

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS
Msgr. Jerome MacEachin East Lansing Council 7816
Minutes for June 9, 2020 General Meeting

Grand Knight Paul Lacroix called the remote meeting to order at 7:34 PM. There were 11 members online and present when the meeting was called to order.

Meeting was opened by saying the Lord's Prayer. (Brother Art Weber suggested Grand Knight lead prayers with everyone else muted in order to avoid an echo. Grand Knight agreed, adding that he hopes this is the last time we have to hold a meeting online.)

Roll Call of Officers' was forgone for tonight's meeting.

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

Officer roster for next fraternal year

- Grand Knight Paul Lacroix
- Deputy Grand Knight Paul Gadola
- Chaplain Fr. Gordon Reigle
- Financial Secretary Dave Myer
- Chancellor John Schwend
- Recording Secretary Tony Rohac.
- Treasurer Arthur Weber
- Advocate John Ingraham
- Warden Luke Gray
- Inside Guard Mike Wooley
- Outside Guard Brad Gagnon
- One-Year Trustee Mark Meyer
- Two-Year Trustee Tom Collisimo
- Three-Year Trustee Mike Gardner.

Final results on officer vote: 31 participants with 30 for the roster as presented.

Annual giving finalized

Recipients/charities:

- Giving Tree Farm (Tootsie Roll Drive)
- Special Olympics Area Eight (Tootsie Roll Drive)
- Beckmann Center (Tootsie Roll Drive)

- Moore's Living Center (Tootsie Roll Drive)
 - Diocese Handicap Ministries (Tootsie Roll Drive)
 - Rainbow Homes (Tootsie Roll Drive)
 - Peckham Vocational Center (Tootsie Roll Drive)
 - STA - Respect Life Committee
 - St. Vincent de Paul Society - SJCSC
 - St. Vincent de Paul Society - STA
 - St. Vincent Catholic Charities
 - Advent House
 - Mother Teresa House
 - Haven House - ECC
 - Cristo Rey Center
 - St. Thomas Aquinas Church
- List was discussed at the last officers meeting. While there was no Tootsie Roll drive, these groups need continued support.
 - Treasurer John Anton noted that adjustment is required due to additional funds being added to the charitable giving fund. Grand Knight tabled this for discussion at the next officers' meeting.

Columbian Award

- Grand Knight noted that we qualify for the Columbia award this year, meeting the faith, life, family, and community program requirements.
- District Deputy Scott Jakovac decided that our council qualifies. He also noted that, due to the reduced target for new members due to the pandemic, we missed the final quota by four.

Parish/Mass update

Reopening at 25%. Masses have been happening for two weekends now. Attendance has been down, but that is to be expected with everything that is happening (and due to the fact that they recently opened).

Ordination at St. Thomas, June 13

- Presbyterial and Diaconal ordination this weekend. Private ceremony, but it will be live streamed on the Diocese of Lansing YouTube channel and Diocese of Lansing Facebook page. Parish website will be updated with viewing information.

- Deacon John Vinton, Deacon Michael Cassar, Mark Martin and Miguel Colunga-Santoyo. All four of the candidates have a connection to St. Thomas.

St. Thomas Day Camp, Wednesday, June 24 through Friday, June 26

- As Cub Scout and Boy Scout camps were cancelled due to the pandemic, Grand Knight brought the matter to Fr. Gordon's attention - and Fr. Gordon promptly invited the Scouts to camp in the field behind the church.
- Day Camp will run 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM on Wednesday and Thursday. There will be a number of events and stations set out.
 - BB Guns and Archery
 - Knots
 - Sports and Fitness
 - Crafts
 - Woodcraft
- Friday will run 12:00 PM to 7:30 PM with a cookout at 4:00. Hot dogs, brats, and the like will be supplied. They will be looking for volunteers to help grill and possibly serve food.

OTHER REPORTS

Treasurer

- While it is odd to see dues rolling in so late, we had \$250 come in after the May meeting, plus \$12 for Sacred Heart and \$13 for the general charity fund.
 - There are still 32 Knights (12% of the council) with outstanding dues. This will ultimately cost the Council \$800 in assessments. Unfortunately, these funds come out of moneys that would have otherwise gone to charity.
- Bill came due for the council website. We also had to pay for our placemats.
- Due to the addition of funds (additional dues and softball refund) and recalculating the additional 5% from our reserves, year-end giving has been updated; the new total comes to \$8,708.53. This will be finalized once June has been settled.

- Regarding last year's giving, we still have an outstanding check for \$550 that was sent to Hanna House.

Trustees

- One-Year Trustee Paul Gadola proposed granting aid to Brother John Paul Stevens via the Brothers-In-Need fund. Brother Stevens is in low-income housing, but there has been an increase. Proposing one-time aid of \$500.
 - Grand Knight asked what, specifically, is the need? How will the \$500 be spent? Where would it be allocated?
 - Treasurer John Anton agreed with the Grand Knight, stating that we can certainly consider aid - but we need to consider specific criteria to grant the aid and allocate it accordingly. He suggested the trustees vet individuals and determine needs (and an appropriate amount).
 - Grand Knight added that it is important to avoid a dangerous precedent. If a lump sum were granted without knowing where it is going... Brother Mike Thompson agreed that a "C.Y.A." process is important. Grand Knight stated that the council will get something in writing, clear questions written, that we can use moving forward
- Two-Year Trustee Mark Meyer that we received an email from Lynn Stewart with Michigan State. While the mechanics of events is still being worked out, they still have a need for volunteers. Brother Meyer asked if the Grand Knight has heard from Ed Kupec.
 - Grand Knight stated he spoke with Brother Kupec yesterday. He is still willing to lead the effort - but MSU wants all volunteers to complete appropriate forms and submit to them direct. MSU will communicate with volunteers and direct them. They will track everything themselves. He asked that we ensure that he is copied on all forms and signups (or cancellations) so that he can keep MSU accountable. As much as we would like to rely on Michigan State to track everything, there have been issues in the past.
- Grand Knight thanked the trustees for their hard work filling out the officer roster - especially Brother Mark Meyer.

NEW BUSINESS

Parish secretary, Joy Derengoski, has requested confirmation of (and aid in setting up) parish events.

Parish breakfasts

Grand Knight asked the council its thoughts on parish breakfasts. Every month? Every other month? Advocate John Ingraham proposed that we have breakfasts every other month starting in October. Brother Art Weber agreed, noting September was always the lowest turnout. Treasurer John Anton and Grand Knight also agreed. Recording Secretary Patrick Daniels asked if a motion was required and Grand Knight said it was not. We will plan on breakfasts for October, December, and February. (After the last breakfast, we will be coming into Lent.)

Fish fries

Grand Knight asked if we still want to move forward with fish fries next year - and everyone on the call agreed that, yes, we should continue with Lenten fish fries. Brother Art Weber noted that he is taking over as Treasurer and, as he will be busy with other (read: all) council matters, requested that he be allowed to take a step back from planning and organizing the fish fries. Grand Knight agreed. Grand Knight noted that we have new SOPs and will plan to designate a lead as we get closer to Lent.

Other events

Fr. Gordon has asked about activities for the fraternal year, activities sponsored by or put on by the council. Brother Mike Thompson asked if there was any news regarding the festival. Grand Knight noted that there is still concern with large gatherings... There are still a lot of questions relating to Coronavirus and associated guidance from the State and the Diocese. It is uncertain when Governor Whitmer will be lifting orders and what will change in the coming days, weeks, and months. Right now, outdoor gatherings are limited to 100.

Brother Thompson suggested that, given the circumstances, we put the festival down for next year, next spring. Grand Knight said that was an excellent idea. Brother Art Weber commented on some of the other, older activities that the council used to sponsor, the soccer and basketball competitions. We stopped doing them several years ago because turnout was exceptionally low and ultimately sent students that were interested to other councils, other events.

General news and updates from Knights in attendance

Brothers Art Weber and John Anton had a brief discussion regarding treasurer duties and a “passing of the books.” Brother Anton suggested they transition in the first or second week of July.

Knights of Columbus founder Fr. Michael McGivney to be beatified. Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Fr. McGivney; an unborn child healed in utero of a life-threatening condition in 2015 after his family prayed to McGivney. There will be a ceremony in Connecticut, McGivney’s home state. More news to come on that as it becomes available.

Brother Frank Goeddeke was, unfortunately, not able to attend tonight. He will remain on the prayer list. The council will be sending cards to Brothers Frank Goeddeke and Chris Bergen.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Prayers were requested for:

- Pope Francis.
- Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.
- Bishop Earl Boyea.
- Bishop Emeritus Carl Mengeling.
- Fr. Jake Foglio.
- Fr. Mark Ingot.
- Fr. Gary Koenigsknecht.
- Fr. Jerry Ploof.
- Brother Bill Cleary.
- Brother William Derengoski.
- Brother Frank Goeddeke
- Debbie Engan, sister of PGK Chuck Graff.
- Anne Graff, wife of PGK Chuck Graff.
- Tammy Pruitt, niece of PGK Chuck Graff.
- Brother Gary Hauser.
- Shirlean Hauser, wife of Brother Hauser.
- Brother John Ingraham.
- Joyce Magner, friend of Brother John Ingraham.
- Cheryl Slocum, friend of Brother John Ingraham.
- Brother Vern Johnson.
- Brother Paul Miller.
- Brother Christopher Niemela.
- Nancy Jordan, mother of Brother John Schwend.
- Phil Schwend, father of Brother John Schwend.
- Brother Mike Wooley.
- Phyllis Izdebski, mother-in-law of Brother Wooley.

- Jim Wooley, brother of Brother Wooley.

Prayers were also requested for all men and women serving in the U.S. Forces and members of the Rosary-Altar Society and St. Vincent DePaul Society. We are also offering prayers for healing for the clergy and parishioners of the Catholic Church here and around the world.

Closed by reciting the Hail Mary.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.

Our **next general meeting will be online** and is scheduled for Tuesday, **July 14, 2020, at 7:30 PM**. Grand Knight will be sending invitations for the meeting closer to the date.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Daniels, Recording Secretary