

## SDJD GGC Annual Meeting

4/6-7/2024 Masonic Center, Sioux Falls, SD

Approved as corrected 6/8/24

The meeting was called to order at 1pm by Grand Guardian Krista Vandersnick and a quorum established with 6 Bethels represented.

The opening prayer was given by Grand Chaplain Laura Brown.

The agenda was approved and seconded with all in approval.

Introductions were given with everyone telling what they do/did for a living.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as amended.

There were no communications.

Reports:

CAV – Carol submitted a report on CAV that is attached.

Grand Bethel Weekend – Storms limited the number of people who were able to travel to Rapid/Sturgis for the Grand Bethel gathering. Lots of fun was planned that included Bowling, attending a Rush Game, a sleepover and breakfast served bright and early at 6:30 by the fellows. The members and prospects from both Bethels 44 and 12 had a great time.

Grand Guide Fundraiser – The state sold \$3105 in product with the GGC getting 40% and Bethels getting 10% based on their sales.

Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer reported a checking account balance of \$13,698.97 as of 3/31/24. All the CD's have now been cashed in and added to the General Fund. Investment total excluding Education, Promotion and MIJD/SBHQ Fund total \$83,042.40.

Proceedings – Proceedings from both 2021-22, 2022-23 have been completed and are now available on the SDJD website.

Jurisdictional Guardian Council Update – The GGC Exec line and the Supreme Executive Council met March 18<sup>th</sup>. The SEC looked at several factors and decided to remove the SDGGC charter and name us as a Jurisdictional Guardian Council. The charter is officially pulled. The Supreme line addressed our concern that the number of members required to become a GGC once again is 140. They have vowed to put in a bylaw to change that to a more realistic number, however no amendments will be addressed this Supreme Session due to the ritual revisions being discussed. Hopefully next session. The Supreme team expressed concern at how many Past Grands are currently sitting in GGC and Bethel Council positions, as well as the membership of the state at year end being 44 members. It is a big challenge as to how to get new adults. Members are often dropped off and picked up, without parents staying. How to get them involved and keep them involved? The JGC designation will mean fewer committees and officers, elimination of the Board of Trustees, and more reports and information sent directly to Supreme Mona Kotas made a motion to

hire an outside lawyer to give direction on dissolving the Board of Trustees as required by Supreme. The motion was seconded and passed. The Supreme Jurisdictional Constitution and Bylaws are available on the Supreme website for more information. We will be making new amendments for SD in the months to come.

#### Bethel Updates:

Bethel 1 – 3 active girls with 2 J2B, both 8 yrs old. They continue to hold events with Bethel 38 including an event to build birdhouses.

Bethel 3 – Just finished the Circus. They need to initiate 3 girls who are currently J2B. They did a painting canvases event and brought friends to the Circus. Currently have 8 members.

Bethel 10 – They have 10 members on the books and 8 J2Bs,

Bethel 12 – They currently have 4 girls and initiated 2 new members in January. They had a fun Glow in the Dark Dance in February. Currently they have 8 J2Bs. Next Sunday they are holding a 76<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party for their Bethel. They are concentrating on community, operating as a Beehive since they are on reorganization with members doing a business meeting separately, They will be inviting the Masons to events. They are hoping for another Initiation both this spring and in the fall. Planning to host a prospecting “Tea Time” event shortly.

Bethel 21 – Krista is working on demits for the existing members and updates.

Bethel 38 – The Bethel has 10 active girls and 6 J2Bs. The February Father Daughter Dance was disappointing in its light attendance. The Lodges have asked to have babysitting provided by the Bethel on Lodge nights. The members are serving a meal for Scottish Rite, helping with the Circus in April, doing a fundraiser at the Circus to “pie” 5 people including the Potentate and our own Associate Grand Guardian Matt, and Foster Care of Sioux Falls has reached out asking help from Bethel 38 and Liberty Chapter Demolay.

Bethel 44 – Hannah and Abby are still meeting.

#### Unfinished Business

Grand Session 2024 – Girls will be able to leave things in the changing rooms. Pageant requirements will be done via zoom prior to Grand, similar to Supreme. Grand officers are asked to bring about 50 items for the swag bags. There will be specific activities for the J2Bs.

Supreme Session 2024 – SD will designate 2 Member Voting Delegates. One will be the GBHQ. The other will submit through an online application process. She must be 16 yrs old and a PHQ, able to attend all the meetings and willing to give up any other activities that would conflict with the meetings. Reports from what was discussed at the meetings, was suggested. The Exec Council will vote on the expectations of the girls and bylaws should be written to designate those expectations. May 19<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for registrations before there is another increase.

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Masonic donation for backpacks – Glen reminded us that we need to have our request and invoice for the backpack program to Grand Lodge by April 30<sup>th</sup>, to receive the \$1500 gift. These would have the JDI logo on it and allow us to fill the backpack with information for members upon initiation. Krista will work on getting all the elements together.

The meeting was adjourned for dinner hour and social, to be reconvened 4/7.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:30am on 4/7 with a quorum established.

Grand Chaplain Laura Brown gave the Opening Prayer.

Unfinished Business Cont.

Jurisdictional Guardian Council Committees and Bylaws – The new SD Jurisdictional Bylaws can be rewritten based on the Supreme format. There are some required committees and some optional ones with 1-year appointments. Required committees are Finance, Promotion/Membership and Fraternal Relations. The responsibilities of Board of Trustees go to Finance Committee, Jurisprudence and Appeals & Grievances goes to Supreme. Optional committees could include: J. Rally, J. Bethel, Miss Job/Spirit Ambassador, Workshop/Education, Philanthropic/HIKE/Fundraising. Descriptions of each will need to be established, and terms would be for 1 year.

Miss Job/GBHQ – We need ideas for how to move forward and what the programs will look like. Both could share responsibility for Spirit Ambassadors, and Jobie Congress. The GBHQ could be asked to do a Fundraiser for Promotion and Scholarship. The Miss Job candidates should have a specific \$ amount to raise from sponsorships rather than a specific number of sponsors.

New Business –

Elections – With a majority of 13 votes required for election, the following votes were cast:

J Guardian - Kaylene Sauer 22. Kaylene accepted.

Associate J Guardian – Bob Carrico 23. Bob accepted via email.

Vice J Guardian – Carla Knutson 21, Andrea F 2. Carla accepted.

Vice Associate J Guardian – Todd Knutson 21. Todd accepted.

J Secretary – Carol White 13, Lyn N 10, Virginia K 1. Carol accepted via email.

J Treasurer – Karen Willis 20, Lyn N 1, Sandy V 1, Virginia K 1. Karen accepted.

There was a motion to destroy the ballots. Results of the election will be sent to the Supreme Guardian and Vice Supreme Guardian.

Amendments -

Amendments to Bylaws were introduced and acted on as follows:

SD2024-1 proposed that the donations we give to our Masonic Bodies each year be given directly to the charities they support. The proposal was amended to include a donation to Scottish Rite and passed as amended.

SD2024-2 proposed that scholarships should be awarded to Daughters and Majority Members that have previously received scholarships. The proposal was amended to say May and was passed as amended.

SD2024-3 proposed an increase in the GGC dues from \$30 to \$40. The proposal passed.

Budget –

The Proposed Budget for 2024-25 was presented with Gr Secretary Lyn Neiman going over the Money Market balances and balances for Scholarship and Promotion, and concerns about accessibility of the funds. Finance Chair Natalie King then presented the Budget. Amendments were proposed for travel, and the budget was approved as amended.

Announcements –

June 22 is the All-Masonic Parade in Yankton. Everyone is invited to participate and isn't limited to the men.

Arianna Rice finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the State vocal competition.

Kaylene had a picture of Kathys baby.

Jen asked for prayers for Syanne as she travels to the Shrine Hospital.

Thanks were given to Bethel 38 for the preparation of food for the weekend.

Closing prayer was given by Grand Chaplain Laura Brown and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Neiman, PGG

Grand Secretary