

OHIO STATE COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MINUTES OF THE 122nd STATE CONVENTION
Northern Kentucky Convention Center, Covington, KY
May 22, 2021

Saturday, May 22, 2021

Memorial Mass

The annual Memorial Mass was celebrated by State Chaplain Fr. Wayne Morris with the liturgy taking place in the Meeting Rooms 2/3 of the Convention Center and was attended by the convention state officers and wives, selected state directors and staff, and guests. An *In Memoriam* booklet listing Brother Knights who had passed away during the past fraternal year was provided to all registrants attending the State Convention. State Chaplain Fr. Wayne Morris read one name from every council listed in the memoriam as a tribute to all our deceased members.

Super Cash Bonanza Drawing

The 2021 Super Cash Bonanza Charity Campaign ticket drawing was also held in the Meeting Rooms 2/3 of the Convention Center following the Memorial Mass. This event was led by the State Treasurer Jeff Kiliany. Assisting the State Treasurer were the other State Officers and Past State Deputies. The preliminary ticket sales for the 2021 campaign were announced. A total of 181,000 tickets were sold with still some more finalizing before the numbers would be released.

State Awards Program

The Awards Session began at 10:00 a.m. in the Meeting Rooms 2/3 of the Convention Center. State Deputy Robert Byers introduced State General Program Director Michael Nau to chair the awards session. Brother Michael expressed his gratitude to all councils for their participation in the “We Are Many. We Are One.” state program. Brother Michael announced this year’s awards. All the plaques will be distributed to the councils during the state tour in July.

State District Deputy Director Tom Offenberger presented the District Deputy of the Year awards for the second half of the year to each of Ohio’s six dioceses.

The awards session was completed around 11:15 a.m.

General Session

Opening

State Deputy Robert Byers opened the virtual meeting at 1:02 p.m. State Warden James Maslach reported that those in attendance were duly qualified Third-Degree members for this session.

State Chaplain Fr. Wayne Morris led the opening prayer, “Prayer for Protection in time of Pandemic.”

State Warden James Maslach took the Roll Call of the State Officers:

State Chaplain	Father Wayne Morris	Present
State Deputy	Robert Byers	Present
State Secretary	Mark Siracusa	Present
State Treasurer	Jeffrey Kiliany	Present
State Advocate	Michael Felerski	Present
State Warden	James Maslach	Present
Immediate Past State Deputy	Kevin Miller	Present
Supreme Representative	Eric Johnson	Present

State Deputy Robert Byers proceeded to provide the information and directions for the virtual meeting format, delegate voting and instructions for re-gaining access if disconnected from the GoToWebinar session.

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly provided a welcoming and inspiring message to the membership present. The message highlighted the continued work of the Knights of Columbus in exemplifying our principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity during the coronavirus pandemic.

State Deputy Robert Byer appointed Past State Deputy Al Hickey to serve as our parliamentarian for this virtual meeting.

State Deputy Robert Byers appointed the following:

- Parliamentarian: Past State Deputy Al Hickey
- Judge: Past State Deputy Paul Upman
- Tellers: Past State Deputies Robert Collins, Jr and Larry Moegling

Credentials Committee

State Deputy Robert Byers was provided with a report of the Credentials Committee by State Secretary Mark Siracusa and a roll call of delegates. The report listed those in attendance at the convention:

6	State Officers
1	State Chaplain
268	Delegates
275	Total Voting Delegates

Approval of the 2020 State Convention Minutes

State Deputy Robert Byers indicated that the meeting minutes from the 2020 Virtual State Convention have been posted on the state website. There were no corrections to the minutes. The minutes from the 2020 State Convention are approved.

Report of Committees

The report of committees is posted on the state website and distributed prior to the state convention for review. There is no objection to the reports, the reports are adopted as written and included in the minutes.

Report of the Audit Committee

State Secretary Mark Siracusa thanked the members who served on the Audit Committee via virtual meeting on May 17, 2021, prior to the state convention. He moved that the report of the Audit Committee and 2021-2022 Budget be accepted as part of the 2021 State Convention minutes. State Deputy Robert Byers hearing no discussion, approved the report.

Report of the Various Committees

State Deputy Robert Byers indicated that all the reports of the various committees are available for review on the state website prior to the state convention. There was no objection, and the reports were accepted as written.

Reports of the State Officers

State Deputy Robert Byers noted that the various reports of the state officers have been posted on the state web site prior to the State Convention.

State Chaplain Fr. Wayne Morris provided a message of the meaning behind the last two years and State Deputy's theme, "We Are Many. We Are One." Reference to Romans 8:31-39 illustrating how we, as an organization, bring about justice and a sense of community.

State Deputy Robert Byers reported on the state of the Order in Ohio. State Deputy Robert Byers in lieu of reading ALL the reports of the State Officers--that these reports were to be accepted as printed and are readily available on the state website. There was no objection and the reports, as written, be included in the minutes.

Credentials Committee – Update

State Deputy Robert Byers was updated with a report of the Credentials Committee by State Secretary Mark Siracusa and a roll call of delegates. The report listed those in attendance at the convention:

6	State Officers
1	State Chaplain
268	Delegates
275	Total Voting Delegates

Without objection the roll of delegates submitted by the Credentials Committee will be the official roll of voting members of the convention.

Election of State Officers

State Deputy Robert Byers covered the rules for the election. Nominations submitted to the State Secretary will be considered as seconded nominations made to the floor for consideration of that respective position.

For the purpose of the election of State Officers for the next Fraternal Year, State Deputy Robert Byers turned the gavel over to our Immediate Past State Deputy Kevin Miller.

The following nominations were submitted for the positions of the State Officers, which not only serve as nominations but as seconding nominations.

- State Deputy – Mark Siracusa
- State Secretary – Jeffrey Kiliany
- State Treasurer – Michael Felerski
- State Advocate – James Maslach

There were no other nominations from the floor. The nominations were closed and there were no objections. State Secretary Mark Siracusa cast one ballot for the slate of State Officers for a one-year term commencing July 1, 2021. The ballot was accepted unanimously.

Election of New State Warden

Nominations were made for the office of State Warden. The nomination of Brett Gissel was presented by Joe Mackos, Financial Secretary of Marian Council 3813 and was seconded by Andrew Nuckols, Recorder of Madonna Council 3891.

The nomination of Christopher Sarka was presented by Gary Eckstein, Past State Deputy and Trustee of Santa Maria Council 2898 and was seconded by Michael Sarka, Past Grand Knight of Fr Michael Muehle Council 5669.

The State Warden-elect was elected with one ballot.

Immediate Past State Deputy Kevin Miller turned the gavel back over to State Deputy Robert Byers.

Election of Supreme Representatives

State Deputy-Elect Mark Siracusa and the Immediate Past State Deputy Robert Byers are automatic delegates.

State Warden James Maslach nominated State Treasurer Jeffrey Kiliany as the alternate for the State Deputy and State Advocate Michael Felerski as the alternate for the Immediate Past State Deputy. There were no nominations from the floor or objections. The nominations have been accepted.

Ohio can elect eight (8) more Third-Degree members to represent Ohio at the Supreme Convention of which four (4) insurance members and four (4) associate members. The area caucus meetings were held prior to the state convention. State Advocate Michael Felerski nominated the following from the eight (8) area caucuses:

Area	Delegate	Member Type	Alternate	Member Type
1	Toby Stark	Insurance	Daniel Roggelin	Insurance
2	Fredrick J. Kramer	Insurance	George Metz	Insurance
3	Robert Walsh	Insurance	Michael Schum	Associate
4	William Howe	Insurance	Mark Kahanca	Insurance
5	Michael Vondenhuevel	Insurance	Vernon Bergman	Insurance
6	Richard D'Auteuil	Insurance	Eric Yang	Insurance
7	Erol Hosdil	Insurance	Anthony Offenberger	Insurance
8	Daniel Warnock	Insurance	Andrew Nuckols	Insurance

There were no other nominations from floor or any objections. State Secretary Mark Siracusa cast one ballot for the delegates and alternates. The ballot passed unanimously.

Report of the Resolution Committee

Resolutions Committee Chairman State Advocate Michael Felerski and the committee members met on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 via GoToMeeting prior to the state convention. State Advocate thanked members of his committee. The State Advocate then presented Resolutions #1 to #10 and all were accepted by the committee and the floor with no discussion.

An amendment to the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus By-Laws concerning the per diem and mileage rate was read by State Advocate Michael Felerski. The Resolution and By-Laws Committee recommended adoption. The amendment was accepted and there was no discussion from the floor.

Report of the Insurance

General Agent Jason Staas provided an update on the insurance business and Supreme office operations.

New Business

Immediate Past State Deputy Kevin Miller made a motion to increase the mileage and per diem rates from \$0.45/mile and \$45/day to \$0.55/mile and \$55/day per the By-Law change effective immediately until the By-Law change is approved by the Supreme Council Board of Directors. The motion was second by State Treasurer Jeff Kiliany. There was no discussion and the motion passed without objection.

Closing Prayer

State Chaplain Father Wayne Morris led with the Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael McGivney.

Adjournment

State Deputy Robert Byers officially adjourned the state convention at 2:40 p.m.

State Deputy's Banquet

The State Deputy's Banquet took place in Meeting Rooms 4/5 at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center in Covington, KY. State Deputy Robert Byers and his wife, Peggy, were honored for their efforts this past fraternal year.

Respectfully Submitted,

James K. Maslach

James K. Maslach
State Warden

Note: An official recorded transcript of the convention is available. The Annual Minutes and Bylaws Committee will review this report of the 122nd State Convention at the 123rd Ohio State Council convention at Kalahari Convention Center in Sandusky, OH.