

**District of Columbia State Council  
Knights of Columbus  
Minutes of the Business Session of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting  
April 24, 2021 – Church of the Nativity & Virtual through Zoom**

State Deputy Brandon J. Brown, KM, FDD, PGK, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and State Chaplain Rev. Pawel Sass opened the meeting with a prayer.

**I. Opening and Administrative Items**

- a. State Deputy Brown welcomed the following special guests and Columbian Dignitaries:
  - i. Terry Waters, Maryland State Program Director & Director of Outreach, Cross Catholic
  - ii. General Agent Robert Callaway, Callaway Agency
  - iii. Joseph Feakes, Master of the Fourth Degree, Archdiocese of Washington District
  - iv. Timothy Saccoccia, PSD, FDD, PGK, PFN, Vice President for Public Policy, Knights of Columbus
- b. State Deputy Brown then specifically recognized Fr. Sass for celebrating the opening Mass.
- c. The State Deputy then appointed State Advocate M. Fred Armstrong as the Parliamentarian for the Annual Meeting.
- d. **Regularity of Credentials**
  - i. State Secretary Christopher Pierno, FDD, PGK, delivered the report as follows:
    1. Councils in the Jurisdiction Eligible to a Vote: 25  
Councils under suspension: 4  
Councils Entitled to Voting Delegates: 21  
Total Possible Delegates: 42  
State Officers: 7  
Total Possible Voting Members: 49  
State Officers: 7  
Grand Knights/Alternates: 21  
Past Grand Knights/Alternates: 21
  - ii. State Deputy Brown moved for adoption which received sufficient second and was approved.
- e. **Appointment of Standing Committees**
  - i. State Deputy Brown appointed the committees of the convention as it was reflected in the convention materials (attached).

**f. Report of the Committee on Credentials**

- i. Due to the unique nature of the State Convention being a hybrid in-person and virtual event, State Secretary Pierno led a roll call of all eligible voting members.
- ii. State Secretary Pierno reported that of the 49 members of the State Council entitled to a vote at the convention, 32 were present as follows:  
State Officers: 7  
Grand Knights/Alternates: 16  
Past Grand Knights/Alternates: 9
- iii. State Secretary Pierno moved for the adoption of his report which received sufficient second and was approved.

**g. Greetings to the Convention**

- i. State Deputy Brown announced that greetings had been received by the following which were presented to the convention online by the following:
  1. His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory, Archbishop of Washington (Read by State Deputy Brown)
  2. Most Rev. Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop for the Military Services, USA
  3. Monsignor Walter R. Rossi, Rector, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
  4. Patrick E. Kelly, PSD, FDD, PGK, Supreme Knight
- ii. A pre-recorded video message from the Supreme Knight was played for those present and online.

**h. Approval of the Minutes of the 121<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting**

- i. State Secretary Pierno moved that the minutes of the 121<sup>st</sup> annual meeting, which were included in the online convention materials, be approved. The motion received sufficient second and was approved by voice vote.

**II. Reports of State Officers**

**a. State Deputy**

- i. State Deputy Brown turned control of the meeting to State Secretary Pierno who introduced State Deputy Brown for the Report of the State Deputy.
  1. The State Advocate moved that that convention extend its sincere appreciation and gratitude to the State Deputy for his timely message and that his report by received and filed. The motion received sufficient second and was approved by voice vote.
- ii. State Secretary Pierno returned control of the meeting to the State Deputy.

**b. State Treasurer**

- i. State Treasurer Le N. Nguyen, FDD, PGK, PFN delivered the report and moved for its adoption. A sufficient second was received and the motion carried.

### **III. Report of District Deputies**

- a. The following District Deputies delivered reports:
  - i. District Deputy #1 Alex Cranstoun
  - ii. District Deputy #2 Kenneth Brown
  - iii. District Deputy #3 Ryan Mulvey
  - iv. District Deputy #4 Joseph Basalla

### **IV. Report of State Directors and Chairman**

- a. The following State Directors and Chairman delivered reports:
  - i. State Membership Director Joshua Bryant, FDD, PGK
  - ii. State Ceremonial Director Otto E. Heck, KHS, IPSD, FDD, PGK, PFN
  - iii. Nominations Committee Chairman James Mazol, GK, St. Cyprian Council 10008.

### **V. Resolutions**

- a. State Advocate M. Fred Armstrong delivered the report of the resolutions committee. The delegates to the convention approved of all recommendations made by the committee on the resolutions presented.

*The business session recessed for lunch and the annual meeting of DC Knights of Columbus Charities at approx. 11:45am. The business session returned to order at approx. 12:30pm.*

### **VI. Elections**

State Deputy Brown proceeded to the election of State Officers.

#### **a. State Deputy**

- i. The State Deputy recognized Grand Knight James Mazol, the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated Christopher Pierno of Potomac Council #433.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Treasurer be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Christopher Pierno for the Office of State Deputy. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

#### **b. State Secretary**

- i. The State Deputy recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated Le N. Nguyen of Sacred Heart Council #16215 for State Secretary.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Warden be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Le N. Nguyen for the Office of State Secretary. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

**c. State Treasurer**

- i. The State Deputy recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated M. Fred Armstrong of St. Michael the Archangel Council #14823 for State Treasurer.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Warden be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of M. Fred Armstrong for the Office of State Treasurer. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

**d. State Advocate**

- i. The State Deputy recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated Nicholas S. C. Shields of St. John Paul II Council #16773 for State Advocate.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Nicholas S. C. Shields for the Office of State Advocate. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

**e. State Warden**

- i. The State Deputy recognized the recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated Joshua R. Bryant of St. John Paul II Council #16773 for State Warden.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Warden be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Joshua R. Bryant for the Office of State Warden. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

- f. State Deputy Brown introduced State Deputy-Elect Pierno for the purpose of addressing the Convention.

**VII. Election of Delegates and Alternates to the Supreme Convention**

State Deputy Brown proceeded to the election of Delegates and Alternates to the Supreme Convention.

- a. In addition to its State Deputy and last living Past State Deputy, the District of Columbia is afforded one (1) additional delegate to the 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council to represent its associate membership. Brother Le N. Nguyen of Council #16215 was elected on a unanimous ballot as the Associate Delegate to the Supreme Convention.
- b. Brother Knights were elected alternates to the delegates to the 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council by unanimous ballots as follows:
  - i. Alternate to the State Deputy: Timothy M. Saccoccia of Council 16773

- ii. Alternate to the Immediate Past State Deputy: George W. Hanna of Council 11578.
- iii. Alternate to the Associate Delegate: Peter D. Gervais of Council 353.

### **VIII. Remarks by Guests and Columbian Dignitaries**

- a. The following guests and Columbian Dignitaries delivered remarks to the Convention:
  - i. Terry Waters, Maryland State Program Director & Director of Outreach, Cross Catholic
  - ii. Joseph Feakes, Master of the Fourth Degree, Archdiocese of Washington District
  - iii. Robert Callaway, General Agent, Callaway Agency
  
- IX.** The State Secretary was recognized for announcements and thanked the Catholic Apostolate Center for their assistance in providing the equipment to make the hybrid convention possible.
  
- X.** The State Deputy asked the convention to express its thanks to the ladies of the jurisdiction. The State Deputy then proceeded to announce the winners of the State Council Program Award Winners. They were announced as follows:
  - i. Faith Award: The Catholic University of America Council #9542 - Monday Knight Mass, Rosary, and Donut Social
  - ii. Family Award: Potomac Council #433 – Food for Families Food Drives
  - iii. Community Award: Bl. Tansi Council #11496 – Charity Beyond Our Shores
  - iv. Life Award: Washington Council #224 – Pregnancy Center Support
  - v. Leave No Neighbor Behind Award: Shrine Council #4944 – Thanksgiving Food Baskets
  - vi. Family of the Year: Bl. Tansi Council #11496 – Ozume Family
  
- XI.** The State Deputy proceeded to present several other State Council Awards as follows:
  - i. District Deputy of the Year: Ryan Mulvey, District Deputy #3
  - ii. Knight of the Year: Alex Cranstoun
  - iii. State Chaplain Appreciation Award: Fr. Pawel Sass
  
- XII.** At the conclusion of the award presentations, the State Deputy thanked all delegates and officers for their assistance in executing the business meeting and thanked the Fr. Sass and the Church of the Nativity for serving as the host of the convention.
  
- XIII.** The closing prayer was given by State Chaplain Fr. Pawel Sass. The State Deputy adjourned the business session of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, sine die, at approx. 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christopher Pierno, FDD, PGK,  
*State Secretary*