Minutes of Emerald Lodge #3 of the Companions of the Stone, meeting on 14 January 1994

Present: AB, RJB, JMG, SBG, JM.

The meeting opened at 8:20 pm, JMG presiding; RJB recording.

IMG made several anouncements.

A Communication from the Grand Council of the Companions of the Stone, announcing the granting of a provisional charter to Emerald Lodge #3, was announce to the members, and greeted with enthusiasm.

One step remains in the work of foundation: the arrangement of the IRS tax exemption, which will cost some \$150. Once done, the Grand Assembly and its subordinate bodies will be able to engage in all lawful activities, including the purchasing and holding of property.

The Companions of the Stone now exists legally; it remains for us the bring it into full existence in all other senses.

The Correspondence Course is hung up, but in the process of being developed. Lesson 7 is half done, which means that the Course itself is nearly a third done.

The revised Bylaws are available. They differ in certain respects from earlier versions, in thyat they incorporate many suggested improvements.

JM noted that no absentee voting procedure was provided; JMG responded that as things stand, only those present can vote, and that thus an issue cannot be suppressed by a faction refusing to attend meetings.

The Bylaws were proposed and seconded. Discussion followed.

JM suggested that, on examination, members might have reservations about some details of the Bylaws. JMG pointed out that they could always be amended. JM said that it was important to establish a precedent of avoiding railroading important issues. JMG replied that he was certainly comfortable with provisional acceptance, with a 30-day period for feedback. The proposal as amended was then read:

That the revised Bylaws of 14 January 1994 be placed before the body for approval or rejection, with approval to include a 30-day period for evaluation and revision without need for formal amendment.

The question was called; the motion passed 4:0, the chair, according to ancient custom, casting no vote.

Additional unfinished business.

JM asked for a rweport on the status of ritual objects. JMG replied that the situation was in flux. Certain pieces of equipment qwere on loan from Achor Lodge 221 of the IOOF, and a few things were being made.

AB pointed out that two chalices and a candlestick were being donated. JM mentioned an acquaintance skilled in metal-work; SEG pointed out that church supply stores could be important resources; AB pointed iout that we could well make some things oyurselves.

JMG reported that three staves were in progress, for use by officers; that floor-standing candlesticks, some six feet high, were needed, as were banner stands and banners, and a lantern. Much would depend on the results of the cloth-buying expedition, yet to be scheduled. Costs could not yet be reliably estimated.

February 5, at noon, was proposed as a reasonable time for the cloth expedition.

New business.

The meeting schedule was presented, anso it was noted that the Solstice meetings would be parties open to spouses and significant others.

Donation forms will be made available.

JM propposed that Companions stand when speaking in meetings. The motion was passed 4:0.

SEG proposed that a series of raps be used to direct the members:

3 knocks to raise the entire lodge

2 knocks to raise the officers

1 knock to seat the lodge.

The motion was passed 4:0.

AB proposed that a voting sign be chosen; it was proposed that the voting sign be the raising of either hand. No decision wavoted.

Nominations were taken for acting officers.

For Dirigent: JMG, SEG

For Adjuvant: JMG, RB, SEG

For Secretary: RB, JMG

Financial Report: No money, no bills, no account.

AB suggested sharing costs of meeting space. RB proposed applying donations for that purpose to the cost of lodge space, with certain members guaranteeing the payment of lodge rental in part or in full as required by the difference between donations and cost. The motion passed 4:0.

Good of the Order.

JM announced a sweat lodge on the 29th of the month.

AB announce that Horizon Oasis was perfgorming the Rite of Sol on the 26th of January; suggested donation \$3.

The meeting closed at 9:50 pm, after which the opening and closing rites were practiced.

Emerald Lodge No. 3 Companions of the Stone Minutes of the Meeting of 28 January 1994

Present: AB, JG, SG, JM, RB

The meeting was opened at 8:15 PM in due form, JG presiding.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and corrected.

A bill for lodge rental was mentioned, and noted as covered.

Unfinished business.

The cloth-buying expedition was discussed; a meeting place and time were arranged. Methods of storing and protecting cloth and objects to be kept in the locker were also discussed.

New business.

SG proposed that a mechanism be instituted for paying routine bills automatically, so that not all bills would have to be examined in Lodge. A discussion ensued of the proper balance between economy of time and accuracy of records, and also the ability of the Lodge to know where money was going.

After discussion, SG moved:

Until Bylaws have been formally adopted, that the Secretary list all routine payments and give the status of all accounts as part of the reading of bills, and that routine bills be paid automatically provided that there are no objections from the floor at their reading; and that particular expenditures become "routine bills" only by a vote of the Lodge approving the addition of that expenditure to the list of routine bills.

The motion passed unanimously.

JG raised the question of the use of Lodge or Order names or mottoes, and discussion ensued about desirable and undesirable features of the use of such names. JM suggested that, if such names were to be used, they might be selected before Initiation, as part of a mentoring process involved with entry into a Lodge. JM added that such a mentoring process would be as beneficial for the Adepts doing the mentoring as it would for prospective Initiates receiving it. No resolutions were taken; the issue was deferred until a working committee could be appointed to study the matter and make recommendations to the Lodge.

Minutes: 28 January 1994

Financial Report.

The Secretary announced that rent had been paid for February, and that a \$20 donation toward rental expenses had been received. A discussion of the guarantor/donor system followed. AB moved:

That from the date of this meeting until the Fall Equinox of 1994, each member of the Lodge, circumstances permitting, contribute \$10 at the first meeting of every month toward the cost of site rental for the following month, and that this method of meeting rental costs be reviewed by the Lodge at the Fall Equinox.

Officers for ritual practice were appointed.

The Lodge was closed at 9:24 PM, and practice of the First Degree opening and closing followed.

Minutes of the Meeting of 11 February 1994

Attending: AB, RB, JMG, SG, JM; RB recording.

The meeting opened in due form at 8:12 pm, JMG presiding.

The minutes from the previous meeting were not available, and would be presented for review at the next meeting.

The Secretary presented the financial report. \$50 had been collected at the start of the meeting for the Lodge rent assessment voted on last meeting, with an additional \$10 donation from JM. The sums for the cloth-buying expedition were presented; payments and expenses balanced.

The Paperwork Committee reported that IRS forms had been submitted.

JMG reported that the cloth had been washed, and needed to be ironed, and that after ironing it would be distributed. The pattern (or recipe) for the robes was distributed before the beginning of this meeting.

Unfinished business:

Elections were held, and the votes counted. Dirigent SG; Adjuvant JMG, Secretary RB.

New business:

SG discussed the guided meditation work to be done at the first meeting in March, in preparation for the Equinox rite; business should be held to a minimum for that meeting.

JM discussed Equinox rite food.

Assignments were made for the ritual practice work, which is to consist of the full First Degree opening and closing, and the first run through the Equinox ritual.

The meeting was closed in due form shortly after 9 pm.

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Minutes of the Meeting of 25 February 1994

Attending: AB, RB, JMG, SG, JM; RB recording.

The meeting opened in due form at 8:08 PM, JMG presiding.

The minutes from the previous two meetings were read, corrected, and approved.

The Secretary presented the financial report. The rent assessments had all been received, and the rent for March had been paid.

Unfinished business:

SG pointed out that the food for the Equinox had not yet been decided. Discussion was tabled until after the meeting.

SG also pointed out that, because of the guided meditation work to be done at the next meeting, no food, or tea, coffee, or other stimulants, should be consumed after 7 PM.

The Equinox meeting will begin at 7 PM sharp on March 20, so all members are exhorted to arrive if possible by 6:45 PM..

New business:

JMG pointed out that, as of the Equinox meeting, Emerald Lodge will be a Lodge of the Order, and the Lodge will need to assess dues. We will need to be prepared to discuss that amount would be useful, reasonable, and affordable. The dues would cover costs (except for rent, which is handled by a separate assessment until the next Equinox, by previous resolution).

JMG demonstrated proposed signs for the outer (business) degree.

SG moved that the signs be accepted for use in the business degree. The motion passed unanimously. Practice followed.

Officers were assigned for the ritual practice, which was that of the full Equinox ceremony.

The meeting was closed in due form shortly after 8:40 PM.

Minutes of the Meeting of 8 April 1994

Attending: AB, RB, JMG, SG, RB recording; JM, the Summoner, was absent

The meeting opened in due form at 8:10 pm, SG presiding.

The minutes from the previous meetings were read, and accepted as read.

The financial condition of the lodge was reviewed; all books balanced, and no debts were outstanding.

Unfinished business:

The emergency repair kit was described. It will be kept in the locker, except for the muslin scraps, which will be kept on Capitol Hill in attempt to evade mildew.

JMG invited members to consider the issue of monthly dues for discussion at later meetings.

The desirability of setting up, as soon as possible, a bank account for the Lodge was discussed.

Members were asked to consider the issue of lodge regalia for use in business meetings.

New business:

The impact of the turpitude of the Secretary on the date of the Solstice party was discussed; the date was moved to July 8, pending later consideration.

SG proposed that the Lodge consider less formal sessions when possible; the possibilities were discussed.

JMG introduced a rite for granting the Protection of the Order, and suggested that the possibility of being granted the Protection be discussed with possible candidates.

JMG introduced a ritual for Initiation by Imputation, for use with new recruits before the Lodge is fully operational. JMG also distributed application forms for use with prospective members.

JMG proposed a vote of thanks to contributors. The motion passed unanimously.

Committees:

A Degree Committee was established, to consist for the nonce of JMG as Degree Officer, to report on Degree activity under Committee Reports in meetings.

An Instructional Committee was established, with RB as Lecturer pro tempore, until a permanent office could be named, established, and filled.

A Publication Committee was established, headed by AB, to report under Special Committees on the progress of Order publication projects.

Emerald Lodge #3

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Good of the Order:

JMG requested members responses to the Equinox rite. Discussion of methods of reporting ritual effects.

JMG moved that the Equinox be discussed at the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was closed in due form shortly after 9 pm.

Minutes of the Meeting of 22 April 1994

Attending: AB, RB, JMG, SG, RB recording; JM, the Summoner, was absent

The meeting opened in due form at 8:10 pm, SG presiding.

The minutes from the previous meetings were read, and accepted as read.

The financial condition of the lodge was reviewed; \$30 was available from member donations; rent had been paid.

Committee Reports:

Ritual Committee: JMG suggested that ritual work be performed in full kit.

Instructional Committee: RB noted that no report was available; that some material would be discussed under the Equinox heading.

Publications Committee: AB discussed possibility of getting a printer.

Unfinished business:

Regalia for Business Meetings: the use of green cord (for Emerald Lodge, with other colors for other lodges) was discussed.

Motion: to authorize JMG to spend up to twenty dollars (\$20) for preparation of regalia. Passed unanimously.

Emergency repair kit: ready except for two spools of thread. Will be available by the next meeting.

Dues: discussion of full dues for Emerald Lodge

Motion: From May 1st until further notice, dues are to be \$15 per person per month, which sum includes the previously voted lodge rent assessment. Passed unanimously.

July 8 solstice party date discussed. No difficulties had arisen. The date is confirmed.

The Official Thanks of the Lodge for assistance in the Equinox Rite was discussed. Thank you cards will still be sent.

New business:

July 22: The Lodge meeting will consist, so to speak, of Companion AB's wedding.

Parts for ritual practice were assigned.

The meeting was closed in due form shortly after 9 pm.

Instructional Program Suggestions

Possible instructional programs and activities

- 1: Basic Somatic Practices
 - a) focus
 - b) position
 - c) stillness
 - d) movement
 - e) breath
- 2. Basic Vibratory Practices
 - a) breath
 - b) depth
 - c) focus
- 3. Temple Structure: conceptual and visual
 - a) Elemental stations and forms (archangelic)
 - b) central Sun
 - c) quartering
 - d) locations on Tree
 - e) vertical/horizontal collapse
 - f) movements in the temple
 - g) qualities of different loci
 - h) Temple as a basic memory palace
- 4. Group (discursive) meditation work (with reports to be written up for next meeting)
 - a) Presentation and theme
 - b) Work
 - c) Recording (but not discussion until next meeting)
- 5. Group practices
 - a) Group Middle Pillar work
 - b) other
- 6. Personal development work
 - a) Name work
 - b) Other work aimed at affecting the operators
- 7. Public or externally oriented magical work (with two components: training in doing such work, and actually having an effect)
- 8. Presentations by members on topics of special interest

Minutes of the Meeting of 13 May 1994

Attending: AB, RB, JMG, SG, RB recording; JM, the Summoner, was absent

The meeting opened in due form at 8:00 pm, SG presiding.

The minutes from the previous meetings were read, and accepted as read.

The financial condition of the lodge was reviewed; (\$45 in dues; \$40 in donations) all books balanced, and no debts were outstanding.

Committee Reports

Ritual Committee: Rituals are in preparation; ritual practice will concentrate on floor work, rather than on full-kit enactment. From now on the ritual work will be announced at the prior meeting.

Instructional: Submission of proposed topics; discussion.

Motion: that instructional and ritual activities take place outside the framework of business meetings. Passed unanimously.

Unfinished business:

Regalia: still on hold.

Fabric repair kits completed; first aid kits also in place.

New business:

None.

Good of the Order:

The place of levity in the business meetings was considered.

The Lodge was closed in due form at 8:35 pm.

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Minutes of the Meeting of 27 May 1994

Officers present: Dirigent (SG), Adjuvant (JMG), Secretary (RB), Sentinel (AB, as Summoner protem.); Summoner absent.

The meeting opened in due form at 8:14 PM, SG presiding.

The minutes from the previous meetings were read, discussed, amended, and accepted.

The financial condition of the lodge was reviewed; (\$45 in donations) all books balanced, and no debts were outstanding.

Committee Reports

Ritual Committee: Practice of floor work after the business meeting.

Instructional: Discussion of somatic training.

Unfinished business:

Regalia: medallion cord now available; disks still lacking. Discussion of methods of applying monad to the cloth for the Dirigent's station..

Fabric repair kits are now fully completed.

New business:

JMG: IRS tax exempt status approved.

Members discussed implications of possible property tax exemption.

SEG raised the issue of planning for the Solstice meeting: discussion of the kind of food, and other issues, to be settled at the first June meeting.

Good of the Order:

A presentation of Beowulf through the Early Music Guild was discussed.

The Folk Life Festival was discussed.

Feedback about draft copy of outer order rituals was solicited for the next meeting.

The Lodge was closed in due form at 9:01 PM.

Minutes For Meetings of July 1994

The July meetings were both irregular or extraordinary meetings

July 8: The Companions and friends celebrated the Summer Solstice with a pot-luck dinner.

July 22: The Companions acted as site hosts for the wedding of Companion AB.

Regular work will resume in the first week of August.

Companions of the Stone Emerald Lodge No. 3 Income, December 1993 through July 1994

	All	come, De	cemper 12	JJ unroug	July 1774	!	
Date	Name	Amount	Rent	Dues	Donation	Cloth	Other
14 Jan 94	Myers	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00		
5 Feb 94	Myers	\$50.00			\$30.00	\$20.00	
5 Feb 94	Billings	\$20.00				\$20.00	
7 Feb 94	Greer J	\$20.00				\$20.00	
7 Feb 84	Greer S	\$20.00				\$20.00	
7 Feb 84	Brzustowicz	\$20.00				\$20.00	
7 Feb 84	Brzustowicz	\$64.06			\$64.06		
11 Feb 94	Greer J	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Feb 94	Greer S	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Feb 94	Brzustowicz	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Feb 94	Myers	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00		
11 Mar 94	Greer S	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Mar 94	Greer J	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Mar 94	Myers	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00		
8 Apr 94	Greer S	\$10.00	\$10.00				
8 Apr 94	Greer J	\$10.00	\$10.00				
8 Apr 94	Myers	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00		
13 May 94	Greer J	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
13 May 94	Greer S	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
20 May 94	Myers	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
27 May	Billings	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00			
10 June	Greer S	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		ì
10 June	Greer J	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
10 June	Billings	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00			
June	Myers	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
July	Myers	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
July	Greer S	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
July	Greer J	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
July	Billings	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00			
12 August	Brzustowicz	\$120.00	\$60.00	\$20.00	\$40.00		
TOTALS		\$689.06	\$290.00	\$80.00	\$219.06	\$100.00	
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Companions of the Stone Emerald Lodge No. 3 Expenses, December 1993 through July 1994

Date Dec 93 Jan 94	Rent \$48.00 \$48.00	Other (item)	Other (amount)	Monthly Totals \$48.00 \$48.00
Feb 94 Feb 94	\$48.00	Cloth	164.06	\$212.06 \$48.00
Mar 94	\$48.00			\$48.00
Apr 94 May 94	\$48.00 \$48.00	,	:	\$48.00 \$48.00
Jun 94	\$48.00			\$48.00
July 94	\$48.00			\$48.00
CATEGORY TOTALS	\$384.00		164.06	\$596.06
TOTAL (less regalia)	\$596.06			٠

Balance

(as of 12 August, before opening)

Total income \$ \$689.06

Total expenses

(less regalia) \$-596.06

Balance \$93.00 (less amount paid for regalia)

Minutes For Meetings of August 12, 1994

Attending: Dirigent SG, Adjuvant JMG, Secretary (RB), Sentinel (AB); Absent: Summoner (JM; AB Summoner pro tem.)

The meeting opened in due form at 8:17 PM, Dirigent SG presiding.

Minutes from July and the last June meeting were read, briefly discussed, and accepted.

Financial report presented, discussed, and accepted.

Committees

Ritual Committee: The coming Equinox rite was discussed. The importance of practicing the First Degree was stressed, with the intent to do First Degree initiations after the Equinox (and before the Spring Equinox).

Instructional Committee: Curriculum drafts discussed.

Unfinished Business: Elections discussed. Nominations

reviewed.

Dirigent: JMG, RB

Adjuvant: RB Secretary: SG

Regalia still being developed; materials have all been procured, but not fully processed. Some will be ready by the next meeting, and all by the Equinox.

There is as yet no suitable lamp for the Dirigent, or for the Herald. These will be available by the Fall Equinox.

The subject of Lodge names, discussed at the June 1 meeting, was recalled to the members' attention.

New Business: The issue of the Loud Dancing People was discussed, and solutions briefly recounted; the Dirigent appointed an acting Diviner to look into the subtle aspects of the question.

Ritual Work: Assignments for First Degree Opening and Closing practice.

The Lodge was closed in due form at 8:45 p.m.

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Companions of the Stone Emerald Lodge No. 3 Expenses, December 1993 through August 26 1994

Date Dec 93	Rent \$48.00	Other (item)	Other (amount)	Monthly Totals
Jan 94	\$48.00			\$48.00 \$48.00
Feb 94	\$48.00	Cloth	164.06	\$212.06
Mar 94	\$48.00			\$48.00
Apr 94	\$48.00			\$48.00
May 94	\$48.00			\$48.00
Jun 94	\$48.00	Regalia	\$20.00	\$68.00
July 94	\$48.00			\$48.00
August 94	\$48.00			\$48.00
CATEGORY TOTALS	\$432.00		184.06	\$616.06
TOTAL	\$616.06			

Balance

(as of 26 August, before opening)

Total income	\$	\$764.06
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Total expenses

(less regalia) \$-616.06

Balance \$148.00

Companions of the Stone Emerald Lodge No. 3

Income, December 1993 through August 26 1994

Date	Name	Amount	Rent	Dues	Donation	Cloth	Other
14 Jan 94	JM	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00		
5 Feb 94	JM	\$50.00			\$30.00	\$20.00	
5 Feb 94	AB	\$20.00				\$20.00	
7 Feb 94	JMG	\$20.00				\$20.00	
7 Feb 84	SG	\$20.00				\$20.00	
7 Feb 84	RJB	\$20.00				\$20.00	
7 Feb 84	RJB	\$64.06	•		\$64.06	4=0.00	
11 Feb 94	JMG	\$10.00	\$10.00		,		
11 Feb 94	SG	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Feb 94	RJB	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Feb 94	JM	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00		
11 Mar 94	SG	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Mar 94	JMG	\$10.00	\$10.00				
11 Mar 94	JM	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00		
8 Apr 94	SG	\$10.00	\$10.00				
8 Apr 94	JMG	\$10.00	\$10.00				•
8 Apr 94	JM	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00		
13 May 94	JMG	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
13 May 94	SG	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
20 May 94	JM	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
27 May 94	AB	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00			
10 June 94	SG	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
10 June 94	JMG	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
10 June 94	AB	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00			
June 94	JM	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
July 94	JM	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
July 94	SG	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
July 94	JMG	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
July 94	AB	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00			
12 August	RJB	\$120.00	\$60.00	\$20.00	\$40.00		
94							
12 August	SG	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
94							
12 August	JMG	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00		
94							
12 August	AB	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00			
94						t	
20 August	JM	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	. \$5.00		
94				· -	-		
TOTALS		\$764.06	\$330.00	\$100.00	\$234.06	\$100.00	