting

of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary and six brethren, who are not acting officers of the Grand Lodge, to be elected by ballot for the term of three years; and to constitute a permanent part of the Board. If a vacancy should occur in said Board it shall be reported to the Grand Lodge and filled at its next annual communication.

The Board of Trustees thus constituted shall be styled "TRUSTEES OF THE MASONIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MAINE", who shall have authority to invest the accruing funds and exchange the investment thereof in the manner they shall deem most safe and productive. No part of the principal of any funds in their custody shall be expended for any purpose whatever. Provided, that it shall be lawful for said Trustees to appoint an Investment Committee from their own number which shall have authority to invest the funds in the custody of the Trustees in such securities and forms of investment as said Committee shall approve, and to make sales and transfers thereof. Provided, further, that the Trustees by a vote of not less than two-thirds of its members may delegate to an investment counsel of their selection the powers granted above to the Investment Committee. All documents and instruments required in effecting sales and transfers, so authorized, shall be signed and executed by the Grand Treasurer. The Board of Trustees shall also conduct the offices relative to any trust funds or special gifts created by will or other instrument in writing accepted by the Grand Lodge and shall have authority to take, hold, and convey title to any such funds or property in the name of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 64. The Annual Meeting of the Trustees of the Masonic Charitable Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Maine shall be held in Portland, or at such other place as the Grand Master shall designate, on the third Tuesday of April of each year, and other meetings shall be held at such other times and places as may be deemed expedient by the Grand Master. A majority of the Board shall be necessary for every act except that of adjournment. If a vacancy or vacancies occur during the year, said vacancy or vacancies may be filled, temporarily, by vote of the Board of Trustees until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 65. The Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge shall be, *ex officio*, Secretary of the Board of Trustees. It shall be his duty to keep just, fair records of their proceedings, and report the same to the Grand Lodge whenever required.

SEC. 66. The Trustees have the power to adopt such regulations for their own government and proceedings as are not inconsistent with the constitution of the Grand Lodge.

PART THIRD

SUBORDINATE LODGES

Sections

67-71- Lodges under Dispensation

72-74- Chartering and Organization of New Lodges

75-78- Surrender, Forfeiture, and Revocation of Charters

79-81- Proxies of Lodges

82-111- Powers and Duties of Lodges

112-132- Work of Lodges

133-136- Membership of Lodges

Lodges under Dispensation

SEC. 67. Dispensations for holding new lodges may be issued by the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge, on

the petition of not less than seven Master Masons of known skill and good standing.

SEC. 68. No petition for a dispensation for a new lodge shall be presented, unless recommended by all of the lodges whose territorial jurisdiction would be affected by the formation of the new lodge, and by the District Deputy Grand Master within whose district the petitioners reside, unless such recommendations shall be determined by the Grand Mater to be unreasonably withheld. *Provided further that* no action shall be had in any lodge upon a petition for the approval or recommendation for a new lodge until the same shall have been before the lodge one month.

SEC. 69. The fee for such dispensation shall be twenty-five dollars, to be paid to the Grand Treasurer and every dispensation shall be returned to the Grand Lodge at the next annual communication, together with a written petition for a charter, an attested transcript of all the proceedings and the by-laws of the lodge and dues. If these be approved by, the Grand Lodge; a Charter of Constitution may be issued to the petitioners, bearing even date with the dispensation, for which they shall pay to the Grand Treasurer the further sum of thirty dollars.

SEC. 70. The form of a petition for dispensation shall be in substance as follows:

"To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Maine.

We, the undersigned, being Master Masons of good standing, and having the prosperity of the craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry; and for the convenience of our respective dwellings, and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new lodge, to be named _____. We, therefore, with the approbation of the District Deputy Grand Master,

and the lodges of the District Deputy Grand Master, and the lodges whose jurisdiction would be affected thereby, respectfully pray for a dispensation empowering us to meet as a regular lodge at _____ on the _____ of every month, and there discharge the duties of Ancient York Masonry, in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the laws of the Grand Lodge. In addition, we have nominated and do recommend Brother A _____ B _____ to be the first Master, Brother C _____ D _____ to be the first Senior Warden, and Brother E _____ F _____ to be the first Junior Warden of said lodge. The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge."

SEC. 71. Lodges under dispensations have all the rights and powers of chartered lodges, except the election and installation of officers and the rights growing out of election and installation; and the membership, in other lodges, of their members, is suspended during the continuance of the dispensation.

Chartering and Organization of New Lodges

SEC 72. No charter can be granted save by the Grand Lodge; and the name of no brother who is a member of another lodge shall be inserted in a charter but the Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Grand Master, shall omit from the charter the names of all who do not file their demits or proper evidence that they are not then affiliated. [See Sec. 89,106]

SEC 73. Every newly chartered lodge may work under dispensation until constituted under the charter, unless the Grand Lodge or Grand Master otherwise order.

SEC 74. Every new lodge member shall be solemnly constituted by the Grand Master and his officers, or by some competent brother especially appointed by him for the purpose; and no new lodge is recognized, or entitled to representation in this Grand Lodge, unless it be regularly constituted, solemnly dedicated and registered, and its officers installed.

Chartered lodges are organized to permit its members as a collective body to engage in works of benevolence and charity. It is the duty of the members of a lodge to pay such annual dues and assessments as will permit the lodge to meet its obligations respecting charity and its proper operating expenses.

Any two or more lodges having concurrent jurisdiction, or whose territorial jurisdictions are contiguous, may consolidate into one lodge in the manner following:

I. When a proposition to consolidate a lodge with another is made therein, the Worshipful Master shall cause the matter to be laid over to a future meeting, and special notice given to the members of the lodge that the matter will come before the lodge at that meeting for action.

II. If the lodge votes to consolidate, with not exceeding six votes in the negative, the measure shall be deemed to be carried.

III. Concurrent action must be taken in the other lodge, or lodges, at a meeting notified for the purpose, in the same manner and adopted by the same vote.

IV. If both lodges vote to consolidate, the proceedings shall be certified by each lodge to the Grand Master for examination.

V. If he finds the proceedings of the lodges in accordance with these provisions, the lodges may be consolidated under the name, which may be selected.

VI. The senior charter shall be endorsed under the attestation of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, as the warrant of the consolidated lodge; which shall take rank as of the date of the charter.

VII. The junior charter or charters shall be endorsed in like that they are no longer in force and delivered to the consolidation lodge, if desired, to be preserved in its archives.

VIII. The Grand Master by himself or such brother as he may specially depute therefore shall cause the members of said lodges to be assembled, after due notice of at least 30 days to the Constituent members of each of the lodges being consolidated, sent by each of those lodges' Secretary, in the usual manner of giving notice. This notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and further state that the Grand Master or his designee shall conduct the election of new officers and immediately thereafter install those newly elected Officers Immediately thereafter the Grand Master, or his designee, shall proceed to organize the new lodge by delivering the charter

endorsed as above provided. He shall make due return of his proceedings to the Grand Secretary, to be entered upon the records of the Grand Lodge and reported at its next annual communication.

IX. The officers of each of these old lodges shall at once deliver and pay over to the corresponding officers of the consolidated lodge all the property, books and moneys of each of said lodges, to be the property of the new lodge.

Surrender, forfeiture and revocation of the charters.

SEC. 75. Every charter surrendered to the Grand Lodge whether or not with the intention of being resumed at a future period, shall be accompanied by the by-laws, records, seal, regalia, funds and other property of the lodge of every description; and all the property of a lodge, surrendering its charter with the intention of resuming it, shall be held by the Grand Lodge in trust

until such time as the charter shall be restored or the intention of reclaiming it abandoned. The interest arising from said funds and other property shall be made a part of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge; and in case of forfeiture the principal shall be disposed of as the Grand Lodge shall direct. No charter thus deposited shall be restored, unless upon the petition of seven Master Masons, of whom four at least of the petitioners for its restoration were members of the lodge at the time of its surrender. In addition, it shall be the duty of the petitioners to notify the District Deputy grand Master of the District, and the lodge nearest their residence, of their intention to petition for the restoration.

SEC. 76. Every charter, when declared forfeited, shall be returned to the Grand Lodge, with the records, by-laws, seal, regalia, funds and other property of the lodge, of every description; and all members of a lodge who shall refuse to make such surrender, or who shall vote to divide the funds among themselves, or to appropriate them in any

other way than is here designated, shall be deemed guilty of a violation of the rules and regulations of Masonry.

SEC. 77. If at any time it shall be found necessary to suspend or cancel the warrant or charter of any lodge under this jurisdiction for irregular or unmasonic conduct, the members of said lodge implicated in such irregular or unmasonic conduct, at the time of its having incurred such penalty, shall be disqualified to join or visit any other lodge, without special permission from the Grand Lodge obtained on memorial.

SEC 78. Any mason assisting at the work of a lodge, knowing its warrant or charter to have been suspended or cancelled, shall be liable to expulsion from the rights of Masonry. [See Sec. 14, 48]

Proxies of Lodges

SEC. 79. As the Grand Lodge, when congregated, is a representation of every individual member of the Fraternity, it necessarily possesses a supreme superintending authority and power, and in its acts should be assisted by all the light and intelligence of its own members and the whole craft.

It is the duty, therefore, of every lodge to be represented at the communications of the Grand Lodge by its Master and Wardens, or by a proxy duly commissioned under the seal of the lodge and the attestation of the Master and Secretary. And that there may be no neglect of this duty each lodge is required, at the stated communication next before any communication of the Grand Lodge (unless it has been previously done), to appoint a Master Mason of regular standing, not holding office in Grand Lodge, or a Permanent Member thereof, and being a member of a subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction, as proxy to represent it in the Grand Lodge, and such proxy

shall have a right to a seat in the Grand Lodge during the Masonic year in which he was appointed, and to cast the

vote of the lodge he represents when neither the Master nor either of the Wardens shall be present.

The letter by which a lodge shall appoint a proxy is to be in form and substance as follows, viz:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine:

BE IT KNOWN, That Brother _____ of _____, having been chosen by the members of _____ Lodge, in _____, to represent said Lodge in Grand Lodge the ensuing year, I do in their behalf appoint him their representative for them to appear, and upon all *Master* subjects relating to the craft in general, and this *of* lodge in particular, to act and decide as fully as *Lodge*, though we were personally present.

Confirming the acts of our beloved brother in his capacity, we pray that he may enjoy all the protection and privileges to which we are entitled.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the seal of our lodge to be affixed, this _____ day of _____, A. D. 20

Attest: *Secretary.*

In case of vacancy not filled by the lodge before the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, or the inability of the proxy appointed by the lodge to attend the annual communication, the Master or acting Master may appoint a substitute and give him a certificate under the seal of the lodge; but such substitute can act as proxy only by special vote of the Grand Lodge. [Sec. 80, 81, and 85]

SEC. 80. Every lodge represented by proxy in Grand Lodge shall issue the commission annually. All commissions of proxies of the Grand Lodge shall expire with the closing of the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication after such appointment, and no brother shall represent more than one lodge at the same time, either as representative or proxy.

SEC. 81. No informality in the form of the commission shall preclude the Grand Lodge from admitting to a seat any brother who has been duly elected as the proxy of a lodge.

Powers and Duties of Lodges

SEC. 82. All lodges under this jurisdiction have a right to convene as Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, to receive and enter Apprentices, pass Fellow Crafts, raise Master Masons and establish fees therefore, to choose officers annually, establish funds for charitable purposes, and transact all matters appertaining to Masonry, agreeably to their charters, the laws of the Grand Lodge and the ancient uses of the craft.

SEC 83. The lodges under this jurisdiction shall be formed into districts by the Grand Master for each of which a District Deputy Grand Master shall be annually appointed. And it shall be the duty of every Master or presiding officer of a lodge, when notified of the intended official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master, to convene his lodge, receive him as the representative of the Grand Lodge, resign to him the chair, while making his official communication, and submit to his inspection the by-laws, records and mode of working.

SEC. 84. The lodges under this jurisdiction shall make returns annually of their officers and members and of all the work done during the year ending on the thirty-first day of December, agreeably to the form established and on the blanks furnished by the Grand Lodge, and the Secretary of each lodge shall, on or before the first day of February, following, send one copy of the return to the Grand Secretary and one duplicate copy of the return and a copy of an abstract thereof, on blanks also to be furnished by the Grand Lodge, and the dues by check, post office order or bank draft, made payable to the Grand Lodge of Maine, A. F. & A. M., to the Grand Treasurer, who shall receipt for the dues upon the copy of the return and return the copy to the Secretary of the lodge to be preserved in the files of the lodge.

Any lodge which fails to so transmit its aforesaid returns and dues on or before the first day of February annually shall be penalized the sum of five dollars for the delinquency and one additional dollar for each day after the second day of February the said returns and dues are delayed.

Each constituent lodge shall submit once in every four years a complete list of its members to the Grand Secretary, on numbered sheets provided by Grand Lodge, before the first day of February 1984, and each four years thereafter. If such a list is not received by the above dates, a fine of \$10.00 will be imposed upon that lodge and a fine of \$1.00 for each day the list is not received following the date of February 1st.

[1981, p. 40]

SEC. 84-A. Any lodge which fails to be represented at any Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge as required by paragraph 3 of Section 2 of the Constitution, shall be penalized the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each such failure, said penalty to be paid before July 1 following the date of the Annual Communication when said failure occurs.

SEC 85. Should any lodge neglect to make its returns and payments to the Grand Lodge for the space of two years, the Master and Wardens of such lodge shall not be permitted to attend, in their official capacity, any meeting of the Grand Lodge, until such returns and payments are made. And should the delinquency continue for three years, the charter, funds and regalia of such lodge may be declared forfeited to the Grand Lodge.

SEC 86. No petition for the removal of a lodge from the place in which it is located shall be sustained in Grand Lodge, unless said petition is sanctioned by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District where said lodge is situated and has the approbation of the lodge nearest the place where said lodge is intended to be held, unless such approbation be unreasonably withheld. Nor shall any lodge hold meetings, unless authorized by the Grand Master, in any town other than the one designated in its charter, under the penalty of a forfeiture thereof; nor move its hall more than one-half a mile from where it is located, or where it may be located when the lodge is constituted, without the consent of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 87. Every warranted lodge is a constituent part of the Grand Lodge, in which body all the power of the Fraternity resides; and no other authority except that possessed by the Grand Lodge can annul, abrogate or destroy the power of a warrant. If, therefore, the majority of a lodge should determine to leave the institution of that lodge, the constitution or power of assembling remains with the rest of the members who adhere to their allegiance. If the number remaining, however, be reduced

to less than seven, the charter shall be returned agreeably to the regulation in such cases provided.

SEC 88. If the Master and Wardens of any lodge be summoned to attend, or to produce the charter, books, papers or accounts of their lodge to the Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand Master within whose jurisdiction it is located, or to any committee authorized by the Grand Lodge, and shall refuse to comply or to give satisfactory reasons for noncompliance, they may be suspended, and the proceedings shall be notified to the Grand Lodge, when, in case of contumacy, expulsion or revocation of charter shall be the penalty. [Sec. 47, 48]

SEC 89. Whenever any lodge under this jurisdiction shall have lost its charter by casualty or otherwise, it shall be the duty of said lodge to apply for a new charter, which application shall be signed by at least seven Master Masons who are members of said lodge, and sanctioned by the District Deputy grand Master of the District where said lodge is situated; and if, in the opinion of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, a new charter should be granted, the same may be issued by the Grand Master, the lodge applying therefore paying a fee of five dollars for engrossing the same, which shall be the only fee demanded for said charter. [See S.R. 17]

SEC 90 1. Each lodge shall pay annually towards the support of the Grand Lodge a per capita tax of Six Dollars and thirty-five cents (\$6.75) each for all of its members, including honorary members and those absent from the state and two dollars (\$2.00) for every candidate initiated, provided, however, said per capita tax shall be adjusted annually in accordance with the report of the Finance

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Committee as presented pursuant to Section 35, provided further, however, that said per capita tax shall not be increased in any one year by more than an amount equal to six per cent (6%) of the previous tax, rounded to the nearest five cents. Provided, that annual dues shall not be

paid to the Grand Lodge for any honorary member who at the time such honorary membership was conferred was an active member of another lodge.

[1989, p. 866 1999, pp.653, 654, 655]

SEC 90.2. One dollar (\$1.00) per year shall be levied on each member of the constituted lodges of this Grand Lodge for the purpose of preparing, printing, and mailing the Maine Mason to each member of the constituted lodges. These funds for The Maine Mason are to be considered as though they are dedicated funds. If The Maine Mason shall cease to be published, this levy shall likewise cease. These funds shall be subject to Section 35 of the Constitution as any other Grand Lodge Funds.

[1994, p. 1040]

SEC 90.3. Each lodge shall be entitled to receive as many diplomas from the Grand Lodge as it makes Master Masons. No duplicate of a diploma shall be issued. In the event that the original diploma is lost by fire or other unavoidable circumstance, a diploma certificate may be issued by the Grand Secretary.

SEC 90.4. And no dues will be remitted unless upon the petition of a lodge and the report of a committee of the Grand Lodge thereon.

SEC. 91. A lodge adopting or revising by-laws shall forward four copies of such by-laws or revisions, properly attested as to the date of proposal and date of adoption by the lodge, to the Grand Master for his approval before recording or printing same. On approval one copy shall be returned to the lodge, two copies forwarded to the Grand Secretary for the Grand Lodge Library and one to be retained by the Grand Master for his files. By-laws or amendments to by-laws are in effect on the date of approval by the Grand Master.

SEC 92. No lodge shall "call off" from one day to another; but when the business cannot conveniently be completed at one session, a lodge may close to open on another day without further notice, and so on from time to time until the business is completed; and the subsequent communications shall be held to be a continuance of the first communication, but no business shall be transacted except such as was pending on the first day.

SEC. 93 1. No lodge under this jurisdiction shall hold more than one, stated meeting in each month, at which it can receive petitions and ballot for candidates, except by dispensation.

SEC 93.2. *Provided further* that no action shall be had in any lodge under this jurisdiction upon a petition for degrees or for an election of an officer or officers of a lodge under a dispensation from the Grand Master until the expiration of three days from the time the notices calling the communication for action have been issued and mailed.

SEC 93.3. Whenever a dispensation is granted for receiving or balloting upon a petition or for conferring degrees, it shall be the duty of the Grand Master to require and receive of the lodge to which same may be granted the sum of three dollars for the dispensation, which shall be paid to the Grand Treasurer for the use of the Grand Lodge; and the lodge shall require of the candidate five dollars in addition to the usual fee.

SEC 94. No business, other than that appertaining to the work and lectures, shall be transacted in a lodge while open on the first or second degree. All general business, such as the election and installation of officers, the discussion of questions relating to the general interest of the Fraternity and the local affairs of the lodge, shall be transacted in a Master's lodge, and at least seven members must be present. Provided however, a lodge may elect to conduct all business or any portion thereof in the Entered Apprentice Degree. [See Sec. 132]

SEC 95. Immediately after the installation of the officers of a lodge, the Secretary shall return to the Grand Secretary the names and addresses of the Master, Wardens and Secretary.

SEC 96. Any officer below the rank of Junior Warden may resign. Whenever a vacancy occurs in any of said offices; it may be filled at the next or any succeeding stated communication of the lodge.

SEC. 97. Every lodge must preserve the copy of the printed proceedings in the hall, and when a volume is completed shall bind it for the use of the lodge.

SEC 98. The Master of any Lodge under this jurisdiction who has faithfully discharged his duties and complied with the laws of the Grand Lodge shall, at the end of his first term, be presented with a Past Master's diploma similar in style and fitness to the one adopted in 1824.

SEC 99. Lodges should take cognizance of Masonic offences committed within their territorial jurisdiction by any brother, except members of lodges having concurrent jurisdiction. [See Sec. 17, 48, 49]

SEC. 100. No lodge shall encourage, promote, or permit the delivery of any Masonic lectures, which have not been sanctioned and authorized by the Grand Lodge. Nor shall any mason be permitted to deliver such lectures under this jurisdiction.

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SEC 101. No lodge shall form a public procession, funeral processions and processions for attendance upon divine service excepted, without permission from the Grand Master. And it is proper, as a mark of respect for the Chief Magistrate of the Nation or State, to permit lodges to appear in public either upon occasions of public reception of him, or of public mourning for his death.

[See Sec. 17]

SEC 102. No one below the degree of Master Mason shall be interred with Masonic honors and the formalities of the Order. It is the duty of a lodge of which a brother is a member, or the nearest lodge, to attend and perform the usual Masonic burial service over deceased Master Masons, when requested so to do by the deceased or his nearest relatives. Provided however, a Master may, at his discretion, afford such honors [that is funeral honors] to a Mason in good standing who has received the Entered Apprentice Degree.

SEC. 103. No lodge, or officer or member of a lodge, shall, under any circumstances, give a certificate or recommendation to enable a mason to go from lodge to

lodge as a pauper, or in an itinerant manner to apply to lodges for relief.

SEC. 104. It shall not be permitted to introduce political or other exciting topics not connected with Masonry, for discussion, in any lodge under this jurisdiction.

SEC. 105. A lodge ought to meet once in each calendar or lunar month, but may with propriety stand closed during any three consecutive months once in any fiscal year, provided its bylaws so provide or the lodge so votes.

SEC 106. The Master of a lodge has the special charge of its charter, and it is his duty to see that it is carefully preserved. The charter or charter certificate must be present when the lodge is opened. [See Reg. 17]

SEC 107. A visiting brother has the right to inspect the charter or charter certificate of the lodge he desires to visit.

SEC 108. No lodge can suspend the operation of a by-law, or, at a *special meeting*, alter or expunge any part of the proceedings of a stated one.

SEC 109. No lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons can legally assemble in this state under a warrant or charter granted by any foreign Masonic power.

SEC 110. It shall not be legal for any lodge to interfere with the business or concerns of another lodge.

SEC. 111. A vote passed by a lodge may be reconsidered at the same communication, and not afterwards; but this shall not prevent the rescinding or repealing of a vote when it can legally be done.

WORK OF LODGES

1.APPLICATION:	Sections
(a) Jurisdiction and Residence	112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 123
(b) Waiver of Jurisdiction	112,113,114,115
(c)Candidate - Qualification of	122
(d) Petition - Form and Requirement.	123
(e) Fee	115, 123, 125, 131
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2.REJECTION	116, 117, 118, 119, 123, 124, 125
3.Ballot	115, 121, 123, 124,132, S. R. 32, 33
4. OBJECTION	124(2)
5. ADVANCEMENT	115, 124 (2), 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 132

Work of Lodges

SEC. 112. No lodge, without the permission of the Grand Master, shall receive a petition of a candidate for the degrees until he has resided in this state one year, (excepting seafaring men absent only on a voyage to sea). Lodges shall have the right to receive such petitions from candidates in the military or naval service who are stationed and have their domicile in this state one year.

[See Sec. 119, 123, 129, 133 (4)]

Sec. 113. If any person, who wishes for initiation in any lodge, resides without the state, he shall first obtain the consent of the lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides, by unanimous vote at a stated communication, and the permission in writing of the Grand Master within whose jurisdiction he resides, which consent and permission shall be annexed to his application.

Sec. 114. The jurisdiction of each lodge in the state shall extend over all territory of Maine and all Lodges shall have concurrent jurisdiction therein.

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Sec. 115. One lodge cannot confer a degree at the request of another lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction unless the requesting lodge waives jurisdiction, and the other lodge

accepts the candidate in the usual manner, and for its usual fee.

Sec. 116. A petitioner for the degrees whose application has been rejected by a lodge shall not be initiated in any lodge under this jurisdiction other than the one which rejected him, within five years from the date of such rejection, unless the lodge having jurisdiction recommend him to another lodge by a unanimous secret ballot. A mason knowingly assisting or recommending for initiation, to any lodge whatever, any person rejected aforesaid, shall, if a member of a lodge under this jurisdiction, be suspended or expelled as may be determined after charges and due trial. [Sec. 14, 48, 49]

Sec. 117. No petition for the degrees shall be received by any lodge from any candidate who has been rejected in that lodge within less than six months after the rejection.

Sec. 118. A petitioner for the degrees, rejected in any lodge and subsequently residing in the jurisdiction of another lodge, may apply to either with the consent of the other, obtained in the manner and under the conditions herein before provided.

Sec. 119. An applicant whose petition for the degrees has been rejected in any lodge, who shall within five years after such rejection, be initiated in any lodge under this jurisdiction, other than the one to which he first applied, without consent of said lodge, shall be declared an irregularly made Mason and all Masonic intercourse with him is forbidden.

Sec. 120. Whenever it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Grand Master that any irregularly made mason is irregular for a reason not attributable to his own fault, the Grand Master, in his discretion, may cause such irregular mason to be healed by appearing before the Master of a lodge at a stated communication and be re-obligated in all the degrees, and the secretary of the lodge shall issue a certificate or re-obligation of the candidate which

certificate shall be presented with his application for membership.

A mason healed by edict of the Grand Master may petition for membership in the same manner as with an ordinary petition, provided he is not ineligible under any other section of this Constitution or the Common Law of Masonry. The status of a mason healed by edict of the Grand Master shall remain that of an "unaffiliated mason" until such time as he may be regularly admitted a member of a lodge under this jurisdiction.

Sec. 121. The general rule which governs the Order in the admission of members and candidates is, that such admission is to be sanctioned by entire unanimity; and so sacred and fundamental does the Grand Lodge conceive this rule to be, that no petitioner shall be initiated or affiliated in any lodge under this jurisdiction without a

clear and unanimous ballot in his favor. Every member present shall ballot on the application, unless excused by the lodge. [See Sec. 119]

Sec. 122. *a.* By the Ancient regulations, the physical deformity of an individual operates as a bar to his admission into the fraternity, but as this regulation was adopted for the government of the craft at a period when they united the character of operative with that of speculative Masons, this Grand Lodge authorizes such a construction of the regulations as that, when the petitioner is able to understand and exemplify or explain the arts or mysteries of Freemasonry and his deformity does not amount to an inability honestly to acquire the means of subsistence, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient landmarks but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institution.

b. Blindness alone shall not render a candidate ineligible under the provisions of this section provided he is capable of meeting his Masonic obligations and is otherwise a desirable candidate.

Sec. 123. All applications for initiation must be made and the ballot thereon taken at stated communications, except by dispensation.

Each application must be made in writing over the signature of the applicant, stating his age, residence, that he has resided in the state one year next preceding the date of his application (except in the cases above provided), and whether he has made application and been rejected by any other lodge. [See Reg. 20]

No petitioner for the degrees shall be balloted for, in any case, until his application has been referred to a committee and strict inquiry made into his moral character and fitness to be made a mason.

And no petitioner for the degrees shall be balloted for in less than four weeks from the presentation of his application without first obtaining a dispensation therefore a petition for initiation, or application for membership, shall not be withdrawn after it has been referred to the committee of inquiry, without the consent of the lodge, nor until after a report of the committee and ballot had thereon, nor unless the ballot be clear. But if it shall be determined, at any time before rejection, that the lodge has not jurisdiction over the petitioner, or that he is not eligible under section 123, the conditions shall be entered of record, and the petition and fee returned to the petitioner, in which case the status of the petitioner is the same as before the application was presented.

[See Sec. 112, 129, 120]

SEC 124. 1. There shall be but one ballot for all the degrees, which must be free and secret; and in balloting for the degrees for membership, if more than one negative vote appear, the balloting shall cease and the candidate be declared rejected. However, if on the first ballot one negative only appears a second balloting shall immediately take place, and if a negative shall appear, the

candidate shall be declared rejected. In balloting upon application for degrees or membership, the ballot shall be taken upon each applicant separately.

SEC. 124. 2. An objection by any member before the initiation is equivalent to rejection by ballot, and must be so recorded; such objection may be made privately to the Master, or to the lodge, and the reasons therefore cannot be required; and if any mason shall declare the name of the objector, or assist in the initiation of any one against whom he has knowledge or information that objection has been made after the acceptance, he shall be liable to be expelled from the Institution; but if objections are made after initiation, to the advancement of the candidate, they must be made known to the lodge and their sufficiency determined by a two thirds vote.

SEC. 125. An applicant whose petition for the degrees is rejected shall be notified by the secretary of the lodge and all fees he has paid shall be returned to him. The notice shall specify the date of rejection, the constitutional period which must elapse before he may present a petition again to the lodge and also the period which must elapse before he may present a petition to any other lodge without consent of the lodge which has rejected his petition.

SEC. 126. No candidate should be permitted to receive the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason without a sufficient knowledge of the preceding degree to prove himself as a mason of such degree in the usual manner, unless in a case of absolute emergency.

[See Sec. 130]

SEC. 127. No lodge shall permit more than one candidate to be present at a time in the first section of the first, or the second section of the third degree. In addition, no lodge shall confer more than five degrees at the same communication of the lodge, or hold more than one communication upon the same day for the conferring of degrees.

[See Sec. 92, 130]

SEC. 128. A candidate for the degrees, whose petition has been accepted, who does not present himself for initiation within one year from such acceptance, shall forfeit all right by reason of such acceptance, and shall not be initiated except on a new petition; but any time, if more than three months, such person is temporarily absent from the state shall be deducted.

Sec. 129. No Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft shall be passed or raised in any lodge, without the recommendation of the lodge in which he was first admitted.

Sec. 130. No candidate shall receive the Entered Apprentice degree unless at least fourteen days have elapsed since he was accepted. No candidate shall receive the Fellow Craft degree in any lodge in this State unless at least fourteen days have elapsed since his receiving the Entered Apprentice degree; nor shall any Fellow Craft be permitted to receive the Master Mason degree until after fourteen days shall have elapsed from the date of his having received the Fellow Craft degree, except that the Grand Master on being satisfied of the necessity therefore, may issue a dispensation to permit degrees to be conferred in less than the above required time.

Provided further, That the discretion vested in the Grand Master to grant dispensation for the conferring of degrees in less than the required time shall be governed strictly by conditions of extreme necessity or extraordinary emergency, and never to permit a candidate to be raised to the degree of a Master Mason upon the same day on which he has been passed as a Fellow Craft.

Sec. 131. The fee demanded by a lodge for conferring the first three degrees in Masonry, shall not be less than thirty dollars, including the fee to the Grand Lodge; and no lodge under this jurisdiction shall take notes of hand for fees, or grant any time of credit therefore, or permit the fees or any part thereof to be remitted directly or indirectly.

No fee shall be charged in any subordinate lodge under this jurisdiction for membership through affiliation.

Sec. 132. No lodge, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, shall initiate, craft or raise a candidate, unless a Past Master is present to preside; and no ballot shall be taken for initiation or membership, unless there are at least seven members of the lodge present.

Membership of Lodges

SEC. 133. 1. Every candidate who shall receive the third degree in any lodge in this jurisdiction and sign the by-laws shall become a member of said lodge and the

Secretary shall record his name upon the roll of membership; provided that this section shall not be construed to prohibit any lodge in this jurisdiction from conferring any degree upon a candidate lawfully elected thereto by a lodge in any other jurisdiction with which this Grand

Lodge holds fraternal relations, on the request under seal from the electing lodge, the identity and standing of the candidate being fully established, in which case the membership of the brother shall remain in the electing lodge and the fees shall belong thereto.

2. A candidate lawfully elected to receive the degrees in a lodge under this jurisdiction, who shall by request of the electing lodge receive the degree of Master Mason in a lodge in a Grand Jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this lodge, shall become a member of the electing lodge on receipt of his signature to be attached to the lodge by-laws.

3. A lodge in this jurisdiction shall not be permitted to have degrees conferred upon an elected candidate by a lodge in any Grand Jurisdiction with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations, unless at least one degree shall have been conferred by said lodge and the fees for all the degrees paid in full.

4. A Master Mason holding a demit from a regular lodge may apply for membership by affiliation to any lodge within this jurisdiction whether or not he resides within the jurisdiction of the lodge to which he applies.

Sec. 134. Lodge membership may be terminated under any one of the following conditions:

I. Upon application at any stated communication, the lodge may vote a demit at once, either in the form of an honorable discharge from membership, or with a recommendation, as it may see fit.

II Or a member may give notice at a stated communication that at the next he shall apply for a demit, and at such next stated communication, if no charges have

been filed and his dues are paid to that time, it is the Secretary's duty to give him a certificate of honorable discharge from membership. The lodge may also vote him such recommendation as it sees fit. The Secretary shall note on his record the giving of the notice and the issuing of the demit.

III. Or a member, first getting permission of his lodge, may apply to another lodge for membership, in which he shall state in his petition that he is still a member of _____ lodge (naming it); then, if accepted, he may procure his demit in either of the methods above stated, file it with the other lodge at any time within six months, sign the by-laws thereof, and thereby become a member.

SEC 135. A brother may be an active member of more than one lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. He may hold office in each lodge to which he is a regular member according to the by-laws of each said lodge.

[1996, p. 1554]

SEC. 136. The removal of a brother into another jurisdiction does not, of itself, authorize his name to be stricken from the roll of the lodge of which he is a member.

PART FOURTH

AMENDING SECTION

SEC. 137. This constitution shall not be altered or amended, unless such alteration or amendment be first proposed in writing at a regular communication of the Grand Lodge, when the Grand Lodge shall proceed to consider the question *whether the proposition shall be entertained*, and if decided in the affirmative, the proposed alteration or amendment shall be referred to a committee, entered upon the records, published with the other Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and sent to the several subordinate lodges for their consideration; and it shall be deemed in order to take up the subject and act

upon it definitely at the next annual communication, and not sooner. But no alteration or amendment shall be adopted, unless a majority of the members present concurs therein.

STANDING REGULATIONS

1. *Repealed May 2, 2000*

2. *Resolved*, That each lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction shall prepare its history for the preceding year and present the same to the Lodge Secretary.

Each lodge that has not completed its history and furnished it to the Grand Lodge as specified above by March 1, 1983 shall be fined \$10.00 for each year in arrears. Also, each year thereafter on March 1st each lodge shall be fined an additional \$10.00 for each year in arrears, provided, however, that any lodge whose annual meeting falls in the month of February shall have until April 1st of each year to comply herewith. [1987, p. 446]

3. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will not remit Grand Lodge dues to subordinate lodges on account of loss by fire of property not insured. [1866, p. 192]

4. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Maine disapproves of the public use of Masonic emblems, especially that ostentatious display calculated to lead the world to suppose that we are still an operative fraternity and endeavoring to receive more wages. [1867, p. 113]

5. *Resolved*, That Masters of lodges be required to report to the Grand Master all invasions of the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge by lodges of other jurisdictions, with all the circumstances attending, so far as they may be able - to be by the Grand Master reported at each annual communication. [1869, p. 406]

6. *Resolved*, That the Master of any lodge may require of any person, who may wish to be examined for the purpose of visiting such lodge, a voucher, under seal, that such person had been initiated in a regular lodge; and Masters are enjoined not to allow any person to visit their respective lodges without being vouched for by some well-known brother present, or being found by strict examination to be a mason in good standing. [1883, p. 505]

7. *Resolved*, That whenever a lodge, after being constituted, requests a Grand Officer to visit it and install

its officers, the expense attending such visit must be paid by the lodge requesting the services, and not by the Grand Lodge.

A lodge requesting the dedication of its hall by the officers of the Grand Lodge shall pay the transportation expense of the Grand Lodge paraphernalia necessary for the ceremony, and also the necessary subsistence and travel expense of the Grand Tyler, and such assistant or assistants as he may require to care for and insure the safety of the Grand Lodge property.

8. *(a) Resolved*, That it is the duty and responsibility of, and is hereby enjoined upon, the District Deputy Grand Masters in the several Masonic districts, to use their best endeavors to impress upon the various lodges in their several jurisdictions, and their Masters and Wardens, the importance of the attendance of said officers upon the communications of the Grand Lodge, and to make use of their best efforts to have every lodge represented at all such communications by their first three officers.

(b) It is also the duty and responsibility of the District Deputy Grand Masters to see that the lodges in their respective districts are in attendance at a school of instruction each year.

9. *Voted*, That the Grand Secretary, in issuing notices of each annual communication, notify the lodges that the Committee on Credentials will be in session at half past seven o'clock in the morning, on the first day of said annual communication. [1880, p.494]

50.

10. The Grand Secretary shall notify each Grand Officer, elected or appointed, who has not been installed in the Grand Lodge, of his election or appointment, and transmit to him an extract of Section 10 of the Constitution. [1894, p. 57, *re-enacted*]

11. *Resolved*, That lodges be allowed to occupy halls with other associations, provided the District Deputy of the district first personally inspect, and in writing approve, the occupation. But this inspection shall not be necessary in cases where other societies seek to have joint occupation of previously dedicated Masonic halls. [1882, pp. 32, 212]

A hall can be built for joint occupancy with another association, provided the plans of such building shall be submitted to the Grand Master, and after his approval,

permission may be given to build a building in common.
[Added 1891, p. 253]

Voted, That application to a lodge for joint occupation of its hall by another society shall be granted only by a two thirds vote of the lodge, the application having been laid over from one stated meeting to another. *Provided*, however, that in special cases the Grand Master may give permission to act upon such application at any stated or special meeting, if he shall find sufficient cause therefore.
[1882, pp. 32, 212]

12. *Resolved*, That, while the Grand Lodge does not desire to interfere with the right of the Fraternity as individuals to attend or promote balls and dancing, the lodges are forbidden to connect Masonic balls, so called, with a lodge, or use the name of a lodge in reference to them, or to advertise them or sell tickets for admission thereto.
[1885, p. 225; 1929, p. 40]

13. *Resolved*, That when, under the by-laws of any lodge, its annual meeting falls in a month in which there are two stated meetings, the first shall be deemed the annual meeting; and, when it falls in a month wherein there is no stated meeting, the stated meeting next before such month shall be deemed the annual meeting of such lodge.
[1888, p. 47]

14. *Resolved*, That, in the case of the death of a Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer, the Grand Master be authorized, in his discretion, to appoint a special committee to prepare a memorial and present the same to the Grand Lodge at its next session.
[Sec. 41, 1900, p. 52]

15. *Resolved*, That the District Deputy Grand Master be seasonably notified in writing, by the secretary of each lodge in his district, of each and every meeting of that lodge to be held.
[1910, p. 47]

16. *Voted*, That the clothing of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

The aprons of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens shall be of white lambskin, lined with purple, having the emblem of his office suitably embroidered in the center and with other suitable embroidery on the edgings thereof and with purple edging.

The aprons of the other Grand Officers shall be white lambskin, lined with purple, with purple edging.

That the jewels of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

That of the Grand Master, the Compasses extended to 45 degrees, with the segment of a circle at the points, and a gold or metal gilt plate included, on which is represented an eye, eradicated, with a triangle, also eradicated. That of the Deputy Grand Master, the Compasses and Square united, with a five-pointed star in the center. That of the Senior Grand Warden, the Level; Junior Grand Warden, the Plumb; the Grand Treasurer, a Key; Grand Secretary, Crossed Pens; Grand Chaplain, Book with a triangle; Grand Marshal, Crossed Rods; Grand Deacons, Dove and Olive Branch; Grand Stewards, Cornucopia; Grand Sword Bearer, Crossed Swords; Grand Standard Bearer, Banner; Grand Pursuivants, a Rod and Sword, crossed; Grand Organist, Lyre; Grand Tyler, Sword.

Each Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master and Past Grand Warden may be distinguished by the jewel prescribed for the office he has filled, with this difference, that such jewel shall be fixed within a circle or oval of gold or metal gilt. It shall be worn over the left breast.

The collars of the Grand Officers shall be purple velvet suitable embroidered. [1896, p. 64]

17. *Voted*, That charter certificates may be issued, signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge, subject to the following regulations:

I. The charter shall be kept or deposited in such a manner that the Master, upon reasonable notice, can have

access thereto and take the same into his possession at his discretion.

II It shall be the duty of the Master to have the charter present in the lodge at the time of the installation of the Master, into whose custody the same shall be delivered, to be kept or deposited by him as herein before provided.

III. Upon the visitation of the lodge by the Grand Master or the District Deputy Grand Master, or any special representative of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, the charter shall be produced, provided that notice to that effect shall have been seasonably given.

IV. The life of the certificate shall depend upon and be coexistent with the life of the charter in all respects, the authority of the certificate proceeding from the charter, for which it is merely a physical substitute and evidence that the lodge has, and works under, a regular charter.

V. The fee for issuing this certificate shall be two dollars, to be paid by the petitioners.

[1926, pp. 241, 242]

18. *Resolved*, That smoking, or the appearance of smoking, in the Lodge Hall, or in the Preparation Room when in use for the preparation of candidates, in this Grand Jurisdiction, is hereby forbidden. Violation of this regulation shall be considered a Masonic misdemeanor. [1919, p. 260]

19.*Resolved*, That the Committee on Credentials and the Committee on Pay Roll, be included in the Pay Roll until otherwise ordered by this Grand Lodge.

[1919, p. 267]

20. *Resolved*, That, in addition to the information required by Section 123 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine, a questionnaire be also filed for permanent preservation with the application of each petitioner; the form of said questionnaire to be approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence, and supplied to the lodges by the Grand Secretary. [1922, p. 243]

21.*Resolved*, No building shall be purchased, erected or extensively reconstructed at the expense, in whole or in part, of any lodge in this jurisdiction until the plans of the same, and the terms and conditions of its construction or acquisition, shall have been approved by the Grand Master. [1922, p. 239]

22. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master be and hereby is authorized to organize a speaking bureau or devise some other means of conveying Masonic information to the subordinate lodges. The traveling expenses of those employed to visit the lodges to be paid by the Grand Lodge from any available fund in the treasury.

[1924, p. 641]

23. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge is hereby authorized to appropriate from the Grand Lodge treasury a sufficient amount of money to purchase for past and future Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge, a jewel and apron, suitable to the dignity and importance of the great office of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine; and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to select the design and fix the price of such jewel.

Resolved further, That the proposed jewels be selected and distributed to the past and present Grand Masters as soon as convenient. [1928, p. 627]

Resolved further, That the proposed jewels shall also be inscribed Property of the Grand Lodge of Maine A.F. &A.M. [1979, p. 418]

24. The hour for holding the stated meetings of Lodges shall be 7:30 o'clock P.M., unless some other hour is definitely fixed by the by-laws of the Lodge.[1961, p. 92]

25. *Resolved*, That any Master Mason raised in any lodge in this state after May 4, 1999, shall within ninety days after receiving the Master Mason degree (unless time is granted by the Worshipful Master) pass an examination to the satisfaction of the Worshipful Master on the lecture of the first section of that degree, and so much of the second section as relates to the signs, grips, and words, and it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master, to inform each brother of this requirement and advise him as to how instruction may be obtained, unless for good and sufficient reason a brother may be excused from this requirement by the Worship Master or the Grand Master. [1999, pp. 634, 635]

26. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge present a medal, to be known as the Grand Lodge of Maine Veteran's Medal, to each Master Mason who holds membership in this jurisdiction and who has been a Master Mason in good standing for fifty years, provided that not less than

five years of that period shall have been a member of a lodge in this jurisdiction and the brother shall produce evidence from the Grand Secretary's office of another jurisdiction to establish his membership during the balance of the full term of fifty years. [1970, p. 340]

A Lapel Button shall also be presented with the Medal to all Master Masons now or hereafter so entitled.

And further; that this Grand Lodge shall authorize the procurement of a bronze star, of the pin or button type, which may be attached to the ribbon of the Veteran's Medal for each additional 5 years of active membership.

27. *Resolved*, That, subject to the limitations hereinafter stated, the Josiah Hayden Drummond Distinguished Service Medal shall be awarded by the Grand Master in his discretion to not more than two Freemasons during any Masonic year, whose outstanding proficiency in the knowledge of Freemasonry and distinguished service in the successful application of that knowledge for the advancement of the welfare of the Craft shall have rendered them worthy of such recognition and honor;

Provided, however, that not more than one such medal shall be awarded to Masons outside of the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge during any Masonic year hereafter, and *Provided further*, that, in addition to the two medals herein before provided for that may be awarded within this jurisdiction in each year, the incoming Grand Master, following his installation, may at his discretion in any year award a medal to the Grand Master whom he succeeds. [1995, p. 1288]

Resolved, That subject to the limitations hereafter stated, the Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Medal shall be presented by the Grand Master, in his discretion, to a citizen of Maine, Mason or non-Mason who best exemplifies the characteristics of leadership, citizenship,

honor and integrity demonstrated repeatedly by this great Maine man and Mason. It would be awarded, not on an annual basis, but whenever the appropriate recipient is identified, and never more frequently than one per Masonic year. [1995, p.p. 1288.1289]

28. *Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer shall keep a record of the office equipment, paraphernalia, regalia and other property of the Grand Lodge, showing the cost or estimate value thereof, and shall annually on the first Thursday in May file with the Grand Secretary a copy of an inventory as of that date, showing the property of all kinds on hand; also that acquired or disposed of during the preceding twelve months.

29. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge recognizes no degrees of Masonry except those conferred under the regulations of the Grand Lodges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the several states and territories of the United States of America and the governments throughout the world; and, it admits the following named organizations to be regular and duly constituted Masonic Bodies functioning within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; namely.:

Rev. 99

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, the Grand Council of Royal and Select Master of Maine, and the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Maine, and the several bodies under their jurisdiction, also the several bodies of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in Maine chartered by the Supreme Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, and the several bodies under the jurisdiction of the Imperial Council of the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America" [1984, p. 644]

30. *Resolved*, That it is the privilege of every affiliated Mason in good and regular standing to visit any lodge when not engaged in the transaction of private business unless objection is made by a sitting member of the Lodge to the admission of such visitor, in which event such visitor shall not be admitted during that communication.

The Master of any lodge may require of any Mason who may desire to be examined for the purpose of visiting his lodge, the production of a Grand Lodge certificate or diploma, or a current receipt for annual dues bearing the seal of the lodge in which the visitor has membership; and Masters are enjoined not to allow a visitor to attend their lodge without being properly vouched for by some well-known brother present or being found by strict examination to be a mason in good standing in a regular lodge. The list of regular lodges supplied in this jurisdiction shall be referred to determine if the lodge that the visitor claims membership in is a regular lodge. A visiting brother, having produced his Grand Lodge certificate or diploma, or a current receipt for annual dues, and having satisfied the examining committee of a lodge that he is a mason in good standing, and a member of a regular lodge, shall have the right to inspect the Charter or Charter Certificate of the lodge he desires to visit.

Every Lodge shall keep and preserve a record of visitors.

31. Begging circulars or similar appeals from any source, domestic or foreign, shall not be entertained by any lodge under this jurisdiction unless they have been approved by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

32. *Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the Master and Wardens of every lodge to see that a ballot box, when presented for use, shall contain as many white balls as there are members of the lodge present, and in addition at least six black cubes.

33. *Resolved*, That the casting of a black ball factiously and without just cause is a Masonic offence for which a member is subject to Masonic punishment.

34. *Resolved*, That any Mason who shall confer, communicate, sell, or shall assist in or be accessory to the conferring, communicating, selling, or

shall solicit any person to receive or apply for any degree called, claimed or represented to be Masonic, not recognized by this Grand Lodge as such, may be expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

35. *Resolved*, That all inter-jurisdictional correspondence having reference to official business of the Grand Lodge or of the subordinate lodges under this jurisdiction shall be conducted through the office of the Grand Secretary, except as may be otherwise ordered by the Grand Master.

36. *Resolved*, That all written or printed notices of lodge communications, or other matters of lodge business, containing any Masonic information beyond the time and place of stated or special communications shall be mailed in sealed envelopes.

37. *Resolved*, That a Master Mason who has voluntarily remained for more than one year without being affiliated with some regular lodge shall not of right be entitled to any of the benefits or privileges of Masonry, and shall be under the same disabilities as if under suspension for non-payment of dues.

38. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master may appoint and commission Representatives of this Grand Lodge near the other Grand Jurisdictions with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations and may receive in Grand Lodge brethren commissioned to represent such Grand Jurisdictions near this Grand Lodge.

39. *Resolved*, That each chartered lodge shall collect from each elected petitioner for the degrees five dollars in addition to the fee set in its by-laws for the three degrees as a donation to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. The amount of such donations collected shall be remitted with the annual returns.

40. *Resolved*, That the lodges in this jurisdiction be forbidden to hold joint installations of their elective and appointed officers except by consent or permission of the Grand Master, to be granted only subject to all safeguards applicable to a public installation in the offices of a single lodge; namely, that each lodge participating in a joint installation shall be convened in session in its own rooms, that opportunity be given for any member to object to the installation of any particular officer, that the members of each of the lodges participating in such joint installation proceed in order, either on foot or in conveyance, to the place of installation, and that following the ceremony each such lodge shall reconvene in its own lodge rooms for a proper closing.

41. *Resolved*, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized and directed to procure a supply of aprons, similar to those worn by Permanent Members

of the Grand Lodge at its Communication, for sale to Permanent Members at cost, that such members may have distinctive clothing to wear as their badge of office while in attendance at Masonic functions.

42. *Resolved*, That the American Flag shall be displayed in the East at the right of the Master in all Lodge Communications and shall be carried in all processions, except funerals.

43. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge Blanket Bond shall cover the Secretary and Treasurer of each Lodge for an amount at least equal to all lodge funds in the hands of the Secretary and Treasurer.

44. Subject to the provisions herein after stated, a button, to be known as the Grand Lodge of Maine 25 Year Service Button, may be presented by the Master of any lodge in this jurisdiction, or under this direction, to each Master Mason who holds membership in a lodge in this jurisdiction and who has been a Master Mason in good standing for twenty-five years, provided that not less than five years of that period shall have been as a member of a lodge in this jurisdiction and the brother shall produce evidence from the Grand Secretary's office of another jurisdiction to establish his membership during the balance of the full term of twenty-five years. Said buttons shall be purchased by the Secretary of any lodge in this jurisdiction from the office of the Grand Secretary. [1970, p. 342]

45. *Resolved*, That any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may become a sponsoring body for a Chapter of the International Order of DeMolay, provided however, that no action shall be had in any lodge upon a proposal to become a sponsoring body of such a Chapter, until the proposal has been before the Lodge one month.

46. *Resolved*, The Simon Greenleaf Medal for unusual contribution to Masonry, shall be awarded by the Grand Master, in his discretion, to Freemasons who have contributed their time, thought and services to Masonry beyond the usual line of duty, which contributions have rendered them worthy to receive this Medal; provided however, that no more than two such Medals be awarded to Masons during any Masonic year hereafter.

[2000, p 985]

47. Repealed May 7,1959.

48. *Resolved*, That each lodge shall be covered for the activities of its members by the Grand Lodge Blanket Liability Insurance and each lodge shall procure Liability Insurance for its temple buildings and premises.

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49. *Resolved*, That, subject to the provisions herein after stated, a button, to be known as the Grand Lodge of Maine 40 Year Service Button, may be presented by the Master of any lodge in this jurisdiction, or under his direction, to each Master Mason who holds membership in a lodge in this jurisdiction and the brother shall produce evidence from the Grand Secretary's office of another jurisdiction to establish his membership during the balance of the full term of forty years. Said buttons shall be purchased by the Secretary of any lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction from the office of the Grand Secretary.

[1970, p. 342]

50. A Lodge in this jurisdiction may with dispensation from the Grand Master, be permitted to make a fraternal visit to a sister lodge within this jurisdiction for the purpose of conferring a degree on its own candidate, provided, however, the candidate shall have received the Entered Apprentice Degree and shall consent thereto, and the lodge shall so vote.

[1967, p. 530]

51. A Past District Deputy Grand Master may wear a Past District Deputy Grand Master's Apron which shall be the same as a District Deputy Grand Master's apron but

without the gold braid, fringe and tassels. A lodge may purchase an apron for a Past District Deputy Grand Master through the regalia custodian of Grand Lodge. [1967, p. 540]

52. *Resolved*, The Grand Master be and hereby is, authorized to direct the Officers of the Grand Lodge, both elective and appointive, in the discharge of their respective duties, and said officers, and the officers of constituent lodges shall strictly comply with all orders, edicts and directives of the Grand Master. [1968, p. 746]

53. In the case of a brother who is in arrears in his dues and he is an honorably discharged Veteran of any war in which the United States has been engaged, his lodge may, but shall not be required, to refer the Veteran's case for non-payment of dues to the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Charity Committee, on condition that the lodge establish the military service record, the lodge dues in arrears shall be paid from the Maine Masonic War Fund.

The resolution of 1967 on the subject being rescinded. [1969, p. 131]

54. That a Past Grand Masters' Lapel Button may be purchased through the Regalia Custodian of Grand Lodge. [1970, p. 340]

55. Lodges may include in their written notices of meetings, the names, address, age and occupation of a candidate for any of the Degrees,

together with the names of the brethren who have recommended him, after his application has been balloted upon and he accepted for the Degrees. Provided, however, that such notice shall be mailed or delivered in a sealed envelope. [1970, p. 342]

56. *Resolved*, That the Charity Funds of a constituent Lodge may be used to contribute to the support of the DeMolay and Pine Tree Youth Foundation, provided the by-laws of a Lodge so permit, after majority vote by the

members attending a Lodge meeting. Notice of such action to be included in the notice calling a meeting of constituent Lodge, at which said action is to be taken.

[1970,p. 318]

57. That this Grand Lodge hereby create THE GRAND LODGE ADVISORY COUNCIL to consist of the elected Grand Lodge officers, and all the Past Grand Masters.

The purposes of the Grand Lodge Advisory Council shall be:

(a) To assist and advise the Most Worshipful Grand Master and other officers of this Grand Lodge who may seek the advice and assistance of the Council

(b) To give continuity and added strength to Grand Lodge programs and activities.

(c) To encourage and assist in presenting a clearer understanding of Masonry and its significance to Masons and others thereby strengthening the Image of the Fraternity.

The Council shall organize each year by electing a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary at the first regular meeting of the Council following the Grand Lodge Annual Communication Neither the Grand Master nor the Grand Secretary shall be elected to any of these offices.

The Grand Master shall call the first meeting of the Council.

The officers shall serve for one year and until their successors are elected.

The Council shall hold two regular meetings each year, the first to be held within two months following the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge and the second to be held within one month preceding the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

Special meetings shall be held upon call of the Chairman or upon written request of at least five members of the Council to the Secretary of the Council. All said meetings shall be held at such times and places as the Chairman or a majority of the members of the Council shall select. Notice

of meetings shall be given in writing at least one week in advance of the meeting and shall state the time; hour and place of said meetings.

The Chairman of the Council or a majority of the members of the Council voting at a meeting may appoint such Committees as are deemed necessary to facilitate and expedite the work of the Council.

The Council may adopt such by-laws for its operation as it may deem necessary and as are not inconsistent with the Grand Lodge Constitution or Standing Regulations. [1970, p. 344]

58. All lodges that have not segregated life membership funds into a special account, shall immediately do so and report to Grand Lodge annually as such and not co-mingle them with general operating funds.

The income from the paid life membership shall be used to pay the dues of the members who purchased the life membership. At the death of a member who has paid a life membership, the principal shall revert to the Charity Fund of the lodge or General Fund of the lodge upon vote of the lodge." [1974, p. 314]

59. *Resolved*, That for the advancement of the work of Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary shall devote the whole of his working time, attention and energy to the performance of the Grand Lodge affairs, as a full time employee, and he shall not engage in or become interested in any other business, calling or pursuit which will require his personal attendance during business hours. [1995, p. 482]

60. *Resolved*, That seven or more Master Masons may unite to form a lodge for Masonic study and research, and a dispensation and charter may be issued therefore without compliance with the requirements of Sections 67-136 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maine. A research lodge formed under the provisions of this Standing Regulation shall be without power or authority to confer degrees on candidates or to receive members other than by affiliation, and shall not be entitled to representation or vote in Grand Lodge. The territorial jurisdiction of such research lodge shall be co-extensive with the territorial jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. A research lodge thus formed may accept as associate members, Master Masons or Lodges of Master Masons in good standing in this or other Grand Jurisdictions in

fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Maine, and also organizations recognized as Masonic by this Grand Lodge, and Masonic libraries, under such conditions as its bylaws may provide. [1981, p. 43]

61. Masonic Lodges themselves may not conduct enterprises such as raffles, bean-o, bingo, and any game of chance. However, Masons who are members of any club or other organization whose membership is conditioned in whole or in part, upon membership in or affiliation with, the Masonic Craft may conduct the above mentioned enterprises.

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These enterprises may be conducted in a Masonic Building but may not be conducted in the lodge room or rooms. The District Deputy Grand Master must inspect each Masonic Building in his District and certify to the Grand Master that he considers a part of the building suitable in which to conduct the above enterprises. No public advertising of the above activities may be made on or about the outside of the Masonic Building or on or about the premises outside the building. [1981, p. 41, 42]

62. The Grand Treasurer shall keep and maintain a permanent record, or file, with complete descriptions, or sketches, of all jewels and aprons which have been heretofore, or may be here after, approved by Grand Lodge. [1985, p. 47]

63. *Resolved*, That the general funds of a constituent Lodge may be used to contribute to the support of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, provided the by-laws of a Lodge so permit, after a majority vote by the members attending a Lodge meeting. Notice of such action to be included in the notice calling a meeting of a constituent Lodge, at which said action is to be taken. [1992, p. 586]

64. *Resolved*, that when an application for membership is presented to a prospective member he will receive a copy of the brochure MAINE FREEMASONRY attached to the application. [1996, p. 1554]

65. *Resolved*, to authorize use of the "Preamble" in conjunction with the "On Yonder Book" Charge. [To be handled by the Committee on Ritual]. [2000, pg. 1044]

66. *Resolved*, Constituent Lodges may hold semi-public Installations on Sunday afternoon or evenings, as long as those ceremonies do not conflict with regularly scheduled Church Services within the Community or Communities comprising the jurisdiction of the lodge.
[2000, p. 969]

67. *Resolved*, Standing Regulation No. 1, be deleted in its entirety from the Constitution. (Re: Per Diem)
[2000, pg. 971]

68. *Resolved*, To amend Standing Regulation No. 46.
[2000, pg. 985]

69. *Resolved*, That the following officer be added to the present line of officers of the several lodges in the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maine, that officer being "Lodge Librarian."

It shall be the duty of the Lodge Librarian to gather, keep and maintain the collection of books, audiovisuals and archive material owned by the lodge. The Lodge Librarian shall provide a written report upon the request of the Master of the Lodge.
[2000, pg. 960]

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