WISCONSIN ELKS ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2016

The Board of Directors met at the Radisson, Appleton, Wisconsin, during the Mid-Winter

Conference hosted by the Wisconsin Elks Association.

**Members Present:**

Tony Voulgaris – St Pres, Rob Radig, SR – St Pres-elect, Bob Rennells – VP-NW, Mike Wright – VP-C, Jeff Boss – VP-S, Ken Johnson – St Sec, Dennis Daley – Bd of Dir-Chair, Andy Olander – Bd of Dir-Sec, John Bennett – Trustee-NW, Dave DeRosier – Trustee-S, Joe Klumb – Trustee-NE, Pat Buck – Trustee-C

**Excused:**

Dave Abts –VP-NE, Jeff Langton – St Treas

**Special Guests:**

F. Louis Sulsberger – PGER, Todd Deal – GL Judiciary, Ray Summers – 1st VP of IL, Urbanna, IL, Roger Quinn – GL Ritual, Urbanna, IL

**Others Present:**

Norm Behnke – GL Committeeman, Jaye Franklin - PDDGER, Ron Bertrand - PSP, Ken Bruckner - PSP, Bob Bohnsack - PSP, Dave Nitze, Sr. – PSP, Ron Shannon - PSP, Todd Kostuck – PSP, Ken Boss – PER, Bill Weinshrott – St Inner Guard, Marty Sullivan PER, Jeff Miller, George Meyers – PER, Pam Sheve, Colleen Anderson, Chris Carrick, Jim Meyer – PSP, Keith Simmons - PSP

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Daley at 8:30 AM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance by all
2. Roll call was taken
3. Minutes reviewed and approved.
4. Confirmed the appointment of Pat Buck to serve the remainder of this year’s open Trustee-at-large position sue to the election of Rob Radig, Sr. as President-elect. Election to be held in May to fill the remaining year of the term.
5. Meet and Greet Room discussed. Suggested that Lodges be billed $50 per Conference/Convention or $120 for the year. Currently there is $2,300 in surplus. Motion by Johnson, second by DeRosier that the dues notice include the $120. Daley noted that you can’t force Lodges to pay. Johnson noted that Lodges are concerned with the drinks and food at Conferences and Conventions. Rennels pointed out that many of the Lodges in NW only send 2 or 3 members. Kostuck noted that Lodges would feel this is non-voluntary and they would want to vote on payment. Jim Meyer tried this 2 years ago. Kostuck stated that it would have to be in the by-laws. DeRosier noted that there are to be 4 members of a Lodge at each Conference or Convention, and many Lodges are in violation. Johnson called the question, motion carried. CaRrick noted that Kaukauna pays their way with product and time.
6. Johnson stated that Chris Carrick needs direction for the Hour of the Greet and Meet Room. The hours discussed: Close ½ hr before the General Session at the Convention (May), Thurs hrs would be determined by the PSPs, would open about 3pm, Friday 1:30 pm till 11:30 pm (last call), Sat open at 11 am till 11:30pm. Sulsberger suggests that the room be closed during the banquet. Meyer asked about an ad hoc committee and be part of the Conference and Convention committee. Johnson noted the problems with the committee. Voulgaris noted that the PSP advisors need to work with the committee. Sheve asked if the preparation hours could be prior to opening. Lou noted we need to accommodate the request of the hotel. Carrick proposed last call will be 11:30 pm all nights. Thursday 1 pm till midnight. Friday11 am till mid-night, Sat 10 am till midnight, with the room closing ½ hr prior to general session at May Convention and ½ hr before the banquet at all Conferences and Conventions. Motion by Olander, second by Johnson, motion passed.
7. Conference and Convention Committee discussion. Not clear what their direction is. Johnson seems to take care of all the details, since the Lodges are no longer bidding. Olander suggested getting rid of the committee if they are not active. Voulgaris noted Johnson is the committee and the Bd of Dir handles the housing, travel, etc. as proposed by Johnson.
8. Grand Lodge Committee concerns. Johnson thanked Jim Meyer for his dedication for 25 years. Concerns regarding lack of communication from Jason Somers, chairman. Somers has credit, debit and cash capabilities. No information regarding hrs for the hospitality room, when is the Wisconsin Night, still open to public, open for breakfast concerns, since the Embassy Suites has breakfast. Somers asked about a form for cc use. Meyer asked if Somers has gone to Houston? Daley pointed out this is a Radig problem. Radig does not believe Somers went to Houston. He is having a problem with communications. Radig does know that the hotel will provide the booze and food. We will only be able to bring in snacks. Johnson noted that Meyer had turned over $10K to Committee, but it should not be considered part of a slush fund. DeRosier commented about reduced hours or access. It lessens the opportunities to make money on 50/50 drawings and other fund raisers. The G/L Committee meeting is at 8 AM on Sat. Olander, Daley and Radig will attend. Olander will write up the findings of the meeting and send them to the Board members. DeRosier stated we need to lock in, all of the hows and whys. Rennels commented about the use of credit cards, debit cards and checks. Daley noted that all expenses are handled with the voucher system.
9. VP Reports

South-VP - Boss

C – VP - Wright

NE – VP – Abts (excused)

NW – VP – Rennels

1. Treasurers Report

Langton (Excused)

1. Secretary Report

Baraboo was the only Lodge that did not apply for the Sievwright grant.

All Conferences and Conventions have been scheduled at locations that accommodate all under one roof. Johnson is looking at other locations, including the Meade in Wisconsin Rapids. Dues statements will be sent to the Lodges. Lodges should have the money in their coffers as they are based on the membership of the past year, same as G/L. Directory has some problems and are being addressed.

1. President Report

Membership concerns, Wis. has the lowest delinquency rate of 4.6% and 379 have been initiated in Wis. We need to get proposed members initiated as soon as possible as voted in as a member.

1. President –Elect Report

Radig noted that preparations are going well. 15 Lodges have not replied yet with committee assignments.

1. Radig introduced Ray Summers as the 1st VP of IL. Summers thanked all for the hospitality and friendliness of all.
2. PGER Sulsberger commented about being the sponsor to the great state of Wis. He noted that PGER Sabin is slowing down. Sulsberger has been appointed to the G/L sub-committee for the Convention of 2020.
3. PGER Sulsberger introduced Roger Quin, G/L Ritual. Quinn thanked all for great hospitality and reminded all of the Ritual Clinic Sat afternoon.
4. PGER Sulsberger introduced Todd Deal, G/L Judiciary. Deal thanked all for the wonderful hospitality. Deal pointed out some of the hot issues. They included: who set rental rates, B of D or House committee?, Husband and wife both members, wife drops membership, husband dies, can she have a widow card?
5. Other Business

Bennet asked about funds for the State Sec to cover his additional expenses in securing the Conference/Convention sites. Motion by Bennett, second by Rennels, to pay Ken $1650.00. Note that this is a 1 time deal. Conf/Conv expenses will be discussed during the budget process.

1. Simmons noted that another $40K is coming this year from the Wis Benevolent Fund. He stated that he would be resigning as Sec/Treas of the Fund. DeRosier thanked Simmons for his years of dedication to the Fund.
2. Johnson will be working with the Trustees on the Budget.
3. Next meeting at the State Convention in Green Bay on Friday, April 29, 2016 @ 8:30am.
4. Meeting closed at 10:18 AM