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**Resolution for 141<sup>st</sup> Session of the Grand Chapter of Iowa**

Resolution to add a Service Dogs Committee to the list of Standing Committees of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, Order of the Eastern Star:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The following new committee be added to the list of Standing Committees of the Grand Chapter of Iowa as found within the Code in Sections 44 through 52 (pages 20-23):

**SERVICE DOGS COMMITTEE**

The Service Dogs Committee shall consist of three members. Each year one: member shall be appointed for a term of three years, thereby staggering the term expiration dates of its members. The duty of this committee shall be to develop a program whereby the Order of the Eastern Star will actively support a respectable service dog organization(s) in our Grand Jurisdiction, while promoting and encouraging support of the widespread recognition of Eastern Star's primary and permanent identifying charity of service dogs. Committee members should be knowledgeable and informative regarding service dogs and strive to support our membership and subordinate Chapters with ideas for promotion, community involvement, fundraising, public relations, etc. This committee will work in partnership with other Grand Chapter committees as well as the assigned General Grand Chapter Service Dogs Committee Member(s) as appropriate to assist in the continued success of this charitable program.

**Rationale:**

At the 48<sup>th</sup> Triennial Assembly of the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Service Dogs were established as the primary and permanent identifying charity of the General Grand Chapter along with the adoption of a Service Dogs Committee as a new Standing Committee. The overall goal of the program is for the general public to identify Eastern Star with Service Dogs just as the Shriners are recognized with the Shrine Hospitals. Worldwide Eastern Star members generously supported the General Grand Chapter Service Dog Project in 2009-2012 raising over \$1 million, and during 2015 our Iowa membership whole-hearted supported Iowa's Service Dog Project with Paws & Effect. While this resolution creates a standing Service Dogs Committee charged with placing Services Dogs at the forefront of our identifiable charitable efforts, it is not intended to replace support of our other important and long-standing charities of our WGMs/WGPs and Iowa Grand Chapter.