

2016 Grand Lodge Resolution #4

Submitted by Sycamore Lodge #129, approved without amendment May 14, 2016 by a vote of 91-54

TITLE: The Grand Lodge now enacts this legislation in which all of the assets of Sycamore Lodge No 129 are restored.

Whereas: Sycamore Lodge #129 was initially chartered October 30, 1866 by 27 members, including William Hayward, William Meek, William Roberts and William Knox. The original Lodge Building, funded by the community of Hayward, was built in 1868. The building, funded by the community of Hayward, was enlarged in 1892, and the addition was replaced, funded by the community of Hayward, in 1926, together with the renovation of the Lodge Room which remains today, and

Whereas: The Grand Lodge closed Sycamore Lodge # 129 in Hayward November 2006 and recovered the lodge building, other property and approximately \$275,000 in funds, and

Whereas: March 6, 2010 the Board of Directors of Grand Lodge approved, "Hayward Lodge: Moved by Pike, seconded by Breeland to withdraw Hall from being "for sale" and working on Reinstating Sycamore Lodge #129 - PASSED. There is a group of 25 persons who have shown an interest in restarting the Lodge. This program will be evaluated in five years for certain concessions relative to their status and the Lodge Hall."

Whereas: Sycamore Lodge #129 was reinstated, and the original charter of Sycamore Lodge #129 was restored April 17, 2010 to a group of 40 new-to-the-order members, and

Whereas: The Code of General Laws in Chapter IV (Grand Lodge Policy) at Section 5 (Authority Over Lodges) Paragraph H provides, "...The Grand Lodge may restore the charter and enact legislation in which all or only a portion of its assets shall be restored," and

Whereas: The present members of Sycamore Lodge #129 have closely followed the financial processes prescribed in the codes, have learned and utilized the rituals, and have every April and October presented initiations live with music; and

Whereas: Sycamore Lodge #129 has an excellent record of community involvement including free Summer Concerts in the Park Series (which has raised over \$11,900 for local non-profits), our summer Chamber Music Program for area youth, our Young Muralists Program (which has painted a mural on the side of our building), partnered with Odyssey of the Mind (which has raised over \$8,000 in scholarship money for children), and provided space to numerous performing artists, and

Whereas: Sycamore Lodge #129 actively engages members and guests in activities that enliven and enrich the lodge experience, including dinners at all of our meetings, and including seasonal events such as Valentine Day events, an annual Lodge Anniversary Dinner, Halloween parties, Christmas caroling, and a pre-New Years party, and

Whereas: Members of Sycamore Lodge #129 have markedly improved both the appearance and functionality of the lodge hall, putting hundreds of hours of volunteer work into this effort and have borrowed money from Grand Lodge to install an elevator, a chair lift and an accessible bathroom into their building, and

Whereas: It is of great benefit to the order that functioning lodge halls be renovated and repaired so as to improve the buildings as an investment, to attract new members, to provide facilities for Odd Fellows activities, and the furtherance of the principles of Odd Fellowship

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRAND LODGE THAT: Grand Lodge of California orders that Sycamore 129, reinstated April 17, 2010, shall have all of its assets restored forthwith.