

BERKSHIRE MARK BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION



The Minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting of BeMBA held as a Zoom Virtual Business Meeting on **Tuesday, 8th September, 2020, commencing at 7:30pm.**

ATTENDEES :-

R.W. Bro. R.J. Olliver,
V.W. Bro. G. Seeman,
W. Bro. R. Head,

P.G.M., (President);
D.P.G.M., Rep. Friendship & Care 1555, (Chairman);
Rep. Caduceus Mark 1631, (Vice Chairman);

A large number of BeMBA Reps. and Brethren supported the meeting, with far better attendance than meetings held immediately prior to the Provincial Meeting at Sindlesham.

Food for thought there !!!

The list of attendees is given in Appendix 1.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

Apologies were received from :-

Bros. Andrew Morris, Ken Beard, David Arnold, Matt Hodgetts, John Nixon, Terry Speight, Elwyn Hopkin, Ken Demmen, John Dunning and John Gilbert.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN :-

The Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Richard Olliver, re-appointed V.W. Bro. Graham Seeman as Chairman and W. Bro. Raymond Head as Vice Chairman. Appreciation was shown by the attendees !!!

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS A.G.M. :-

The Minutes of the 12th. Annual General meeting held at Sindlesham Court on Thursday, 14th. September, 2019, had been circulated to all Lodge Representatives and Secretaries. They were proposed as an accurate record by W. Bro. J. Palmer and seconded by W. Bro. R. Head. All were in agreement and they were duly approved.

4. Matters Arising :-

A further £1000 had been given to the Blood Bike Group which covers the Province of Berkshire and an appreciative response had been received from Captain Irani, Chairman of SERV OBN (see Appendix 2).

5. Treasurers Report :-

The Treasurer reported that the statement showed that £21,000 had been paid out and £13,000 had been paid in to the account. There were sufficient funds in the account to cover expected expenditure and possible support for Brethren.

That the report be accepted was proposed by V.W. Bro. Graham Seeman and seconded by W. Bro. Raymond Head, with thanks to the Treasurer for managing the accounts under difficult circumstances.

All were in agreement and they were duly approved. The Secretary reported that he would include the balances in the Annual Report to the Charity Commissioners.

6. Election of Officers :-

6.1. Treasurer – W. Bro. P. Wilding was proposed by V.W. Bro. Graham Seeman and seconded by W. Bro. Raymond Head;

6.2. Examiners - W. Bros. D. Wiltcher and D. Medley were proposed by V.W. Bro. Graham Seeman and seconded by W. Bro. Raymond Head;

6.3. Secretary – W. Bro. H. Ranscombe was proposed by V.W. Bro. Graham Seeman and seconded by W. Bro. Raymond Head;

All the appointments received approval by those present with grateful thanks for their past services.

7. Dates of Committee Meetings for 2021 :-

The following dates were proposed – January 27th, May 12th, November 12th – most likely to be via Zoom virtual meetings if the current crisis continues.

8. Any Other Business :-

8.1. Support for the Mark Benevolent Fund through donations to Festivals - East Lancashire, 2021 and Surrey, 2022 :-

W. Bro. Raymond Head Proposed that the annual support should be increased to £1,100. This sum was seconded by the Treasurer. That this way of supporting the MBF in 2021 and 2022 was proposed by V.W. Bro. Graham Seeman and seconded by W. Bro. John Palmer. All those attending the meeting were in favour of this.

8.2. Berkshire-wide Charities for 2020/21/22 :-

The President and Chairman proposed that the Thames Valley Air Ambulance and the Thames Hospice should be considered for future support. The Secretary agreed to follow up on the needs of these charities and report back to BeMBA.

8.3. Support to the Berkshire Craft Festival :-

The President proposed that £1,100 be donated annually to the Berkshire Craft Festival in its remaining years, in appreciation of the support they gave to our Mark Festival. This was seconded by the Chairman and unanimously agreed by all those present.

8.4. Members Fund :-

W. Bro. Tim Sherwood enquired if there was a special fund for Members needs and asked about the aim of the fund, which often had more income than expenditure. The Chairman explained that BeMBA's prime aim was the need of BerksMark Brethren and all requests for assistance were promptly considered by the Executive. If finances allowed, then support would be considered for small, local Charities, then one Province-wide charity each year, then support for the M.B.F.

Berks Mark Brethren would always have first call on the funds.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting, with thanks to all for their attendance and input.

Signed

Date

Appendix 1.
Participants at BeMBA AGM Zoom, 8th. September 2020
(With apologies to synonyms !!!)

Dandrew 77
Martin ?
Guy Barlow
Clive Blackburn
Andy Blatchford
Les Canham
Brian Cook
Mike Curphey
Phil Damant
Kevin Dodd
Bob Elmes
David Fisher
Richard Hayden
Raymond Head
Mike Hennessy
Henry Hobson
Huw Hopkin
Annes Ipad
Ians Ipad
Ian Johnson
David Jones
David Lewendon
Ted Lewis
Richard Makrow
Steve May
Brian McCormack
John McGreggor
Richard Olliver
John Palmer
Hugh Ranscombe
John Remington
Bill Rhymes
Graham Seeman
Tim Sherwood
Alan Spearman
Tim Spriggs
S481 V9
Henry Wade
Bob Watson
Paul Wilding
David Wiltcher
Martin Woodall
Miguel

Appendix 2.

Kamran Irani

Chairman
SERV OBN

Sunnybank
High Street
Ramsden



Oxfordshire OX7 3AU

email: chairman@serv-obn.org.uk Mob: 07785 703382 Charity Registration
Number: 1147549 www.serv-obn.org.uk

Mr Hugh Ranscombe
Secretary
Berkshire Mark Benevolent Association
44 Gingells Farm Road
Charvil
Reading
Berkshire RG10 9DJ

22nd May 2020

Dear Hugh;

Thank you for your email and letter.

The demand for our service to transport COVID-19 samples, Blood, medication and Human donor milk have all significantly increased in this period. In order to accommodate our service is now operating 24/7 to help the NHS.

This has added more pressure to our financial resources as our usual income streams by way of presentations and tin shakes are not being done because of social distancing and other measures in place to fight COVID-19.

We are very grateful to the BeMBA and all of your members for £1,000 donation which will be of great assistance to us.

Once again thank you for the wonderful continued support afforded to us.

Yours sincerely

Kamran Irani
Chairman