



South Atlantic Shrine Association

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Minutes of the 46th SASA Annual Meeting

September 19, 2019

Hilton Double Tree, Myrtle Beach, SC

President Greg Diffenderfer (Jericho) called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and proceeded to establish protocol in due form. Jericho Legion of Honor posted colors, led by Illustrious Sir Elbert (Smiley) Bridwell and Noble Darryl McPheron and then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. The President then recognized Past Imperial Chaplin, Ill Sir John Stanley (Oasis) to open the meeting with an invocation.

President Diffenderfer thereupon introduced the SASA Director Generals for 2019, Ill Sir Pete Rambo (Jericho) and Noble Rusty Watson (Omar). He then praised their work to make this Session a success and for their support to SASA.

President Diffenderfer introduced the 2019 SASA officers who were present.

Ill Sir Donald Ratliff, (Kazim) Secretary/Treasurer and SASA Past President

Ill Sir Thornton Holt, Jr., (Acca) 5th Vice President

Ill Sir Jim Wilson, (Amran) 4th Vice President

Ill Sir Ralph Calhoun, (Omar) 3rd Vice President

Ill Sir David Juergens, (Kosair) 2nd Vice President

Ill Sir Douglas Stalnaker, (Nemesis) 1st Vice President

And Ill Sir Greg Diffenderfer, (Jericho) President.

President Diffenderfer then introduced our Imperial Officers who were present.

Imperial Past Potentate, Alan W. Madsen 2012 (Oasis)

Chairman Board of Trustees Shriners Hospitals for Children, Jerry G. Gantt (Arabia)

Imperial Second Ceremonial Master, Kevin R. Costello (Cyprus)

Imperial First Ceremonial Master, Richard Burke (Yaarab)

Imperial High Priest and Prophet, Kenneth G. (Kenny) Craven (Omar)

Imperial Potentate, Jeff Sowder (Midian)

He noted that we would afford them the opportunity to make remarks later in the program.

President Diffenderfer then introduced the Past Presidents who were present.

Ill Sir Walter (Sticky) Burch 1981-1982 Oasis

Ill Sir R. Jack Richardson 1989-1990 Beni Kedem

Ill Sir M.E. (Gene) Morrison 1999-2000

Ill Sir Paul Gregg 2002-2003 Jamil

Ill Sir Albert Parker 2003-2004 Sudan

Ill Sir John R. (Bob) Gray 2006-2007 Omar

Ill Sir Ray Fields 2007-2008 Amran

Ill Sir David Monnell 2008-2009 Khedive

Ill Sir Joe Scott 2011-2012 Hejaz

Ill Sir Donald Ratliff 2013-2014 Kazim

Ill Sir Edward (Eddie) Everhart 2014-2015 Kerbela

Ill Sir Mike Matthews 2015-2016 Rizpah

Ill Sir Steve Tucker 2016-2017 Jamil

Ill Sir Steve Norris 2017-2018 Sudan

President Diffenderfer then presented Past President jewels to those individuals who had not previously been awarded a Past President's jewel. Those presented jewels were:

Ill Sir David Monnell

Ill Sir Joe Scott

Ill Sir Donald Ratliff

Ill Sir Edward (Eddie) Everhart

Ill Sir Mike Matthews

Ill Sir Steve Tucker

Ill Sir Steve Norris

President Diffenderfer thereupon recognized our Secretary/Treasurer, Ill Sir Donnie Ratliff (Kazim) for the reading of the minutes from the Spring meeting in Kingsport, Tennessee. A motion was made and properly seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and the vote was unanimous.

President Diffenderfer then recognized our Secretary/Treasurer, Ill Sir Donnie Ratliff (Kazim) for roll call. Noting we have 7 officers and 14 SASA Past Presidents present. The number beside each Shrine Center represents the number of Representatives present at the meeting.

ACCA	5
Alhambra	1
Alee	7
Amran	6
Beni Kedem	4
El Hasa	5
Hejaz	8
Jamil	9
Jericho	8
Kazim	5
Kerbela	6
Khedive	5

Kosair	5
Nemesis	9
Oasis	18
Oleika	6
Omar	4
Rizpah	3
Sudan	7
Yaarab	5

He reported a quorum was present and to proceed with business.

President Diffenderfer then called on 3rd Vice President, Ill Sir Ralph Calhoun to present the Finance and Audit Report. After reviewing the financial records of the South Atlantic Shrine Association, the findings of the Audit Committee were reported to the Association.

1. Business Checking Account \$120,324.61
2. Savings Account \$ 55,933.36
3. Total Accounts \$176,257.97

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the audit report as presented, and the vote was unanimous.

President Diffenderfer then called on the Ill Sir Ratliff to present the finance report for the past year on the SASA accounts, which runs from October 1 through September 30. He reported the data for both the checking and savings account. He reported a loss in the combined checking and savings from the end of last year, which was September 2018 to the last current accounting through August was **\$41,918,91**. He noted the primary cause for the loss was some of the carryover bills from 2017. Because our Fall meeting was canceled and a modified business meeting was held, it was costly with little income to offset the costs. The same thing happened in 2018, which not only was expensive, but we lost the opportunity for income for both meetings. We purchased new jewels for officers and presented those Past Presidents since 2011 with a jewel. Our old jewels did not have Georgia in them. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the financial report as presented. The vote was unanimous.

Ill Sir Ratliff then presented his budget for 2019-2020. The SASA Secretary/Treasurer budget was the same as the year before with no increases; however, due to less income projected it is projected a loss of \$6,400. He assured the representatives that he would do everything he could to save what he could

save and not be in the red at the end of the year. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the SASA Budget as presented. The vote was unanimous.

Ill Sir Ratliff then announced the temples who would be placing names for consideration for 5th Vice President to the Nominating Committee and they are as follows;

2020 Oleika

2021 Alee

2022 Oasis

And he noted, he ran the list through 2055 and each officer has the line up in their officer's book for this meeting. If any temple wants to see when their temple would be eligible, all they need to do is ask.

President Diffenderfer then called on the 1st Vice President, Ill Sir Doug Stalnaker to present his budget for both the Spring and Fall meeting for 2019-2020. He noted we are looking for ways to save money and our Director General, Rusty, has been tremendously helpful in saving money wherever we can. He also noted the presence of the Potentate, the Divan and the members from Nemesis Shrine Center and the outstanding support he was receiving from his temple. He also introduced his Director General for the Spring meeting, Ill Sir Edwin G Propst, Jr. and his Spring Treasurer, Ill Sir Robert L Dennison and made the comment that they were looking forward for us to visit Parkersburg in the Spring. Ill Sir Stalnaker offered a budget for the Spring meeting that represented a balanced budget and for the Annual meeting in the fall at Myrtle Beach, he presented a budget that was positive to cash. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve both budget reports and the vote was unanimous.

President Diffenderfer then called on the 1st Vice President, Ill Sir Doug Stalnaker for the Time and Place Committee Report. Ill Sir Diffenderfer reported;

- Time and Place Committee Report

2020	Spring	March 26-29	Parkersburg, WVA
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	Fall	Sept. 17-20	Myrtle Beach, SC
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2021	Spring	March 25-27	Louisville, KY
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	Fall	Sept 16-19	Myrtle Beach, SC
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2022	Spring	*March 24-26	Charleston, SC
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	Fall	*Sept 15-17	Myrtle Beach, SC
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*Tentative

Ill Sir Stalnaker offered this as his report and made the motion for adoption. A second was made to the motion to approve the Time and Place report as presented, and the vote was unanimous.

Ill Sir Stalnaker then asked for a short counterparts meeting in the meeting room as soon as this meeting was adjourned.

President Diffenderfer then called on the 5th Vice President, Ill Sir Thornton Holt, Jr. to present the Credential Committee report. Ill Sir Holt reported we had 7 SASA officers present. We have 14 Past Presidents and 184 representatives. We had 1,865 nobles and family members registered at the time of the business meeting. We have 152 registered for the ladies' luncheon and 156 registered for the Presidents' banquet. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the Credential Committee report as presented, and the vote was unanimous.

President Diffenderfer introduced Ill Sir Steve Norris to present the Nominating Committee report, which was as follows;

Illustrious Sir Doug Stalnaker, PP - President (Nemesis)

Illustrious Sir Dave Juergen, PP 1st Vice President (Kosair)

Illustrious Sir Ralph Calhoun II, PP 2nd Vice President (Omar)

Illustrious Sir Jim Wilson, PP 3rd Vice President (Amran)

Illustrious Sir Thornton Holt, Jr., PP 4th Vice President (Acca)

Illustrious Sir Donnie Ratliff, PP Secretary/Treasurer (Kazim)

Ill Sir Norris made a motion for each of these officers to serve SASA 2019-2020 and it was properly seconded to approve the Nominating Committee report as presented, and the vote was unanimous.

Next, Ill Sir Norris read a Resolution from Beni Kedem to place the name of Ill Sir Jason Hinkle as their recommendation for 5th Vice President of SASA. Ill Sir Norris made the motion and it was properly seconded to approve the Nominating Committee report as presented to place the name of Ill Sir Jason Hinkle as the 5th VP of SASA, and the vote was unanimous. Ill Sir Jason Hinkle received a round of applause and accepted the nomination.

President Diffenderfer then called on the 5th Vice President, Ill Sir Thornton Holt, Jr to introduce the Grand Master of Masons for Virginia, MW William Hershey. The group gave him a standing ovation and thanked him for his attendance.

President Diffenderfer then called for any new business and there were none.

President Diffenderfer invited the candidate for Imperial Outer Guard, Ill Sir Brad Prout to the podium and he spoke to the group as to why he was seeking that office. Next we had one individual wishing to be our next Trustee for the Shriners Hospital Board, Ill Sir Mack Griffin. Ill Sir Griffin spoke for a few minutes to explain why he wanted to seek that office.

President Diffenderfer then asked the Director General, Rusty Watson, for announcements, noting the dedication and effort put forth by him to make the event possible. His first comments were to praise his team and that he takes no credit. He then gave us an update on our status at Myrtle Beach. He reported the city has asked us to do what we can to eliminate gaps in the parade. If a temple is not ready to pull out at the appointed time, that temple may not get to parade. If anyone has any suggestions as to make things better, he asks them to contact him. As soon as this meeting is over, the City Myrtle Beach police department wants to address the group about the parade. There will also be a Parade Marshall's meeting at the conclusion of this meeting

President Diffenderfer invited Imperial Potentate, Jeff Sowder (Midian) for any comments he might want to share.

Imperial Sir commented to the group that it is an honor and privilege to serve as your Imperial Potentate. His goal is to make this organization and its hospital system work better each day than the day before. He then turned to comments on the parade, he noted that earlier this year we had an injury during a parade, and he asked that we pay attention to those spectators watching the parade. SASA has a tremendous parade so let's keep the gaps closed, the maneuvers to a minimum and listen to those in charge of the parade and be safe. He noted how blessed he is to get up every day and get to work with such a dedicated group of officers.

Ill Sir Diffenderfer then called Omar Shriners forward for a check presentation. They presented a check for \$5,000 for Shriner's Hospital for Children.

Ill Sir Diffenderfer adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Donald L Ratliff



SASA Secretary/Treasurer

October 5, 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Donald L. Ratliff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'R'.

Donald L Ratliff
Secretary - Treasurer
South Atlantic Shrine Association