

Minutes of the 8/3/2020 St. Max K of C Council #11483 Members' Meeting

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by the **Deputy Grand Knight**, acting as **Grand Knight** for purposes of this Meeting only as the **Grand Knight** had an excused absence due to illness. The Meeting was held via ZOOM due to the continued COVID-19 pandemic and there were 25 Members in attendance.

The **Worthy Recorder** took the Roll Call of Officers:

Chaplain – Absent	Grand Knight – <i>Excused Absence</i>
Deputy Grand Knight – Present	Chancellor – Present
Recorder – Present	Financial Secretary – Present
Treasurer – Present	Advocate – Present
Warden – Present	Inside Guard – Present
Outside Guard – Present	

Trustee I – Absent; Trustee II – Absent; Trustee III – Absent

The Meeting then proceeded with a recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Chancellor's Report: None given.

Grand Knight's Report: Filling in for the **Grand Knight** to give this report tonight was the **Deputy Grand Knight**. Since Jim Hoover resigned, the Council will be needing a new **Trustee III**. The **Deputy Grand Knight** entertained a *motion* for a worthy replacement for that position.

Motion made by Roger Chavez and *Second* made by Fr. Charles "Chuck" Rauff, that Member and **Past Financial Secretary** Cletus Wenz be named the new **Trustee III**.

Brother Wenz accepted the nomination and hearing no further nominations, the necessary 30 days between nomination and approval by the Members commenced, during which time the Members have an opportunity to submit further nominations for this position. Barring any, the Members will vote on the approval of Brother

Wenz as the new **Trustee III** at the next Members' Meeting, which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

By way of information, the **Deputy Grand Knight** announced that Member Henry Renaud was named as the new Exemplification Team Leader and by way of gratitude, the President of the local Chapter of the Society of St. Vincent dePaul, Richard Peters and **Trustee Larry Koby** gave a sincere thank you to all the Knights helping out at the food pantry, allowing it to remain open during the pandemic.

Deputy Grand Knight's Report: He is still acclimating himself to the duties of the position as given him by the **Grand Knight**. He mentioned that they are easy to understand on paper but the execution thereof is easier said than done even in an ordinary year but made especially difficult this year, in the midst of a pandemic. The **Deputy Grand Knight** did mention that there are certain tools which make the carrying out of the job operate more smoothly. He finds the most effective among these tools to be the Event Planner which he says sets the framework for holding successful events. The Planner shows how to establish goals for the various events to better assure their success. Also highly important toward this end is the putting together of good teams to organize and pull off these events. The leadership of these teams begins with the Chairman of the individual events but he cannot begin to be successful without effective Members willing to back the Chairman up. It helps, for example, if the Chairman and Members of the Golf Tournament Committee share a lot of enthusiasm for the game of golf and have some experience in setting up sponsorships and such. The financial impact of the respective events is naturally of high consideration in the event planning process and this year, more than ever due to the pandemic, alternative event ideas must be considered. Bob Wright commented to this end by saying that perhaps virtual golf could be held.

Another such alternative fundraising idea which came up in discussion is the fact that Brother Joe Manna who is employed as the Maintenance Tech at St. Max, has been removing tiles from the church wall. The possibility was brought up of Fr. Teo signing these and the Knights could auction them off. It would be more than just the Pastor's signature as a suggestion was made that he could add some sort of inspirational saying or Bible verse to his signature. John Funk pointed out that while this is a tremendous idea, one hurdle might have to be cleared regarding it. We'd have to first talk to Fr. Teo to establish whether these tiles are Diocese or

church property and depending on their ownership, the question of how the rightful owner plans to dispose of them needs to be answered. Brother Funk said that, by law, the Knights can't do anything with the tiles until they are thrown away. At that point, they are fair game for anyone to retrieve because they will have lost ownership status and have become trash. In other words, gently place them in the dumpster and they become Knight's fundraising material.

Live Streaming of Entertainment was also suggested at the Meeting as a possible fundraising opportunity. The **District Deputy** mentioned that this is a very workable idea if an organization knows what it's doing in the planning thereof. He pointed out that there's a fee involved to receive the streaming and any potential audience would have to have the technological capability in order to enjoy it. There would be no lack of performers to put it on because entertainers consider the ability to perform, through whatever means, as their bread and butter. There is local talent who impersonate Elvis, Johnny Cash, etc. The **District Deputy** went on to add that such an event would have to be advertised. Various approaches to this were suggested such as a mail or email flier and Roger Chavez had the idea of placing the event details in the local newspaper. The consensus about this event suggestion was to approach the **Grand Knight** when he feels better.

Old Business: None.

New Business: The **Financial Secretary** stated that he is working with the Lochton Insurance Group, a liability insurance company recommended by the Supreme Council, to acquire liability insurance for our Council.

Financial Secretary's Report: Between dues and a gift presented to the Knights by a generous Brother, the Council's income for the month of July was \$4555, from which \$2015 of *per capita* for the State was paid, bringing us to a healthy surplus of \$2540 for the month.

At this juncture of the Meeting, quite a few Members began commenting on the new Meeting format, recommended but not officially implemented by the Supreme Council, the latter point of which the **Grand Knight** has always maintained is important to understand. Here are those comments:

Peter Lebrun – If we Members no longer hear from the **District Deputy, Financial Secretary or Treasurer**, how could there be the transparency between the

Officers and Members needed in order for the Members to feel confident that the Council is running smoothly, honestly and fairly?

- The absence or presence of these reports from the Members' Meetings is up to the **Grand Knight** and this **Grand Knight** has made it clear that he wants all Members kept abreast of the financial status of the Council. Does that mean every bill will be read at the Members' Meetings? No, that is not necessary but a summation is.
- The **District Deputy** said that this Council would be staying with the old meeting format for now.

Roger Chavez – Transparency is very important in an organization such as the Knights of Columbus and I'd like this comment and others like it to be noted in the Minutes.

- The **Deputy Grand Knight** stated that the purpose of the Officers' Business Meetings is setting the agenda for Members' Meetings.
- The **District Deputy** reiterated that point and made it clear that since the Knights are a 501c8 Organization with 990 Tax Status, care needs to be taken in the reporting and recording of any of the financial matters of the Council.

In other Council Business, Kellmis Fernandez asked how the State Raffle would be handled this year. This Council will receive 70 books each with 10 tickets in them at a price of \$10 per book. Cletus Wenz has been put in charge of this. Being that it is a 50/50 drawing, the Council will make \$350 on the deal. This represents a comparatively small amount compared with other years but in this year of the pandemic, something is better than nothing and at least it will be over with by the end of the first quarter of the Fraternal Year. The **District Deputy** reminded the Council to use the Council credit card for incidentals. That way, several items will go onto one bill and several small receipts won't have to be kept track of. Peter Lebrun addressed the communication issue brought on, in large part by COVID-19, by commenting that we should establish a telephone tree in which teams of 7 or 8 Members with a Team Captain are created to "branch out" the relating of Council information to Members for whom virtual meetings are difficult and live meetings will not be held in the foreseeable future. The **District Deputy** mentioned that this was tried but didn't work but agreed that re-connecting with "lost" Brothers is very important!

The Good of the Order: Prayers of the Faithful were offered for the Members and their families followed by the Worthy Lecturer giving an edifying talk. He referenced two pop hits of our day, “Highway to Hell” and “Stairway to Heaven”. He went on to say that there is indeed a wide highway paved to hell but a very narrow stairway built between Earth and Heaven. It is quite easy to hop on the highway whereas to climb the narrow staircase is the hard road. Some tips on how to navigate the latter include following some tried and true mantras of how to live one’s life. “Forgive and Forget.” “Offer well-wishes even to those whom we feel don’t deserve them.” “Hugs are prayers too.” “God doesn’t judge until death, so you shouldn’t either.” are all good helpful tidbits to follow when relating to others. In the present social climate of different colors of lives (black, blue, etc.) mattering, always remember not to fail making your life matter to those into which we come in contact!

Adjournment: Fr. Chuck offered the Prayer for the Canonization of Fr. Michael J. McGivney and the Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by **Worthy Recorder** Sanders on this 7th day of September in the year of our Lord 2020.