

# **St Bernadette Knights of Columbus #7355**

## **Minutes of meeting 11/14/2023**

The meeting was called to order by Grand Knight Craig Portier @ 7:20 pm. He opened the meeting with a prayer and the pledge of Allegiance.

The roll of officers:

GK Craig Portier P      DGK James Cherry E      Chap Andre Melancon E      FS Maurice Evans P  
Tres Gerard Vedros P      Adv Ralph Mitchell P      War Richard Daigle P      OG Marvin Redmond P  
IG Edward Pinell P      1YT Andrew Vedros P      2YT Woody Louviere E      3YT Mark Duplantis P  
Rec Mark Bascle P      Chancellor Al Hargis P

Also present Special Guest: Fr Stephen Castille, Mark Landry, and Frank Chase Diocesan Administrator

A motion was made by Andrew Vedros to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as published and seconded by Peter Fos. The motion passed unanimously.

The Financial Secretary gave a report stating all bills had been turned over to the Treasurer for payment. He also reported that the membership quota for the year was nine and we were at 4. A motion to accept the FS report as presented was made by Al Hargis and seconded by Andy Dufrene. The motion passed unanimously.

The Treasurer gave a report stating that all bills and communications were paid and current. Ending balances in the various accounts were as follows: Checking Account spendable balance \$716.35. Scholarship fund \$27,459.52. Growth Fund \$30,780.36. Building CD \$300,000 and \$11,976.65 Building funds in the Checking account. Brother Duty has a balance of \$368.92 and YEP is \$396. A motion to accept the Treasurers report was made by Mark Bascle and seconded by George Swindel. The motion passed unanimously.

Grand Knights Report. Craig gave out thanks to the Knights for help and successful events of Trunk or Treat, setting up and Cooking for the church picnic, Flags and presentation for Veterans Day, and he thought the Veterans Day presentation went very well. Craig specifically thanked Ralph Mitchell for all the hard work on the Battle-Ready Men's Retreat. Ralph is also still waiting on bids for the Building Project. Frank Chase gave a report on the Diocesan Picnic. He said the entire thing was a learning experience.

The Grand Knight moved on to unfinished business. Craig Reported the Kiosk was ordered and was waiting for it to arrive. He also reported that the Morgan Stanly accounts had got the checks signed and was waiting to clear the ending balances with them to close the accounts and the monies would be transferred soon to new investment accounts. There being no further business the GK moved on to new Business.

Craig then proceeded to New Business. In new business the scholarship is \$500 per semester if they maintain a 2.5 average for 4 years. Mark Bascle made the following motion: I would like to make a motion to revamp the Scholarship program under the direction of the new chairman Mark Duplantis as follows: It will include 2 \$250 Scholarships per semester not to exceed \$1,000 per school year August to June. The length of the scholarship will be for a period of one year at a time if the student maintains a 2.5 gpa the first semester and the students must reapply each year if they want to be able to continue with the scholarship. The student is in no way guaranteed to be awarded the scholarship after the first year as the committee will award the scholarship each year to the students, they feel are most qualified based on the applications received. Each year before the fall semester, the committee will meet and choose a student for each of the 2 scholarships and the winning student will receive a check for \$250 written to them before the start of the semester. The funds can be used for books, meals or tuition as the student sees fit. It is the responsibility of the students to get the gpa to Mark Duplantis or current committee chairman after the first semester to be able to receive the scholarship for the second semester. The scholarship can be used for any type of advanced degree curriculum after High School. The Scholarship will be available to any High School or current College student who is associated with the Saint Bernadette Knights of Columbus in Good Standing or any Deceased Brother Knight of Saint Bernadette that passed away in Good Standing. The student may use the Scholarship at any university or advanced degree school of his choosing whether in Louisiana or not if they comply with all the requirements of the scholarship. The motion was seconded by Ralph Mitchell and passed unanimously.

Craig then talked about the Church Christmas Party to be held on December 16<sup>th</sup>. The Knights usually provide Hot Chocolate, Popcorn, and cookies. He also mentioned that he wanted to do a Christmas Social for the December meeting and do it like an awards ceremony and maybe a potluck dinner. He mentioned that Mark had talked to Fr Andre and gotten the OK to collect non perishable food items and monetary donations to feed the needy with Food Baskets at Christmas time. Andrew Vedros mentioned that the Relay for Life Signups had begun and the theme for 2024 will be Wishing upon a star. Craig also stated he planned to do a football pool

\$20 or \$25 per square for the Super Bowl ½ and ½ with the proceeds going to the winner and Relay for life. Craig also brought up the funding of the 4<sup>th</sup> degree, so they don't compete with the council on fund raising. That was tabled until the next meeting.

Craig then moved on to the Good of the order. Craig announced that Terry Doughtry was the Knight of the Month, and the Mike Delaune Family was the family of the month.

For his DD report of the month Mark talked a little bit about the 4<sup>th</sup> degree upcoming exemplifications and the new uniforms that the Assembly now has and thanked everyone for the work put in to make the 4<sup>th</sup> degree successful.

The Grand Knight adjourned the meeting at 8:29 pm as no further business needed to be brought before the council.

Mark K. Bascle

Past Grand Knight and Recorder/Secretary