

September 5, 2018

The regular monthly communication of Franklin Lodge # 4, F.&A.M. was held at the Masonic temple on North Main Street in St Albans, Vermont on Wednesday evening, September 5, 2018. A Lodge of Master Masons was opened in due and proper form at 7:30 PM, with the following officers in the various chairs:

Stephen Polak	WM	Erik Johnson, WPM	JD
Robert Coon, WPM as	SW	Gabriel Vittum	SS
Cedric Columb, WPM	JW	Alan Vanscoy	JS
Gerald Morong, WPM	Sec'y	Nicholas Walsh, WPM as	Mar.
David Baker	Treas.	Christopher Johnson, WPM as	Chp.
David Iwaskiewicz	SD	Jean Koegler	Tyl.

Following the opening ceremony WM Polak instructed the Junior Deacon to ascertain if there were any Grand Lodge Officers waiting to be received. It was found that Bro. Pierre Letourneau, RW District Deputy Grand Master was in waiting. WM Polak ordered the Marshall, accompanied by Bro. Gerald Morong, to retire to the anti-room to escort the DDGM into the Lodge. This was done. Bro. Letourneau was properly introduced and received.

The petition for membership for Mr. John Burke was presented for balloting, following a favorable report from the investigating committee. The ballot was found clear, electing Mr. Burke to receive the degrees, as conferred by Franklin Lodge.

A petition for membership was received from Mr. Roland Legault. An investigating committee was appointed for this application, consisting of Brothers Gerald Morong, David Baker & Erik Johnson.

A petition for membership was received from Mr. Alexander McCarthy. An investigating committee was appointed for this application, consisting of Brothers Nicholas Walsh, Stephen Polak & David Iwaskiewicz.

A petition for membership was received from Mr. Craig Cain. An investigating committee was appointed for this application, consisting of Brothers Gabriel Vittum, Nicholas Walsh & Alan Vanscoy.

The secretary read a letter from the president of A.R.C. of Northern Vermont to notify the Lodge that they were disbanding after 62 years. They had been one of the tenants in our building. They thanked us for all of the support the Lodge have given over the years, particularly at their pancake breakfast fund raiser. They donated a check in the amount of \$2289.01 to the Lodge.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Bro. David Baker. He noted that the side porch, on the northeast side of the building has been replaced. The cost of the project was \$2,266.00. He reported that J & L Service Center donated \$1,000 to help pay for the work and he and his wife donated \$1,000, leaving a balance of \$266.00. The members thanked Bro. Baker for his generosity. Bro. Chris Johnson made a motion that we pass the hat to help pay the balance. Seconded by Bro. Steve Polak. The collection brought in \$156.00. The Lodge will pay the remaining \$110.00.

Bro. Morong reported that, as of today, all of our rental spaces are filled. He also noted that the front porch is in bad need of attention. He feels that the siding should be removed to evaluate the condition of the wood framing and cover. After much discussion the matter was tabled.

Bro. Nick Walsh noted that since we can't store the gas powered lawnmower in the basement, due to fire safety rules, that we should consider purchasing a battery powered mower that we can leave on site. He made a motion that we purchase said mower for approximately \$300. Seconded by Bro. Chris Johnson and passed. Bro. Walsh will also donate a battery powered string trimmer.

Bro. Nick Walsh offered to chair a committee to plan a Ladies at the Table Dinner. Brothers Chris Johnson, Gerald Morong and David Baker volunteered to serve on that committee.

Bro. Nick Walsh suggested that the Lodge celebrate St John the Baptist Day in December with a dinner. He would help organize that event.

WM Polak discussed a "Traveling Gavel" Program, where we would visit other lodges and leave a gavel, or other such memento, and that lodge would have to visit another lodge and leave the gavel there and so on to encourage lodges to visit one another.

Bro. Morong reported that Bro. Burt McGowan has been ill with pneumonia. He was in Franklin County Rehab, but is currently at home.

Bro. Pierre Letourneau, DDGM then took the floor. He brought greetings from our Grand Master. He then talked about the advantages of visiting other lodges and encouraged the members to do so. He also mentioned the building upgrades taking place at Lincoln Lodge in Enosburg.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed in proper form.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gerald A. Morong, Secretary

