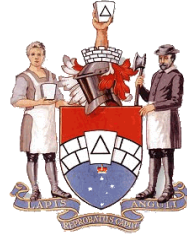


UNITED GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF VICTORIA

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

HELD WEDNESDAY, 27 JULY 2022

by ZOOM



1. Finance

Accounts totalling \$19,337.01 for the period 1 April – 30 June 2022 for Grand Mark; and \$2,689.09 for the same period for Royal Ark Mariner Masonry were ratified.

2. Grand Installation 2023

The Board noted that the ‘Together We Build’ Grand Installations of Grand Mark and Supreme Grand Chapter will be held at the Pullman Hotel, Queens Road, Melbourne on the weekend 14 – 16 April 2023. A ‘date saver’ and further details will be forwarded to all Lodges.

3. Membership Statistics

Membership as at 1 July 2022:- Mark Degree 1269; Ark Mariner Degree 497. The Board spent some considerable time discussing membership generally and the continuing effect of Covid-19 on Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Masonry. There is a need for all Lodges to be much more pro-active in bringing the Mark Degree to the attention of Craft Brethren. Likewise, in promoting Royal Ark Mariner Masonry to Mark Brethren.

4. Grand Communication

The Grand Master advised the Board that a Grand Communication has been summoned for Wednesday, 17 August 2022. This will be an ‘in person’ Communication at the Bayside Masonic Centre. Details have been circulated to all Lodges.

5. Appointment of Sub-Committees

The list of proposed appointments to the Sub-Committees of the Board was tabled by the MW Grand Master and ratified by the Board. The appointed Committees are:

*Executive Committee; *Finance Committee; *Board Review Committee; *Membership, Recruitment and Retention Committee; *Ritual and Ceremonial Committee; *Lodge and Member Education Committee; *Merchandise Committee; *Strengthening Lodges and Districts Committee; Joint Orders Working Party (ad hoc); Chamar Pty Ltd Board of Directors; Grand Master’s Royal Ark Council.

6. Return of Warrant

The Board noted with regret that Warragul Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 34 returned their Warrant on 17 July 2022.

7. Victorian Freemasons Convention

The President briefed the Board on the forthcoming Victorian Freemasons Convention to be held 26 – 28 August 2022 at Freemasons Melbourne. Grand Mark will fully participate in this event along with Supreme Grand Chapter and many of the Other Rites. This Convention will be an excellent forum to showcase everything that is ‘beyond the craft.’ All Lodges have already received advice concerning this event and the Board strongly urges all Lodges, Mark and Ark Mariner, to take advantage of this Convention and be active participants.

8. Amendment to Book of Constitution

The Board approved an amendment to Clause 104 of the Book of Constitution in respect of the eligibility for membership of the Board of General Purposes. The existing Clause 104 is restrictive and deprives Mark Master Masons of membership of the Board as currently only Installed Masters are eligible for nomination and election to the Board. The Board granted leave to the Grand Registrar to bring forward a Notice of Motion to amend Clause 104 of the Book of Constitution at the August 2022 Grand Communication.

9. Continuing Education Programme

The Board noted that as part of the Continuing Education Programme, that the Grand Lecturer continues to provide interesting discussion papers on a monthly basis for distribution to Lodges. It also noted the next presentation by ‘zoom’ on Saturday, 20 August 2022 at 3.00pm entitled “Another look at the Symbols of Mark Masonry” details of which have been circulated to all Lodges. The Board highly commends both the written and the ‘zoom’ presentations of the Grand Lecturer, VWBro Glenn Hollibone.

10. Book of Resolutions

The Board reminds all Lodges of the need to maintain a Book of Resolutions as required by Clauses 239 – 242 of the Book of Constitution for the internal government of the Lodge. Such Resolutions need to be kept constantly under review as Lodge circumstances may from time to time change requiring an update to this Book.

11. Spurious Lodge

The Board noted the circulation of an Email concerning the possible formation of a Craft Lodge in the Loddon Mallee region holding under the spurious Grand Lodge of Queensland. This proposed spurious Lodge quote, “.....to work in the ‘symbolic degrees (1st, 2nd and 3rd) also extends work in the Mark and Royal Ark Mariners Degrees....” The stated position of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Supreme Grand Chapter and this Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons in respect of the formation of Lodges under the spurious Grand Lodge of Queensland need not be re-iterated. Members of a spurious Lodge are not considered as Freemasons in good standing; and no countenance or accreditation will be given to them. All Mark Master Masons and Royal Ark Mariners are reminded of the loyalty they owe to this Grand Lodge.

P. Barravecchio
President Board of General Purposes

BROTHER SECRETARY:

Item 11 is to be read in full at the next TWO meetings of your Lodge; Please circulate a copy of this Report to all Brethren of your Lodge