



Cumberland District Masonic Association Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2018
Alexandra Lodge #87
Amherst, NS

Meeting opened at 7:33pm with RW Bro. Alan Linkletter as Chairman. 19 **brother masons** from the Cumberland District were in attendance for the meeting. The chairman welcomed everyone for such a good turn out. Also the brothers present introduced themselves.

NAME	LODGE
RW Bro. Bill Merriam	Widow's Son #48
W Bro. Stephen Hibberts	Laurie Lodge #70
Bro. Darin Pettis	Laurie Lodge #70
Bro. Amos Margeson	Laurie Lodge #70
RW Bro. Norm Rushton	Laurie Lodge #70
RW Bro. Archie St Peter	Laurie Lodge #70
RW Bro. Graeme Bales	Wimburn #75
RW Bro. Rob Campbell	Wimburn #75
RW Bro. Phil Adams	Wimburn #75

NAME	LODGE
W Bro. Ron Haylock	Wimburn #75
W Bro. Bill Henley	Wimburn #75
RW Bro. Alan Linkletter	King Edward #86
VW Bro. Scott McNairn	King Edward #86
Bro. Dale Langille	King Edward #86
RW Bro. Jack Boyd	Alexandra #87
W Bro. Larry Ross	Alexandra #87
VW Bro. Michael Gaul	Alexandra #87
Bro. Alf Fisher	Alexandra #87
W Bro. Jim Hannon	Alexandra #87

MINUTES

Bro. Amos Margeson moved that the minutes of the Nov. 23, 2017 meeting be approved. 2nd by RW Bro. Graeme Bales. Motion carried.

AGENDA

Motion to allow us to deviate from the published Agenda as necessary was moved by RW Bro. Rob Campbell and 2nd by RW Bro. Bill Merriam. Motion carried.

SICKNESS AND REGRETS

RW Bro. Linkletter said that Bro. Emerson Symes is at Gables room #213. He would love to have visitors. By the way he likes Robins black coffee. RW Bro. Merriam brought regrets from RW Bro. Anderson who is under the weather at home. Also Bro. Bill Bird is in the Springhill hospital and would appreciate visitors. And regrets from VW Bro. Scott Trenholm who had to go with his wife to see his brother-in-law in Sackville who is gravely ill with Pancreatic Cancer.

BUSINESS

FINANCIAL REPORT

RW Bro. Phil Adams reported that we have \$1,042.63 in the bank. The chairman asked if the notices had been sent out to the lodges regarding the \$100 dues. The secretary was instructed to do that as soon as possible.

AUDIT

The chairman said that according to our By Laws we need to appoint an Audit Committee to go over the books and report at the next meeting. The following three brothers volunteered: RW Bro. Merriam, RW Bro. Rushton and W Bro. Ross.

ELECTIONS

At the next meeting we also have to elect/appoint a new Chairman for another three year term.

WEBSITE

VW Bro. Michael Gaul reported that the website and Blog have seen a lot of visitors. Since we started the present website in March of 2015 we have had 3,675 visitors. Our CDMA Blog is doing just as well. In 2017 we had 798 visitors. The latest post was regarding the Sweet Heart Dart day in Amherst. Please keep checking the website for updates on happenings at our lodges. Use the website to see upcoming events and visit the Blog to see pictures and reports on the events after they happen.

Please take pictures of events if VW Bro. Gaul is not there and email the picture to him. At the last event at Widow's Son Lodge, RW Bro. Linkletter sent in a lot of pictures which will be posted on our Blog shortly.

TRAVELING GAVEL

RW Bro. Merriam said that the Traveling Gavel has been taken to Wimburn Lodge and will be going to Acacia Lodge at their March meeting.

SOCIAL COMMITTEES

The Social Committee consists of RW Bro. Rushton, RW Bro. Anderson and W Bro. Fisher. They have been discussing some possible events. RW Bro. Rushton put forth the idea of a 2-hour sail on the Blue Nose. The week of June 15th to 20th the Blue Nose will be in Halifax giving sailing trips for \$65 a head. The Scouts are planning on going down and RW Bro. Rushton wanted to know if any of the brothers would like to come along. They will probably get a bus or vans, depending on the number going, to go down leaving Amherst at 10am. The sail starts at 1:30pm. You will be out for two hours. Then head back with a stop for supper somewhere. The day should cost each person around \$100. The trip would most likely be on Saturday, June 16th or Sunday, June 17th.

They need to book fairly early, so if you are interested, please phone RW Bro. Rushton and let him know as soon as possible. Wives are welcome as well. **902-664-9516.**

PUBLIC RELATIONS - no report.

DEGREE TEAM

RW Bro. Adams reported that there is no drama planned at the moment.

CDMA CHARITY

The chairman said that as we had chosen the Cumberland 4H Clubs as our charity for this year, he has contacted April Finley to set up a meeting to discuss our donation and what the 4H groups would need the money for this year. He will meet with her this coming Monday. He did find out that the Cumberland Branch of the 4H groups (seven groups in the county) are not registered. However, the main 4H body for Nova Scotia is registered. We will send our donation to them as a registered body and they in turn will send the money back to the Cumberland 4H'ers.

WAYS & MEANS - SWEET HEART DARTS

W Bro. Ross reported the success of the recent Sweet Heart Darts day in Amherst where the brothers and supporters from the town raised \$317 plus donations afterwards that brought the total to \$340. When matched 3-to-1 that means we have \$1360 to add to our donation this year.

If we do this again, we will try to advertise more, and as RW Bro. Linkletter added, we should talk to the 4H'ers and try to get them involved as well.

The collection tonight will also be added to our donation for the year.

BOGP

RW Bro. Boyd said that the BOGP meets this Saturday, Feb. 24 in Truro. The agenda for the meeting has been sent out to the brothers when it was received by our secretaries. RW Bro. Boyd went over some of the items to be discussed at this Saturday's meeting.

BURSARY PROGRAM

RW Bro. Linkletter said that at the last meeting a motion was made for the chairman to write to the Foundation requesting that community colleges be added to the list of approved institutions that bursaries can be given to each year (those beyond Nova Scotia, thus including NB and PEI). He then read the letter he drafted. RW Bro. Boyd moved that we send this letter. It was seconded by W Bro. Ron Haylock. Motion carried. See page #4.

At our last meeting RW Bro. Rushton said that he had been approached by someone in Springhill wondering if we would consider giving 4x\$500 instead of the 2x \$1000 bursaries. We discussed this and from this it was asked what criteria is used to pick these recipients? At present we do not know for sure. The chairman will contact the institution and get a copy of their criteria. We need to have some input into who is being chosen for these bursaries. It is too late to make a change this year but at our next meeting we will discuss this more, after getting the criteria, and decide what to do next year.

DDGM'S MESSAGE

The DDGM, RW Bro. Graeme Bales, introduced the next DDGM to be W Bro. Scott McNairn of King Edward Lodge #86.

CLOSING REMARKS

The chairman thanked Alexandra Lodge for hosting this meeting. He also mentioned the event at Widow's Son this week. Two Meritorious Service Awards were given - RW Bro. Bill Merriam and Bro. Bruce Stewart. As well, Widow's Son is celebrating its 150th year. More to come on these celebrations.

NEXT MEETING & CLOSING

The next meeting will be:

May 24th , 2018 at 7:30pm in River Hebert, hosted by King Edward Lodge #86.

RW Bro. Archie St Peter moved that the meeting be closed. This was seconded by RW Bro. Phil Adams.

Meeting closed at 9:15pm.

The collection amounted to \$52.70

Respectfully submitted by VW Bro. Michael Gaul (CDMA Secretary)

Mr. Alan Linkletter
114 Lower River Hebert
River Hebert East
Nova Scotia
B0L 1H0

W.Bro. Shane Buchan
Bursary Program Administrator:
c/o The Secretary, Masonic Foundation,
167 Coronation Avenue,
Halifax, NS, B3N 2N2

CC. M.W. Bro. John Miller Cody
Most Worshipful Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

CC. M.W. Bro. Daniel Campbell
Grand Secretary
Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

Dear Bro. Buchan,
Greetings on behalf of the Brethren of Cumberland District. At the November 23, 2017, meeting of the Cumberland District Masonic Association, it was regularly moved, and second that I write you on behalf of the CDMA regarding concerns with the Appendix "E" of the Masonic Bursary Program, motion was carried.

The Cumberland District consist of eight rural Lodges located at the northern part of the province near the Nova Scotia - New Brunswick border. Acacia No.08 - Amherst, Widow's Son Lodge No.48 - River Philip, Minas Lodge No.67 - Parrsboro, Laurie Lodge No.70 - Springhill, Wimburn Lodge No.75 - Oxford, Wallace Lodge No.76 - Wallace, King Edward Lodge No.86 - River Hebert, and Alexandra Lodge No.87 - Amherst.

As mentioned our main concern is with the Appendix "E" the list of approved Universities and Nova Scotia Community Colleges supported by the Nova Scotia Freemasons Bursary Program. Many of the students in our area elect to attend Community Colleges in New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, and therefore do not qualify for our program. Since they reside in Cumberland County many students choose post secondary institutions as mentioned because of geographic location. From our area some students elect to commute to school making it much more affordable, or simply because of smaller and more rural post secondary institution much like they have attended growing up.

It is our request that the Masonic Bursary Program Appendix "E" be reviewed, and changes be made to accommodate for the 2018 graduation year.

We would submit for your committee to review and approve the following changes to Appendix "E" and have said change to take effect immediately.

Therefore we recommend the following additions to Appendix "E"

(1) Add: All Community Colleges in Atlantic Canada

Explanation: This would be in line with current program of all Universities in Atlantic Canada. We feel we should not be showing prejudice over educational facilities, and by doing so eliminate a large number of students from qualifying for our program. The work force is very much in need of trades people.

(2) Add: Oulton College - <https://www.oulttoncollege.com/>

Main Campus & Administration Offices
4 Flanders Court
Moncton, New Brunswick E1C 0K6

(3) Add: Success College - <http://successcollege.ca/>

800 Sackville Drive
Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia
B4E 1R8
Telephone: (902) 865-8283

(4) Add: Eastern College - Several Locations in Atlantic Canada

- A) MONCTON CAMPUS** LOCATED AT:1070 ST. GEORGE BLVD.MONCTON, NB, E1E 4K7 CAMPUS CONTACT:PHONE: 506-856-5166 FAX: 506-854-1653
- B) SAINT JOHN CAMPUS** LOCATED AT:212 MCALLISTER DRIVE, UNIT 123SAINT JOHN, NB, E2J 2S7 CAMPUS CONTACT:PHONE: 506-633-5166 FAX: 506-633-1653
- C) FREDERICTON CAMPUS** LOCATED AT:850 PROSPECT STREETFREDERICTON, NB, E3B 9M5 CAMPUS CONTACT:PHONE: 506-454-5166 FAX: 506-455-1653
- D) HALIFAX CAMPUS** LOCATED AT:6940 MUMFORD ROAD, SUITE 111HALIFAX, NS, B3L 0B7 CAMPUS CONTACT:PHONE: 902-423-3933 FAX: 902-423-2042
- E) ST. JOHNS CAMPUS** LOCATED AT:22 PEARL PLACEST. JOHNS, NL, A1E 4P3 CAMPUS CONTACT:PHONE: 709-722-8580 FAX: 709-722-8318

(5) Add: Commercial Safety College - <https://safetycollege.ca/>

P.O. Box 848
Truro, N.S.
B2N 5G6
Phone: 902-662-2190
Fax: 902-662-2657

(6) Add: Dexter Institute - <http://www.dexterinstitute.com/>

927 Rocky Lake Drive
PO Box 48100 Bedford, Nova Scotia.
B4A 3Z2

In closing we feel by adding the requested institutions to Appendix "E" it will make our program available to a much larger group of students. The program will not incur any additional cost as a result of the requested changes, and will make our program more uniformed, and bring us up to date with the current times. We wish to thank you for considering our request, and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Alan Linkletter PDDGM
Chairman - CDMA
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e-mail: alan.linkletter@seasidehighspeed.com