



William Whipple Military Lodge



July, 25, 2018

Brethren,

If you have received this communication, it is because your name appears on a past membership list for the William Whipple Military Lodge, or because you have expressed an interest in the William Whipple Military Lodge. The WWML has not met in two years, and during that period saw the passing of its long time Secretary/Treasurer William Lee Fisher. Lee maintained virtually all the records for the WWML including meeting minutes, agendas, and schedules - as well as dues records, newsletters, and lodge properties. We were able to retrieve many of the files from Lee's laptop in hopes of trying to get an idea of just where the WWML stood.

One of the last meetings we have on record was held at Strafford Lodge in Dover, NH. two years ago. At that time the members of William Whipple Lodge were presented with the possibility of surrendering the Lodge's charter, at least temporarily, until there was sufficient interest in continuing lodge activities. This meeting was very well attended by members of the Lodge and those interested in joining the lodge. Those present voted unanimously to retain the charter and keep William Whipple military Lodge an active body. Little has been done since, and recently a number of members have dropped by the William Pitt Tavern Masonic Museum and inquired as to if as to if the Lodge is still functioning.

After consulting with the last Master of William Whipple Military Lodge, several of us decided to make an effort to call a meeting to discuss a number of issues including (but not limited to): (1) reestablishing a line of officers with particular emphasis on the Master, Wardens, and Secretary/Treasurer (2) Examine the original purpose and/or mission the WWML and see if either needs to be rewritten or expanded (3) Review the dues structure and establish an annual schedule of meetings (4) determine what efforts we have to make to get members involved and revive WWML as an active lodge.

This meeting will be held at the Portsmouth Masonic Temple at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 23, 2018, in the “pub room” (just off to the back of the auditorium’s kitchen). To be bluntly honest, who we need to attend are members of the WWML or those interested in joining, willing to take an active role in revitalizing the Lodge – not “on lookers” . We have purposely picked a summer month when many of the lodges of the first and surrounding districts are “dark for the season”, in hopes it would prevent meeting conflicts for as many of our members as possible.

Those of us organizing this meeting, want to see that unanimous vote taken at Strafford Lodge two years carried through, and the William Whipple Military Lodge returned to a strong “active status” : we see the August 23rd meeting as critical to accomplishing this goal.



Rod MacDonald,

Curator, William Pitt Tavern Masonic Museum

GLNH Historian

Please feel free to forward this communication to any member or potential member you feel we may have missed in our distribution.