

**District of Columbia State Council
Knights of Columbus
Minutes of the Business Session of the 124th Annual Meeting
April 29, 2023 – National Shrine of Saint John Paul II**

State Deputy Christopher Pierno, FDD, PGK, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and State Chaplain Rev. Frank S. Donio, S.A.C., D.Min opened the meeting with a prayer.

I. Opening and Administrative Items

- a. State Deputy Christopher Pierno welcomed the following special guests and Columbian Dignitaries:
 - i. General Agent Robert Callaway, Callaway Agency
 - ii. Joseph Feakes, Master of the Fourth Degree, Archdiocese of Washington District
 - iii. George W. Hanna, PSD, Former Supreme Warden and President of DC Knights of Columbus Charities
 - iv. Brandon J. Brown, IPSD, Regional Growth and Training Director, Supreme Council Knights of Columbus
 - v. Dr. Joseph McInerney, Director of Leadership and Ethics Education, Supreme Council Knights of Columbus
- b. State Deputy Pierno then specifically recognized Fr. Donio for concelebrating the opening Mass.
- c. The State Deputy then appointed State Advocate, Joshua Bryant, as the Parliamentarian for the Annual Meeting.

d. Regularity of Credentials

- i. State Secretary Le Nguyen, FDD, PGK, PFN delivered the report as follows:
 1. Councils in the Jurisdiction Eligible to a Vote: 26
Councils under suspension: 3
Councils Entitled to Voting Delegates: 23
Total Possible Delegates: 46
State Officers: 7
Total Possible Voting Members: 53
State Officers: 7
Grand Knights/Alternates: 23
Past Grand Knights/Alternates: 23
- ii. State Deputy Pierno moved for adoption which received sufficient second and was approved.

e. Appointment of Standing Committees

- i. State Deputy Pierno appointed the committees of the convention as it was reflected in the convention materials (attached).

f. Report of the Committee on Credentials

- i. State Secretary Nguyen reported that of the 53 members of the State Council entitled to a vote at the convention, 35 were present as follows:
State Officers: 7
Grand Knights/Alternates: 17
Past Grand Knights/Alternates: 11
- ii. State Secretary Nguyen moved for the adoption of his report which received sufficient second and was approved.

g. Greetings to the Convention

- i. State Deputy Pierno 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
 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
 5. Hon. Muriel Bowser, Mayor of the District of Columbia
- ii. State Deputy Pierno read aloud the Letter of Greeting from Cardinal Gregory, which was then to be mailed to all parishes in the District of Columbia, expressing his support for the Order.
- iii. A video message from the Supreme Knight was then played for all in attendance.

h. Approval of the Minutes of the 123rd Annual Meeting

- i. State Secretary Nguyen moved that the minutes of the 123rd annual meeting, which were included in the convention package, be approved. The motion received sufficient second and was approved by voice vote.

II. Reports of State Officers

a. State Deputy

- i. State Deputy Pierno turned control of the meeting to State Secretary Nguyen who introduced State Deputy Pierno 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 Nguyen returned control of the meeting to the State Deputy.

b. State Treasurer

- i. State Treasurer Nicholas S.C. Shields, FDD, PGK, 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 Col. Hank Lutz, USMC-Ret.
 - ii. District Deputy #2 Thomas L. Jones, PGK, PFN
 - iii. District Deputy #3 Robert Newman, PGK
 - iv. District Deputy #4 Joseph Arbie, PGK

IV. Report of State Directors and Chairman

- a. The following State Directors and Chairman delivered reports:
 - i. State Program & Ceremonials Director Patrick Burke
 - ii. State Membership Director Ryan Mulvey, State Warden, FDD, PGK
 - iii. Nominations Committee Chairman Joseph Accardi, GK, Catholic University Council #9542

The business session recessed for lunch and the annual meeting of DC Knights of Columbus Charities at approx. 12:15pm. The business session returned to order at approx. 12:45pm.

V. Resolutions

- a. State Advocate Joshua R. Bryant delivered the report of the resolutions committee.
 - i. There was an objection made to the recommendation of the resolutions committee on the Resolution to Raise State Per Capita.
 1. After a period of discussion, the State Council moved to a vote by secret ballot.
 - a. The vote was in favor of the resolution 23-12. *
 - ii. The delegates to the convention approved of all other recommendations made by the committee on the resolutions presented.

**After lunch, two delegates left the convention, and one delegate was duly credentialed to enter the convention.*

VI. Elections

State Deputy Pierno proceeded to the election of State Officers.

a. State Deputy

- i. The State Deputy recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, Joseph Accardi, who nominated Le N. Nguyen of Sacred Heart Council #16215.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Deputy recognized Chairman of the Nominations Committee who moved that the State Treasurer be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Le N. Nguyen 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 Nicholas S.C. Shields of St. John Paul II Council #16773 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 Advocate be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Nicholas S.C. Shields 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 Joshua R. Bryant of St. John Paul II Council #16773 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 Joshua R. Bryant 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 Ryan P. Mulvey of St. Josaphat Council #7530 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 Ryan P. Mulvey 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 Thomas L. Jones of Immaculate Conception Shrine Council #4944 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 Thomas L. Jones for the Office of State Warden. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

- f. State Deputy Pierno then introduced State Deputy-Elect Nguyen for his remarks to the convention.

VII. Election of Delegates and Alternates to the Supreme Convention

State Deputy Pierno 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 140th Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council to represent its associate membership. Brother Nicholas S.C. Shields of Council #16773 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 140th 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: Brandon J. Brown of Council #17834.
 - iii. Alternate to the Associate Delegate: George W. Hanna of Council #11578.

VIII. Remarks by Guests and Columbian Dignitaries

- b. The following guests and Columbian Dignitaries delivered remarks to the Convention:
 - i. Robert Callaway, General Agent, Callaway Agency
 - ii. Joseph Feakes, Master of the Fourth Degree, Archdiocese of Washington District
 - iii. Dr. Joseph McInerney, Director of Leadership and Ethics Education, Supreme Council Knights of Columbus

IX. The State Deputy asked the convention to express its thanks to Grand Knight James “Eddie” Oxford, Jr. and Financial Secretary Charles Coleman of Carroll Council #377, the last two men to serve in these positions as officers in Council 377, which would be merging with Keane Council #353 at the conclusion of the fraternal year. The State Deputy then presented them with a plaque.

X. The State Deputy recognized the State Secretary for announcements regarding the close of the Convention and related activities taking place on Sunday, April 30. At the conclusion of the business meeting, the State Deputy thanked all delegates and officers for their assistance in executing the meeting and recognized Past State Deputy Peter Gervais, Director of Operations at the St. John Paul II Shrine and thanked him for all his assistance in pulling off the weekend’s events. The State Deputy also thanked the staff of the St. John Paul II National Shrine for serving as the host of the convention.

XI. The closing prayer was delivered by the State Chaplain. The State Deputy adjourned the business session of the 124th Annual Meeting, sine die, at approx. 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Le N. Nguyen, FDD, PGK, PFN
State Secretary