REPORT OF MEETING CT. ELKS PER ASSOCIATION

Date December 5, 2023 ***Lodge Westbrook Lodge 1784***

MEETING OPENED at 7 **pm**, President **Lysa Molar** presiding

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Treasurer Ed Baranyai Jr. PDD, Sargent at Arms Jim Eccleston, PER and Advisor Mike Bonini, PSP, PDD were absent

ROLL CALL OF LODGES: 15 Lodges Present; Total Attendance 24

MI**NUTES OF PREVIOUS SESSION**: Accepted as Corrected / Read - Corrected

INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBERS: Brian Proctor from Groton Lodge 2163

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: N/A

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Scholarship: L Molnar inquired about the chair of the committee. It was unknown.

Fundraising: Special Olympics Gala – February 2024? discuss with L. McKee, Major Projects on gala

Passport booklet: Booklets are ready, giving the booklets out to the Vice Presidents. At the end of meeting, those who are interested can take the books.

Membership: current ER's get on email list so they can learn about the Association

Education: A. Brault will have a little presentation later

By-Laws: By-Law Amendment on PER Assoc page; Meritorious Service award change to be to last line to move to Awards Night on State Annual Convention

m/m J. Fedler/ 2nd J.Donnell

Discussion: P Berns: why is this being moved? L. Molnar: more exposure, less attendance at Mid-year. J. Donnell: do we need any state approval? Upper state officers (past and present) at Midyear 2023 said it should be done at Annual Convention as it used to be that way.

Public Relations: M Deegan :Listing of all Past ERs, draft letter to send out to encourage attendance and involvement. Contest to see who can bring in the most PERs. More discussion.

COMMUNICATIONS: N/A

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

T. Smith**:** Drug Awareness envelopes – 94 envelopes, sell 44 envelopes and 50 will be bought by a

Wallingford Lodge member.
P. Nelson – Ritual Contest (11 o'clock toast contest and flag charge): 3rd Sunday in April 2024, Maynard Lodge in Mass. 2025 in back CT. Registration is usually at 9am, contest at 10am. Peter thinks Grand Lodge will be taken **it** on in the future.
T. Smith – all American Award form has more points for ritual; full ritual by lodge is 50 and 20 points each for flag charge and toast.

Installed: Jamie Sienna, PDD as PER Assoc Secretary and Tom Matthews, PER as Inner Guard

Motion to use the Square feature for payments**:**

Kim Greca/ 2nd Pete Berns for the use of the Square for the PER Association payment.
J.Donnell – will we be using it for more than passports? L. Molnar- yes, we will expand later on, we want to test it out on this first
Motion passed

Family day:

Not best endeavor should have been called the State Elks Association Family Day Sponsored by CT Elks PER Association.

K. Greca : Keep family day going, thinks it's a great event. Carolyn Vallee- Westbrook lodge is booked in the cottage until 2026. R. Dunbar- right location where kids can play. L. Molnar – with the free dues raffle, and prizes the event ended up costing $4.15, not a financial drain. Talk about this more. More games
Joann Donnell – Family picnic at Groton, less families coming. Get word out to state and not just PERs. Connecting it to a meeting discourages members from bringing kids.
A. Brault- Hartford Lodge was not the best place for activities, 3 months is not a good timeframe for the family day to happen,
R. Dunbar – bring up at next PER Meeting in 3 months and not have the event in 3 months. More Discussion to come at next meeting.

Four meetings per year created push back; hard to get people to come during Holidays. Keep 4 meetings.

Communications should have been better for meetings. Membership did not feel that the Lodge Secretaries should have to read the meeting flyer at a Lodge meeting, submit to their newsletter chair and post the meeting flyer on the board. Alternate suggestions: go back to mailing postcards. Find out who the President and Secretary of the PER Associations & send to them. Some Lodge's do not have one. R. Dunbar –PER Association asked lodges for contacts for PERs multiple times over the last 2 years , it's not accurate.

Emails to all PERs for future meetings.
P. Berns: Bob Ferone asked for a PER list many times.
L Molnar – state website is accurate and has a lot of information regarding the PER Association ie: Minutes, By-Laws. Contact information, Meeting Dates and Meeting Topics
Send notices to see how they want to receive notices.
B.Proctor – reach out outgoing ERs to get them involved

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Protocol Workshop – Pete Nelson PDD and Art Brault PDD Grand Lodge website has Protocol Manual.

P. Nelson- DD visit or invite to State/ GL Dignitaries. Most are in the mindset that if they don't get an invitation they are not going. Invite should be very specific, and information is listed in manual. There will be a list on dignitaries and order of introductions for ERs at the mid-year convention (ERs will sign for this). Protocol is falling off and it needs to come back. Possibly put on website.

R. Dunbar – possibly hand out in the DD Clinic.

A. Brault – **Protocol book** covers Roberts Rules, power of chair, motions, etc. BPOE Statutes, conduct of members, voting requirements.

T. Smith – percentage of elks that use GL website – 2%. No counter on state website. Use the website.

C.Vallee **–** mid-year do a membership drive, ask permission from State President.

- Public recognition of Dignitaries in attendance. Those not introduced already:

  State Officers Present: Trustee Chairman Art Brault, Inner Guard Joann Donnell**, PDD**

  Past State Presidents: Peter Freiler

  Grand Lodge Dignitaries: DDGER Coastal Alicia Dunbar

Next Meeting March 25th at the Derby Lodge (Monday Night)

TREASURER'S REPORT (Year) No Treasurer's Report

Opening Balance

Deposits

Withdrawals

Bank Fees

Closing Balance

MEETING CLOSED at 8:09pm in the usual manner.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sienna., PDD, Secretary

**** Prior to the meal, it was announced that Westbrook generously donated the meal and Carolyn Vallee donated the dessert.
Members contributed the standard meal cost, and those proceeds will be allocated to the PER Associations charitable endeavors.****