

2020 Knights of Columbus State Convention
Meeting Minutes

Date – Saturday 4-13-19

Council Hall 799 09:00

Attendees:

- ❖ Roy Rabenaldt – Convention Advisor
- ❖ Reed Fontenot – Co-Chair
- ❖ Mike Courtney – Co-Chair
- ❖ Chris Fowler – Hospitality Suite Chair
- ❖ Jim Kowalski – Assist in Registration Booth
- ❖ Ed Stankunas – Golf Tournament Chair
- ❖ Nick Fowler – Work Crew Leader
- ❖ Pat Conway – 4th Degree
- ❖ Jim Hale – Treasurer
- ❖ Robert Repka -
- ❖ Lilian Kowalski – Assist Ladies Events
- ❖ Debbie Conway – Ladies Events Chair

Absent

- ❖ Jorge Ruiz – Ad Layout/Print
- ❖ Patrick Vlk – Ad Sales
- ❖ Doyle Kitchen – Country Store
- ❖ Kevin Quinn – Registration Chair
- ❖ John Ashmore – Raffle & 50/50 Sales
- ❖ Ed & Janie Diaz – VIP Transport and Hotel

Meeting opened with Prayer and Pledge by Reed Fontenot
Reed Chairman, Mike Courtney Co-Chairman

Reed Opening Remarks:

Greetings to everyone and thanks for stepping up to assist in the 2020 State Convention. Last time in Dallas it was very successful with a few hick-ups, this time early planning will make process smoother and hopefully more successful.

Reed to be the State liaison looking at the BIG picture, Mike will focus on the details, working with each committee to assure best in class event!

Reviewed a brief schedule of events from 2017. Reviewed rolls and responsibilities of weekend events.

Asked for those attending the upcoming convention, look at how each area was prepped and performed and see what improvements can be made. Reed will provide contact information of the previous chairs from Houston and Corpus Conventions. Mike will do same for the 2017 event held in Dallas.

Roy Rabenaldt Advisor: Opening Thoughts

During 2017 Convention, Archbishop Lori complimented Roy and the Diocese of Dallas for the smoothest and best State Convention he'd attended! The leadership of the Dallas tem was the key to the success! Let's see what we can do to make this convention better!!

It is not known at this time who the Supreme Representative will be, should have that information after 1st of the year. Would be great if we could get Carl Anderson as it will be his final year as Supreme Knight!

Roy has gotten approval for the Opening Mass to be televised therefore EVERYTHING needs to be perfect! Choir to be discussed with Dr. Patti Hughes. There will be a need for an organ. Roy to discuss with Mike McLaughlin in Austin. To work with Dave Palmer of Guadalupe Radio to broadcast Mass live! Roy to take point on Liturgy.

DD's to act as Ushers at Mass

Touched on accounting process as bulk of the money will go through the State.

Mike McLaughlin will be the State Hotel liaison and will make several trips to Dallas to discuss needs and payouts. Reed and Roy to attend for impute as well.

Reed Fontenot :

Need to work on Ad Sales process as soon as 2019 Convention is over. Mike to talk with Patrick and Jorge to line this out. In Mike's conversations with Patrick, sales have to be streamlined so that info can be easily passed and funds collected. Stressed this with Jorge to set up site to allow payments, no issues!!

Reed to act as liaison with State Office as well with Hotel. Once a review of facilities is made, will advise all involved. Asked that each chair carefully select members to assist you so that you are not doing ALL the work and have the ability to have fun and get the job done as a team! If there is a key member that needs accommodations, discuss with Reed and Mike for reservations. Ample parking passes should be available for those coming and going!

A review of the 2017 Calendar: Went around the room to discuss responsibilities and thoughts:

Registration: Jim Kowalski

Jim spoke about having one registration team cover both Friday and Saturday. Had issues in past with people not showing up as assigned and training not performed properly when a fill-in was needed.

Makes it easier on the state trainers as well. To discuss with Kevin.

Need for a Greeter and a Director to advise where to go for each event.

Golf Tournament – Ed Stankunas

Previous tournament held at Bear Creek was good. Would like to look at a possible change of venue. Ed belongs to several clubs and has a daughter that has access to other courses. Those in attendance were in favor of exploring options. St. Jude's previously provide bus transportation, Ed to check with Jack Gunn to see if available as lots of parishes have dropped bus service. Ed wants to get with co-chair Gary Labac and discuss options and opportunities.

Clergy Seminar and Luncheon – Roy

Needs to be well attended by Priests and Deacons in Dallas. Be sure to get the message out to every council to invite clergy and attend with them!

A discussion on lunch for Wives of Deacons took place. Reed and Debbie to look into the possibility and cost.

Awards Ceremony: Reed

Has been streamlined beginning this year.

Reed to look at how this goes and how to handle in 2020.

Hospitality Suite – Chris Fowler

Will provide meals snacks etc. throughout weekend. Plan to work with other councils to assist. Need to know if there will be a State Suite or combined same as 2017. Reed to define needs. Asked if larger room was available, it was confirmed that this is the largest. Will need a total of 3 adjacent rooms to accommodate everything for the weekend. It was recommended that more snacks be provided vs. big meal.

Friday Night Event – Reed

Will do another Casino Night! Have already spoken to Dan Jacobs and Craig Modrzynski to handle. Will bring EVERYTHING they have, will not be short of gaming tables and games!

Will not provide food and will have cash bar set up.

Look at one drink coupon per person. Possible Roaming Bar Servers?

Also look at roaming Chip Sales so people don't have to leave tables to get more chips. Ed suggested prepared cups with a minimum of chips for \$20 with a few extra in them up to \$500?

Want to have unique prizes up to \$3000.

Will presell entry tickets as well as at the door. Needs to be streamlined!!

Roy suggested Live Music provide by Steve Holy, a member of the Knights of Columbus. Roy to pursue possibility and cost.

Profits on all events to be split with State EXCEPT the Friday Night Event!!

Work crew – Nick Flores

Will do whatever is necessary but would like to know responsibilities.

Once the venue review is completed, what will hotel provide and what will they need to bring. When can they begin set-up?

Requested names of contacts for Corpus and Houston, Reed to provide. Will see how CC is set up. Mike to provide Ernie Valencia contact info from 2017 Convention.

Mike to ask **Jorge** to set up all committees on website asking for volunteers AFTER the 2019 Convention is completed. Reed to look at requests on State and Chapter sites.

4th Degree - Pat Conway

Pat discussed status of new regalia for 4th Degree. Suits are now available in 4 Days. If anyone has issues, please contact Pat!

Pat requested that he be involved with the hotel preset so that he can keep 4th Degree appraised for dressing etc.

Jim Hale will be the Color Corps liaison at the convention

4th Degree will provide all Flags and Stands needed throughout the convention.

Treasurer – Jim Hale

Would like to have a checking account set up at Legacy Bank, close and convenient for Jim.

Need to get with Patrick Vlk of DDC to get this set up. Will need 3 signature account, Reed, Mike and Jim.

To request DDC for \$500 deposit for seed money into account.

Chris Vilfordi has agreed to assist Jim with questions or direction.

Want to simplify the payment process. **Jorge** to set up payment accounts on website?

Debbie has used squares on her phone and is able to provide information and direction.

Exhibit Chair – Chair - Open

Chairman needed, asked Robert Repka to consider. Tom Waters did this last time

Ladies Events – Debbie Conway

To get with State regarding flowers for all events and will coordinate what they do not provide.

Will negotiate with Hotel for table decorations.

To look at something different for Ladies Luncheon. Bingo? Change it up!

Not a fund raiser!!

Will help with First Lady Program and Silent Auction

Will solicit help!!

Lilian said that the flowers left over from Meals and Mass were being sold at \$10, everything sold out!!

Final Thoughts -

Roy:

Need to come up with a convention Logo. To discuss with **Jorge** after 2019 convention.

Shirts – Lime Green really stood out and everyone recognized them when help was needed!

Dallas Diocese large enough to hold its own Caucus. It is customary to elect chair or co-chair to attend Supreme Convention. Will nominate Mike Courtney to attend. 2020 Convention to be held in DC the 1st Tuesday through Thursday in August.

Contract has been signed for a return to Dallas in both 2023 & 2026 and will be held at the Sheraton Hotel!

Mike:

Thanks again for stepping up. Start assembling your teams NOW! Contact me direct with any questions or concerns! Will send out Roster from 2017 and 2020 Committee. Will also send out financials and budget comps for 2017.

Start planning NOW!!!!

Ask for help!

Reed:

Thank you and look forward to a great convention!! Plan to meet on a monthly basis.

Next meeting Saturday July 27 (time TBD) at Council 799. Work will start in June before our next planned meeting.

Meeting closed with Prayer by Reed @ 11:15

Minute submitted by Mike Courtney