



Meeting Minutes July 18, 2022

- 1 **Call to Order** - GK Hillanbrand at 7:35. This Council 11564 Meeting was held in person in the Saints Simon and Jude Room of The Meehan Center as well as virtually thru a GoToMeeting link. There were 20 **Attendees**, 17 in person and 3 virtual. This meeting also followed the New Format for Council Meetings per "The Guidelines for Council Meetings" from KOC Supreme.
- 2 **Opening Prayer** – Tom Lopez, Faith Director, led us in The Our Father.
- 3 **Pledge of Allegiance** - Led by GK Sam Hillanbrand and recited by all Knights.
- 4 **Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting** – With corrections already completed, a **Motion** to accept the revised Minutes of the June 20, 2022 Council Meeting was unanimously accepted. Minutes are included on the Knights website at <https://ssjknights.org> under the Council Pages (with private Password login).
- 5 **Chaplain's Message** – Father Gerlach, our Chaplain – not present
- 6 **Grand Knight's Report**
 - Council now follows the new format directed by Supreme per "The Guidelines for Council Meetings" to include two meetings per month: an **Officers' Planning Meeting** (held 7/14/2022) and a regular **Council Meeting**. This is designed to streamline the flow of the regular monthly Council Meeting. **All Knights are invited to attend both meetings.**
 - GK Hillanbrand welcomed all Council 11564 Knights to the new Fraternal Year which began 7/1/2022.
 - Budget meetings for the new FY are planned for Monday, August 22nd.
 - GK Hillanbrand and all Knights present welcomed Jonathan Little, a recent online transfer, to his first in person SSJ Council Meeting
 - The KOC Website needs refreshing in August where help is available from John Rizzo, Jonathan Little, and Carlos Guzman.
- 7 **Financial Report**
 - **Charlie DiValerio, Treasurer**, presented the June Treasurer's Report as the final of the FY 2021-2022 which includes \$16,256 funds available toward the purchase of an ultrasound machine which is in process. A **Motion was presented and all accepted the Treasurer's Report of June 2022.**
 - Ending Bank Balance \$42,446 / Reserve Fund \$3,069 / Bingo Petty Cash \$300/ 4th Degree Fund \$202 / Available Cash Funds \$39,175
- 8 **Membership Report** - Mac McCracken spoke of a local online transfer prospect, Michael McFarland, who Jim Bushong has also met. There followed a **Motion** to accept the **nomination of Michael McFarland as an SSJ Knight and all approved.**

9 FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS - OTHER REPORTS

LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND - Program Director **Jim McCarry** thanked all Program Directors for a continuing outstanding job. He also reported attending a multi-parish Respect Life Meeting at Msgr. Schuyler Council Home where the recent Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe was considered as a good decision with further activity to follow.

Council activity continues in the **Leave No Neighbor Behind** program including livestreaming the 9:30 Mass, Rosary Recital on selected Sunday evenings, PREP sessions, donation to Community and SSJ Parish activities, and promoting Blood Donation at SSJ Parish and via appointment thru the Red Cross website at www.redcrossblood.org for the Red Cross Donation Center (Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat) on Gay Street, West Chester.

FAITH

- **Adoration Night for SSJ Knights** is every Thursday 5-6 PM. Regular SSJ Parish Eucharistic Adoration in the Sacred Heart Chapel is 7:30 am until 8pm, Monday thru Friday.
- **Rosary Recital times** are daily before the 9 am Mass; Respect Life Rosary every Monday night; Flame of Love, Thurs at 7pm.
- **The Five First Saturday Devotions to Our Blessed Mother** as a request at Fatima continued with Jim McCarry assisting and approximately 25 attending in person on July 2nd following the 9 AM Mass. Tom has a booklet describing this Devotion of Our Blessed Mother's request and the specific requirements. **The next Saturday Fatima Devotion will be August 6th** following the 9am Mass with Tom Lopez leading and requesting help in leading from other Knights.
- The annual **Patriotic Rosary** was held **Monday, July 4, in Church following the 9 am Mass** led by the Knights and friends. About 60 attended including 52 in person and 8 virtually. Many positive compliments and thanks were heard from parishioners who attended !
- **A Council 11564 Officer Installation will be held at the 6pm Mass on Sunday, August 14.** Our Council Chaplain, Father Gerlach, will preside (including an advance rehearsal with the help of Frank Bruno, our new District Deputy).
- **Biking For Babies** is a national Pro-Life organization developing bike ride programs to create pro-life awareness and to raise funds thru local charity rides to support pregnancy resource centers for expecting mothers, per Chris Massaro, Director, who visited Council at the 4/13/2022 OPM. Tom Lopez who participated in a Local Ride on June 11 thru Sts Philip and James Parish, reported on the National Pro-Life Ride from Columbus, OH to Washington DC / Arlington, VA just completed July 10 thru 17, raising \$167,000 to-date toward their \$250,000 goal ! Biking For Babies could be a current and future participation event for Council 11564 for volunteers and riders.

FAMILY

- There will be no **Family of the Month** for July and August. The DeVescovo Family of the month for June will be presented their recognition in September. All Knights are asked to continue to present additional candidates thru the Council website especially targeting younger families involved with SSJ School and Parish.
- Paul Bellino circulated a list for Knights to provide names of SSJ Parishioners who might be recognized for their contributions.

COMMUNITY

- **Joe Gothie, interim Community Director, hopes for a replacement Director for 2022-23.** Knight volunteers and help are requested!
- **Help is still needed for livestream at the 9:30 Mass on Sundays !** Instruction will be provided. **Jonathan Little**, our newest online transfer Knight, was actually instrumental in helping start livestreaming at Mass at SSJ !
- On July 7th the **camera** already installed **in the Chapel** by Tom Lopez was officially connected for operation! Finally !
- Joe Gothie reported that this fourth camera addition is pushing the capacity of the laptop computer to power livestreaming. It was recommended that a **tower computer** would better provide this power capability. Cost will be investigated where the Knights may assist.
- Community plans for this new FY will include the Essay Contest, Warm Coat Drive, and Free Throw Contest.

LIFE

- **Rose and Rosary – Baptisms** –All Baptisms are now again at the same **1PM time on Sunday**, and the Rose & Rosary are presented at that time. Dennis Kolesinskas provided the Rose and Rosary for the 3 Baptisms on July 17. No Baptisms are scheduled for the next two Sundays. A schedule of Baptisms for August has not yet been published.
As supply of the Rose and Rosary assembled cases was down to 15, a small group of Knights assisted Dennis Kolesinskas in assembling an additional 60 cases following the Council Meeting this evening.

COMMITTEES :

- **Retention Committee - Gordon Jefferes** - no report
- **Health Services Committee - Director Bill Aaronson** – reported that the latest Covid BA.5 and 6 variants are quite contagious and suggested that if anyone has cold symptoms to be tested for Covid.

- Fundraising Committee - Paul Bellino

- **BINGO held Friday, July 15**, was a success despite many Knights who usually help away on vacation! Dennis Kolesinskas championed the bingo numbers calling for the 135 attendees. By a show of Knights' hands there was majority agreement to still hold the next scheduled **Bingo on Friday, August 19**. A poster should be made which is reusable and can easily be altered to change the monthly date for Bingo. Announcements will be requested for the SSJ Sunday Bulletin and KK / Knights Korner for Bingo, 400 Club, and Italian Night sales. Council hopes that future Bingo events might be held every 3rd Friday night. Knights' help will be needed for set up, check-in, sales, seating, 50/50, 400 Club and Italian Night sales, and cleanup.

- **400 Club sales** have started and tickets will now be offered online using PayPal and at Bingo, and in the Narthex beginning in September. Tickets are \$25 and drawings will be held October thru December. Thank you to Ed Lack who has offered to manage this important fundraiser!

- **Italian Night** will be held **October 8** in The Meehan Center. Per Mac McCracken there will be only 200 tickets offered for sale at just \$35 each, for adults only. Sales will begin after Masses in August. This catered event should be great fun and a beneficial fundraiser !

- **Casino Trips have been cancelled** given little interest.

The hope is to substitute "Spiritual Trips", perhaps a bus trip to a local shrine or a religious theme play at the Sight and Sound Theater.

- **Hospitality Sunday** is next scheduled for **September 11** thru the SSJ CYO with a theme for each hospitality event.

- **Social Committee - John Ellis** - Thanks to Mac McCracken for procuring supplies for Bingo.

John will proceed to plan for a small social following the Officers' Installation on August 14. There were no 50/50 sales this evening.

FOURTH DEGREE - Gordon Jefferes advised the next conclave will be September 7 at Msgr. Schuyler Council Home in West Chester.

INSURANCE AGENT - Jim Siermine -not in attendance. Monthly emails continue from Jim on KOC insurance and financial benefits.

DISTRICT DEPUTY - Effective July 1, 2022 Frank Bruno became our new **District 19 Deputy** as Gordon Jefferes moves on to the PA State level as Online Membership Director. Our new DD advised that it is the wish of the new PA State Deputy Elect, Michael Kish, that KOC Meetings be held monthly even thru the summer. DD Bruno emphasized the continuing importance of KOC retention and recruiting as Catholics' participation at Mass and faith activities continues to wane. Evangelization is needed, and Knights by their works and good example can create participation and lead thru the KOC Faith in Action Programs.

Mike Desmarais suggested that an organized SSJ Parish Retreat or a Council 11564 weekend retreat at **Malvern Retreat** would be a strong path toward leading in Catholic evangelization. There is a cost of \$260 per weekend, but many Knights thought a weekend in September or better yet in March for the Holy Family would be good to organize.

-DD Bruno also advised that Council should expect to be hearing from Joe Brennan, Navigator of the CC Assembly re **parade march participation**.

TRUSTEES' REPORT - Dennis Kolesinskas, Bill Robinson, Ed Lack - The semi-annual report is still due.

10 Unfinished Business

- **Ultrasound Machine Committee** – Per Jim McCarry the Chester County Women's Service, including three locations, is excited to participate which may also include a teaching opportunity at local schools. A proposal has been presented to the Archdiocese to be followed with a quote to Supreme. Council and Supreme would each supply \$13,450 which is half the cost of a new Ultrasound Machine. Shipment requires 7-10 days although realistically we expect all of the approval process to extend 1-2 months, and there is no current request for payment. A majority of Knights favored the purchase of only one Ultrasound Machine at this time to measure the success of the program.

- **CYO Outreach** – GK Hillanbrand did meet with Bob DeVescovo and again discussed the idea of a 3-on-3 basketball tournament for 6-7-8 graders and PREP students of SSJ in Fall 2022. Further review is planned as there is certainly opportunity for mutual aid and benefit to each's program.

- Bill Robinson is now the contact to order **KOC polo shirts or other Knights' dress items with the Council branding**. Orders for KOC items without Council branding can be placed thru knightsgear.com.

11 New Business

-Brother Knight and **PGK Al Greto** has generously provided a check from **Life Legal Defense Foundation for \$5,010** for legal services provided by his law firm. Their request is these funds be used towards a Council Pro-Life initiative, such as the purchase of the Ultrasound Machine. This request has since changed to provide \$2,500 to Mothers Home and \$2,510 toward the new Fourth Degree Color Guard Uniform for Council 11564 members willing to serve. Meanwhile Council continues to hold the check with notification to Al Greto of unspent funds to be advised by August 31, 2022.

-**ASAP / Aid and Support After Pregnancy** is a new \$5M program announced by Supreme to help young mothers following delivery. Jim McCarry advised there is a \$100 giveback to Council for a \$500 donation - a worthy cause for our Council to consider.

12 Good of the Order

- **The following were presented for special prayers by SSJ KOC 11564 Knights :** Brother Deacon Joe Ruggiero, Brother Deacon Jim Owens, Brother Bill Robinson, Brother Al Greto, Sasin Family, DeMaioribus Family, Cellini Family, Ross Family, Brother Jim Bushong, Brother Bill Aaronson, Robert Bellino, Ron Ellis, Anne Cane, Drew Turack, Rob McCarry, Suzann Wickersham, Sheryl Fanelli, Gregory Krajnik, Brother Charles McGuigan, Deacon Paul McBlain, Deacon Bill Shearer, Jenna Desmarais, Peter VanderHeide, Patti Glenn, Bob Magliano, John and Maureen Doran, Sara Purcell, Janet Sasin, Maureen DeMaioribus, Father of Todd Hagenbuch, Sara Purcell, Daniel Gallagher, Judy MacCracken, Evan Anderson, Brother Vince Strate, Tonianne Santangelo, Lauren Dior, Ray Glenn, Sandi Robinson, Paula Reilly, Thomas Duane, Kathy Cellini, Bill Copestick, Doris Hansen, Noma Bellino, John Ellis, Gene Burpoe, Mike Resko, Joann Alleva, Bernie Carrozza.

13 Grand Knight's Summary.

- With so many **Knight activities** GK Hillanbrand continues writing and emailing a **weekly summary to all Knights**, a great reminder for all with our busy calendars ! Thank you GK Hillanbrand !
- **Officers' Planning Meetings** are held the week before our Council Meeting and any Knight may attend, not just Officers. **Next OPM will be Thursday, August 11**, 2022, 7:30 – 9PM.
- **Next Council (Budget) Meeting - Monday, August 22, 2022 at 7:30 PM in The Meehan Center.**

14 **Closing Prayer** – Tom Lopez read the “Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney”.

15 **Adjournment** – 9:25 PM

