

HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
87<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
PRE-CONVENTION EXECUTIVE/GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY JUNE 20, 2008

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The International President, Thomas Bevington called the Pre-Convention meeting to order at 4:00 pm. The Invocation was given by the International Chaplain, Glen Opp, with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Sgt-At-Arms, Nick Weisinger, immediately following.

ROLL CALL

Roger Hansen, International Secretary called the roll of International Officers and State Officers and a Quorum was declared.

INTRODUCTIONS

International President, Thomas Bevington stated that full introductions would be done at the General Session meeting.

**MINUTES:**

- a) The minutes of the Annual Convention Orlando, Florida 2007  
**M/S/P** to be approved as printed and mailed.
- b) The Mid Year Meeting in Evansville, IN. 2007  
**M/S/P** to be approved as printed and mailed.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

*International President* – Thomas Bevington stated his report is in the book.

*International 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President* – George Tucker gave a verbal report.

*International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President* – Monty McMinn gave a verbal report.

*International 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President* – Robert Smith stated his report is in the book.

*International Treasurer* – Ralph Clemmer stated all of his reports are in the book.  
(See attachment A)

*International Secretary* – Roger Hansen stated his report is in the book.

*International General Counsel* – Robert T. Davis stated his report is in the book.

*Constitution & By-Laws – Proposed Legislation – 2008-1* Robert T. Davis, General Counsel read the proposed legislation. (See attachment B)

**M/S/P** that the Constitution & By-Laws report be accepted as given by General Counsel, Robert Davis.

**M/S/P** that all other Committee reports be held until Saturday where they would be given in entirety.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

**BENEDICTION:**

The Benediction was given by Glen Opp, International Chaplain.

**CLOSING:**

The meeting of the Executive/Governing Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted;

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger Hansen", is written over a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark.

Roger Hansen  
International Secretary

HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
87<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
GENERAL SESSION  
SATURDAY JUNE 21, 2008

MINUTES

**OPENING CEREMONIES & MEMORIAL SERVICE: (Ladies Invited)**

The Color Guard marched into the room carrying 4 flags as Nicholas Weisinger, International Sgt-at-Arms led the pledge of allegiance. The President thanked the Michigan State Association for allowing the convention to display all flags they purchased. The Canadian, Japanese, American and United Kingdom banners were set-up in the front of the room.

**OPENING PRAYER**

The Opening Prayer was given by the International Chaplain, Glen Opp. He thanked everyone for attending the service and explained how the Brethren would be honored.

To honor the deceased Brethren, the names were read for each state, and a representative placed a rose in front of the alter in their honor. After all Brethren had been honored, a very Special Prayer was then given in their remembrance.

**WELCOME**

**KEY NOTE ADDRESS**

The International President, Thomas Bevington introduced the Representative from the Mayor's office who welcomed everyone from out of town to the Great City of Evansville and thanked all for attending. He then offered a few items regarding Evansville and it's progress over the years. He thanked High Twelve International for the opportunity to convey his thoughts and speak at our convention.

**REMARKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The Ladies were excused at 10:00 am and thanked for their attendance at these special services.

**GENERAL SESSION:**

The General Session was opened by the International President, Thomas Bevington at 10:30 am.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

International Secretary, Roger Hansen called the Roll and a quorum was declared.

## **ADOPT RULES OF ORDER**

Adopt Agenda – **MSP**

Approve Minutes – **MSP**

1. 2007 International Convention – Orlando, Florida
2. 2007 Mid-Year Meeting – Evansville, Indiana

**REPORT OF STATE PRESIDENT’S ROUND TABLE MEETING** – George Tucker, Jr., International 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President gave a brief verbal report. He stated that there were opinions given, suggestions offered and comments made on several items. The State Presidents voiced their concerns about the dues increase.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*Constitution & By-Laws* – Proposed Legislation – Robert T. Davis, General Counsel, referenced items submitted. (See attachment B)

- **2008-1** will be discussed later, stating that the Constitution & By-Laws Committee voted to recommend this proposed resolution change as a do pass. **M/S/P** to accept this report.

**Expansion and Retention** – Berdette Bryngelson gave a verbal report on Membership. (See attachment C)

**Long Range Planning Committee** – Willie Mier, PIP gave a brief verbal report. (See attachment D)

**Masonic Activities** – MWB Ross V.N. Bayer, PGM’s read his report. (See attachment E)

**Publications and Public Relations** - Report was in the book.

**Youth Activities** – Absent /No report.

**Insurance Committee** – Ralph Clemmer, International Treasurer gave a brief verbal and explained his report. (See attachment F)

**George Washington Memorial Committee** – International Parliamentarian, David Jacobs, PIP gave a brief verbal report.

The meeting was recessed until 2:00 pm. So that everyone could attend the Grand Masters Luncheon.

The meeting was reconvened at 2:00pm by International President, Thomas Bevington.

**Nominations** – MWB Ross Van Ness Bayer made the report of the Nominating Committee as follows:

**President – George Tucker, California**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President – Monty R. McMinn, Texas**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President – Robert R. Smith, Michigan**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President – Mervyn Harris, Florida**  
**Treasurer – Ralph Clemmer, Pennsylvania**  
**Endowment Fund Trustee, 3 yrs. – Bill Potashnick**  
**Endowment Fund Trustee, 2 yrs. – Michael Mekenian**

*M/S/P* to accept the nominations as given. Each Officer then was asked to accept their newly appointed positions.

*M/S/P* that nominations be closed and as there are no contests for office that they be unanimously accepted.

**Financial Reports** - International Treasurer, Ralph Clemmer, PIP, gave a preliminary report of the financial reports.

To help balance the 2008-2009 Budget Ralph recommended that we only have 2 issues of the High Twelvian to cut costs. He spoke about the appeal programs. He stated that he was making a recommendation to increase dues for the membership since our appeal programs have diminished over the past few years and membership is down so much.

**International Club Affairs** – Verbal

**Patriotism Committee** – Verbal from Robert Barnhart, Chairman of the Patriotism Committee as well as a very detailed booklet, which was passed out to the attendees. (See attachment P)

**Endowment Fund Trustee** – William Potashnick gave a verbal report.

**Credentials Committee** – Richard Walls announced the total votes, delegate and Masonic, etc....

**Resolutions Committee** – Not present, therefore Sid Leluan stated that the Hotel should receive a Certificate of Appreciation from High Twelve International, for their service. *M/S/P* to present the Hotel Staff a certificate of appreciation from High Twelve International.

*M/S/P* to accept these committee reports.

## STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

All States either gave a quick verbal report or referenced their reports in the Convention Report book as well as offer their convention dates if available. International President also referenced the importance to send all convention info, forms, etc... to International so that these can be found online on the International website at all times for all states to generate more attendance and for everyone's convenience.

### State Convention Dates

**AZ** – September 26-28, 2008

**CA** – October 23-25, 2008

**CO** – October 2008

**FL** – December 7-9, 2008

**IL** – August 16, 2008

**IN** – September 19, 2008

**IA/SD** – April 17-18, 2009

**KS** – May 9, 2009

**LA** – April, 2009

**MI** – April 17-18, 2009

**MO** – April, 2009

**NJ** – May 8, 2009

**OH** – September 12-13, 2008

**PA** – May 7, 2009

**TX** – September 2, 2008

**KY Representative** – Henry Harrison of the Louisville High Twelve Club #105 offered his club's installation date as December 19, 2008.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Immediate Past President** – James Satterthwaite offered a reading titled "ATTITUDE". He then offered a few items and comments.

**General Counsel** – Robert T. Davis stated his report is in the book.

**Secretary** – Roger H Hansen stated his report is in the book.

**Treasurer** – Ralph Clemmer's reports had already been given and were in the book.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President** – Robert Smith stated his report is in the book and he asked the State President Terry Baker to pass out the 2010 information. (*See attachment M*)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President** – Monty McMinn spoke about the change in the conventions to be done by the Incoming President instead of the outgoing President.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President** – George Tucker gave a very inspirational talk.

**President** – Tom Bevington read his report and thanked every state President that welcomed him and his lady, Wanda to their conventions, etc....

**WOLCOTT FOUNDATION REPORT** – Brother Malcolm White asked that his report be given at the Wolcott Luncheon later that day.

**M/S/P** that all Committee Reports be accepted as given.

The International President, Thomas Bevington then called the meeting to recess, to reconvene on Sunday at 9:00 am.

HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
87<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
GENERAL SESSION  
SUNDAY JUNE 22, 2008

MINUTES

The 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of High Twelve International, Inc., General Session was reconvened at 9:00 am. Sunday, June 22, 2008 by the International President, Thomas Bevington.

The International Secretary, Roger Hansen did roll call and a quorum was declared.

**M/S/P** to accept the amendment to the original recommendations on the 2008-2009 Budget.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**Fundraisers for 2008-2009** – George Tucker, International 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President announced his ideas about fundraisers in each state and the option of sharing the funds raised with International. He stated he would not send out an appeal letter again.

**Report of Governing Actions** – International Parliamentarian, David Jacobs stated that one of the items brought up at the Governing Board meeting was the \$20,000.00 loan that we received from the Wallie's Fund.

**Past International President's report** – Past International President, James Satterthwaite reported the recommendations of this meeting;

- per-capita increase,
- telephone conference Mid-Year Meetings instead of traveling,
- only (1) one officer to attend out of state conventions,
- schedule conventions more conveniently around other Masonic functions such as Youth Group conventions,
- 2 issues of the High Twelvian only to save money,
- PIP's and other Officers should be notified immediately when an International Officer or Past International Officer passes away
- International Office to remain in Evansville, Indiana for the time being.

PIP, Wallace McCartney read the results of the balloting and reported that there was a discrepancy in the numbers. It was decided that it was an invalid ballot.

After much discussion, it was decided that the ballots and the credentials would be tallied again to get a total accurate vote.

Brother Ross V.N. Bayer suggested that while the credential committee and the tellers worked to get a corrected total, we continue with the reports that are still due.

**M/S/P** to excuse anyone in the meeting that is not a mason.

There was a ballot vote on the resolution to increase the per-capita to \$11.00 annually. This amendment was defeated.

**M/S/P** that we amend the proposed resolution to set per-capita to \$10.00 per member annually instead of the original proposal of \$15.00 per member annually, 201 yes, 68 no.

**M/S/P** to have a voice vote. International Secretary Roger Hansen called the states, officers, etc... and counted each vote.

**M/S/P** to accept the amended proposed resolution and set per-capita at \$10.00 per member annually.

Once this amount was set, the budget committee must work up a corrected budget to reflect the new per-capita figures to present for approval.

**Constitution & By-Laws Update** – Robert T. Davis, General Counsel explained the Manual updates.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Appointments** – George Tucker, Jr. read all of his appointments for all committees and International Officers.

After meeting with his committee, the Treasurer, Ralph Clemmer, Committee Chairman presented the revised budget based on the per-capita increase of \$10.00 each member.

**M/S** that the budget be adopted as presented by the Chairman of the Budget Committee, Ralph Clemmer, International Treasurer.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President George Tucker, Jr. voiced his disagreement with the proposed budget figures for the officers of High Twelve International.

A state officer proposed a new salary for the only employee that the International Office currently employs (Julie Lane). He also mentioned the office expenses being high but anticipated that if the proposed move of the International Office did happen within the next year these expenses will probably stay the same or be even higher.

Then there was discussion on the cost of moving the office. State President, Robert Ramieh informed the board that the cost of moving the office using trailers or whatever would be less than \$2,000.00.

Registering in the state of Florida as an International Organization will cost, and there may be additional costs to remove our organization from the state of Indiana. At the very least this will require authorization from both states and possibly the IRS.

We would also need to notify Missouri that we would no longer be operating in Indiana and that we would be in Florida. Employment Taxes will then change and will have to be reported.

It was mentioned that Julie is dedicated to this organization and works very hard running the office. Many agreed that fair compensation should be given to Julie and that there is too much negative thinking and lack of respect shown there this weekend. Everyone should respect each other and Julie and she deserves an apology along with all of us.

It was stated that Julie has done this organization wonders and that she should not be put down. She's been a dedicated employee that has served well, but that we can no longer afford to pay her the salary she is currently earning with the problems our organization is facing. The organization needs to be number one (1). We must reduce cost to keep this organization functioning properly.

**M/S/P** That the reports given yesterday and today at the General Session be accepted and approved as presented.

**MSP** to accept the in-line International Officers and Trustees by acclamation:

**President, Thomas Bevington**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, George Tucker**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Monty McMinn**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President, Robert Smith.**  
**Treasurer, Ralph Clemmer, PIP**  
**Endowment Fund Trustee, 3 yrs. – Bill Potashnick**  
**Endowment Fund Trustee, 2 yrs. – Michael Mekenian (*withdrew*)**

Michael Mekenian declined his position as Trustee of Endowment fund 2 yrs., leaving 2 vacancies on the Endowment Fund Committee, 2 year and 1 year Trustee.

**M/S/P** that these Officers be appointed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Closing Remarks** - International President, Thomas Bevington thanked everyone for their help during his year as International President.

**BENEDICTION** - International Chaplain, Glen Opp, gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Roger Hansen  
International Secretary