

Proposed Lodge Standing Resolutions

One of the new provisions in the new Bylaws authorizes the Lodge to adopt Standing Resolutions:

Article XI - Standing Resolutions

The Lodge may adopt, change, or delete Standing Resolutions by majority vote at any meeting, so long as notice of the proposed Standing Resolution or amendments are publicized to the members at least 7 days before a vote is taken. The purpose of Standing Resolutions is for the Lodge to have an easily accessible list of policies that it will follow on various subjects, while still allowing the Lodge flexibility to change policies when necessary.

This change would allow the lodge to establish continuing policies rather than have motions each year on various subjects. Standing Resolutions would be about policies that should not be in the Bylaws but that are important enough to be listed so the Members may be able to find them easily.

At the Lodge meeting on April 13, 2006, the Worshipful Master asked the Bylaws Committee to propose Standing Resolutions and the committee did so on April 27, 2006. The Worshipful Master has scheduled a vote on them for the meeting on May 25, 2006. Other proposed Standing Resolutions can be suggested at any time, by any member, to the Bylaws Committee.

1. **Amendments** - Any proposed amendment to the Bylaws or Standing Resolutions of Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10 must be in writing and be submitted to the Lodge's Bylaws Committee or Worshipful Master at least one month before it is voted on by the Lodge, and the proposal and the recommendation of the committee and/or the Worshipful Master will be publicized to the members in the Lodge Bulletin so they will be aware of what will be coming up for a vote and when.

2. **Charity Contributions** - Any proposal that Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10 make a contribution to any charity must be in writing and be submitted to the Lodge's Charity Committee or Worshipful Master at least one month before it is voted on by the Lodge, and the proposal and the recommendation of the committee and/or the Worshipful Master will be publicized to the members in the Lodge Bulletin so they will be aware of what will be coming up for a vote and when.

3. **Courtesy Degrees** - The Worshipful Master of Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10 has continuing Lodge authorization to agree to requests from other lodges for courtesy degree conferrals by our Lodge for candidates or brethren of other lodges, and, if it is, and to the extent, permissible by the Grand Lodge, to request courtesy degree conferrals by any other lodge for candidates or brethren of Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10.

4. **Budget** - The incoming Worshipful Master will prepare and present a budget for the

Lodge for the coming year at the meeting preceding installation. After the budget is approved the Worshipful Master may authorize the expenditure of money for any of the items listed in the budget without further approval by the Lodge, so long as they are within the amounts in the approved budget.

5. Dues Waived for Certain Lodge Officers - The Lodge's Secretary, Treasurer, and Tiler are not required to pay Lodge dues so long as they are serving in office and properly performing their duties.

6. Lodge Payments for Certain Lodge Officers' Tickets to Certain Grand Lodge Events - Whenever the Grand Lodge has (a) a Grand Master's Testimonial Dinner, and/or (b) a Grand Lodge Banquet (usually in December each year), Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10 will purchase tickets for the Lodge's Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, and Treasurer, plus 1 guest of each if these officers who chooses to bring a guest.

7. Lodge Payments for Members' Tickets to Certain Grand Lodge Events - Whenever the Grand Lodge has (a) a Grand Master's Testimonial Dinner (usually in June each year), and/or (b) a Grand Lodge Banquet (usually in December each year), Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10 will pay half the cost of 1 or 2 tickets for each member of Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10 who (a) purchases tickets through the Lodge Secretary, and (b) sits with at the table or tables assigned to Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10.

8. VA Hospital Visitations - Whenever Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10 is assigned by the Grand Lodge to assist with visits at the Veterans Hospital in Washington DC, the Lodge will pay for brunch for each Hiram-Takoma member who participates in that visit, plus one guest of each member, at a restaurant selected by the Worshipful Master or his designee in charge of that visitation.

9. Lodge Social Event - The Worshipful Master is authorized to plan and arrange a social event, such as a "steak fry" or a picnic, for the members and guests of Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10, with the Worshipful Master or his designee making all decisions about date, place, etc., so long as the total expenditure is within the budget adopted by the Lodge at the start of each Masonic year.

10. Handouts at Meetings - The Lodge Secretary will prepare, under the supervision of the Worshipful Master, a handout at each meeting so the members attending that meeting will have in writing the proposed minutes of the previous meeting, status of petitions and the contents of those to be voted or balloted on, announcements or communications of interest, and proposed motions to be made at that meeting. The minutes, contents of petitions, communications, etc., that are included in this handout will not be read at the meeting, thus saving time and providing the members with a better opportunity to know these details by having them in writing.