

Joplin Valley Council Minutes
March 2, 2023
Sparta Lodge #296
Sparta, Missouri

The meeting was called to order by the Valley Chairman Illustrious Brother James D. Hardy, 33° GC. In addition to the Chairman the following officers were present:

Venerable Master:	Brother James W. Pierce, 32°
Wise Master:	Ill. Brother Nicholas L. Breedlove, 33°
Commander:	Brother Charles A. Koonce, 32°
Master of Kadosh:	Brother Gregory J. Walker, 32° KCCH
Valley Treasurer:	Ill. Brother Robert P. Gephardt, 33°
Executive Secretary:	Ill. Brother James K. Gilbert, 33°

The Opening Prayer was given by Brother E. Lee Shelton, 32°
The Craft were led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Brother Alexander D. Gilbert, 32°

A motion made by Brother Daniel W. Stehly, 32° KCCH to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2023 meeting as written was seconded by Ill. Brother, Nicholas L. Breedlove, 33° and carried by a vote of the Council. The Treasurer, Ill. Robert P. Gephardt, 33°, declared that "the books are in balance, the Secretary and Treasure's receipts are accounted for, and, the Valley is solvent." He then presented the bills and moved that they be received. This motion was seconded by Brother Daniel W. Stehly, 32° KCCH and carried by the vote of the council.

Old Business: Ill. Brother Hardy announced the following dates for the 2023 Officer's meetings in Ozark, MO; April 1st, August 8th, and November 4th. Brother Walker then asked about the degree program for the upcoming reunion. He was informed that the final list was ready and at the printers.

New Business: none

Upcoming Business: Ill. Brother Hardy reminded the Council that we would Observe Maundy Thursday Services at the regularly scheduled Valley Council and Lodge of Perfection meetings on April 6, 2023 at Hazelwood Lodge #459 in Seymour, MO. After which the Valley will be dark until we light the Candles on Easter Sunday at the Cathedral. Both the Maundy Thursday Observance and the Easter Celebration are obligatory for Scottish Rite Masons.

Valley Chairman

Executive Secretary

Joplin Lodge of Perfection #5 Minutes
March 2, 2023
Sparta Lodge #296
Sparta, Missouri

Joplin Lodge of perfection was opened in due form by and called to Labor by:

Venerable Master:	Brother James W. Pierce, 32°
Wise Master:	Ill. Brother Nicholas L. Breedlove, 33°
Commander:	Brother Charles A. Koonce, 32°
Master of Kadosh:	Brother Gregory J. Walker, 32° KCCH

A motion made by Brother Thomas D. Shaw II, 32° KCCH to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2023 meeting as written was seconded by Brother Timothy L. Ritter, 32° and carried by a vote of the Lodge. A motion to pay the bills was made Ill. Brother David V. Collignon, 33°. The motion was seconded Brother Timothy L. Ritter, 32° and carried by a vote of the Lodge.

Report of the Personal Representative:

Our Valley's Personal Representative, Ill. Brother James D. Hardy, 33° GC, began his report by thanking Sparta Lodge #296 for hosting our meetings and for the fantastic meal.

He then reminded the Lodge that it was an Honors year and that, after reviewing the nominating committee's and the scoring committee's reports, he submitted to our S.G.I.G, Ill. Brother Robert W. Cockerham, 33°, a list of names. After the nominees are chosen and voted on by our Supreme Council, our S.G.I.G. will notify our Personal Representative who will then instruct our Executive Secretary to finalize preparations for our Valley's special announcement meeting.

Ill. Brother Hardy then informed the Lodge that Brother Patrick J. Stewart, 32° KCCH had compiled a lengthy and detailed report to the Scottish Rite Foundation of Missouri culminating in a grant request of ZERO dollars for Joplin Rite Care. The Foundation decided after considering our request and the others to award \$10,000.00 to each of the five valleys' Rite Care programs.

He next told the Lodge how proud he was of our Valley and of each of us. He concluded his report by calling on Brother Travis Schnelle, 32° KCCH, and thanking him for all the rewiring of our Cathedral his company without asking for financial compensation. For the benefit of those who were not at the last meeting, Ill. Brother Hardy explained that Brother Schnelle paid his employees to redo our cathedral's internet wiring and provided our Valley with all the necessary materials used; that this was a substantial gift to the Valley.

Committee Reports:

Building: Brother Dan Stehly, 32°KCCH, updated the Lodge on the status of the building restoration. He explained that we have nearly completed the first phase (projects are done or are under contract) and that is was nearing the time for phase two. He went on to inform the Lodge that the Valley had thus far raised \$301,574.17 and that that amount had been matched by a generous benefactor. He then reminded the lodge that we still needed to raise nearly an additional \$100,000.00 and wait some for the existing pledges to come in to be able to launch phase two. Lastly, Brother Stehly reported that one of the AC units located on the rough was not functioning properly and that the building committee was waiting for the estimates/bids to come back before proceeding with the necessary repairs or replacement of the unit.

One Hundred Year Building Appointed Committee: Ill. Brother Nick Breedlove, 33° reported that the committee is working to create custom lapel pins for those masons attending or volunteering at the celebration in July. He then informed the Lodge that Brother Ryan Cockerham, 32° KCCH, would be filming throughout the building during the March reunion and that he would be interviewing members about the building; both of which to be used in the documentary film the Valley of Joplin has contracted with Brother Cockerham to create and produce. He concluded his report by informing the Lodge that the budget for the community celebration was approximately 50,000.00 and that the Valley would be asking for help with this historic celebration from a generous benefactor.

Rite Care: Brother Patrick Stewart, 32° KCCH, Informed the lodge that the Rite Care Board of Directors had a regular scheduled meeting on the following Monday to take action on two applications.

Education: Brother Ed Choate, 32° KCCH, read from The Ritual Scripture Readings-Second Degree by Wade D. Bridges. A copy of the paper will be attached to these minutes.

Report of the Executive Secretary:

Ill. Brother James K. Gilbert, 33° announced that Brother Stacy L. Ball desired to affiliate with the Valley of Joplin and moved that his membership be approved. The motion was seconded by Ill. Brother David V. Collignon, 33° and Brother Timothy L. Ritter, 32° and carried by a unanimous vote of the Lodge. He then informed the Lodge that Brother Gregory D. West had reinstated. The Secretary then informed the Lodge that Brothers Donald D. Green and Randall R. Dale had recently passed. The Venerable Master, James W. Pierce, 32° gavelled the Lodge to rise and join him in a moment of silence for our departed Brethren. Brother Gilbert concluded his report by informing the Lodge that Brother West after reinstating had demitted from our Valley to transfer to the Valley in the Orient he now resides.

New Business:

Ill Brother Christopher M. Nickle, 33° who is the Grand Lodge of Missouri's Senior Grand Deacon informed the Lodge that while attending the Conference of Grand Masters that he had the opportunity to introduce the Grand Lodge of Missouri's Senior Grand Stewart, RWB Michael A. Flagg and the Senior Grand Marshall, RWB Joshua A. Thompson to the Grand Commander, Ill. Brother James D. Cole, 33°. After which Ill. Brother Cole and Ill. Brother Nickle signed Scottish Rite petitions for them both. RWB Thompson will be initiated into the Valley of Joplin though he will with RWB Flagg receive their degrees at the Grand Master's Reunion in Saint Louis. Ill Brother Nickle encouraged those Brothers from the Valley of Joplin who can to travel to Saint Louis to attend the reunion.

Ill. Brother David V. Collignon, 33° informed the Lodge that he had secured fifty hotel rooms for the reunion at a discounted rate. He then stated that if a Brother planning to attend the upcoming Valley of Joplin March Reunion still needed a room for the weekend to let him know.

Brother Thomas D. Shaw, 32° KCCH rose and spoke of the need for the members of our Valley to find children with Speech and Language needs to help. He reminded the Lodge how hard w many of us have worked over the years to raise money for Rite Care and though we need to continue to do so that it was time we worked just as hard to find children in our local communities to help.

Box of Fraternal Assistance:

Ill. Brother Dale Roller, 33° passed the box of fraternal assistance and collected \$42.00 for the Almoner's Fund.

After the box of fraternal assistance was passed and with no further business appearing, the Joplin Lodge of Perfection, Council of Kadosh, and Consistory were closed in due form and the Joplin Chapter Rose Croix was called to refreshment with peace and harmony prevailing.