The Council meeting was called to order at 6:58 pm.

The roll of officers was called and noted as follows (P – Present; A – Absent):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Chaplain (Father Schultz) | A | Financial Secretary (Dave Blaser) | P | Inside Guard (Derek Price) | P |
| Grand Knight (Kurt Gibson) | P | Treasurer (Bryan Gomolchak) | P | Outside Guard (Darren Carr) | A |
| Deputy Grand Knight (Phil Olinger) | A | Lecturer | - | Trustee (Guy DiCiaula) | P |
| Chancellor (Shawn Long) | P | Advocate (Rich Staley) | P | Trustee (John Fruin) | P |
| Recorder (Brock Selkow) | A | Warden (Jake Newman) | P | Trustee (Tony McCauley) | P |

The Opening Prayer was “Our Father.”

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all members present.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were sent via email and approved.

1st Mike Pool

2nd Rich Thomas

Motion Carried

**Chaplain Report:**

Jeff Lopez reported that the transition to the new Parish is going well. Finances of the two churches have been combined, and Rusty Schopp and Angie Stine have been named trustees for the Parish. Jeff reminded everyone to be patient as the transition continues and that checks now need to be made out to ‘The Most Holy Eucharist Parish’.

**Grand Knight Report:**

Kurt Gibson reported:

* Appreciation for those Brothers able to attend the meeting on March 18th to reorganize the closet and the loft area in Shamrock Shed. The work was much needed and both spaces now just need to be maintained.
* The Lenten Breakfast sponsored by the Immanuel Bible Foundation is tomorrow, April 2nd. Those Brothers who signed up were reminded to arrive at the DoubleTree Hotel in time for the 7 am start.
* The church grounds clean up is scheduled for Saturday, April 5th from 8-11 am. If the event is postponed due to weather, an email will go out on Saturday morning. The anticipated make up day would be the following Saturday, April 12th.
* The sign up for assisting with the Midwest Food Bank event is available on the council website. The event at MFB is scheduled for May14th from 6-8 pm.

**Treasurer Report**



1st Shawn Long

2nd Rich Staley

Motion Carried

**Financial Secretary Report:**

Financial Secretary Report: April 1, 2025

* Member Report
  + 122 Members (76 Associate / 40 Insurance / 6 Inactive)
    - March Membership Updates:
      * Voluntary withdrawals:
        1. Chad Baldwin
        2. Kevin Kuebler
      * Transfer from Insurance to Associate:
        1. Rusty Schopp
    - April Membership Updates:
      * John Pieper from Honorary to Honorary Life
  + Membership breakdown:
    - Active Membership (116):
      * 75 active members with 3rd degree
      * 23 active members with 4th degree
      * 18 active members without 2nd, 3rd, or 4th degree
    - Within Active Membership:
      * 4 Honorary members
      * 12 Honorary Life members
      * 1 Exempt member
* 2025 Dues
  + Intent to Retain notices were mailed March 22, 2025
  + Two members owe a total of $80 and have 60 days to become current on dues.
* April Birthdays:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Daniel Okrzesik | 4/1 |
| Deacon Gayle Cyrulik | 4/8 |
| Deacon Mike Pool | 4/11 |
| Reverend Michael Pica | 4/12 |
| Alan Lopez | 4/13 |
| Bradley Sliz | 4/22 |
| Joseph Luber | 4/25 |
| Bryan Borrall | 4/30 |

**The Trustees Report:**

* Trustee Guy DiCiaula indicated that the Trustees were putting together the Officer Slate for 2025-26. Current officers were asked to speak with Guy regarding their interest in continuing to serve the council. The formal slate will be presented to the council in the coming months.

**The Chancellors Report:**

* No Report

**Deputy Grand Knight Report**

* April Events
  + Saturday April 5th – church grounds clean-up 8-11 am (report to Shed around 7:50 am)
  + Tuesday April 8th - 6am to 2pm Rosary
  + Sunday April 20th - Easter Sunday
  + Tuesday April 22nd - Roadside Clean Up at 5pm.
* May Events
  + Thursday May 1 - 6-month budget planning meeting; Shamrock Shed 6 pm
  + Tuesday May 6 – monthly council business meeting (7 pm at Shamrock Shed)
  + Wednesday May 14th - MidWest Food Bank at 6pm. Sign up for this event through the MWFB website. (there is also a link on the council website for this event)
  + Tuesday May 20 – 6-month planning meeting; Shamrock Shed 6 pm

**Unfinished Business:**

* Five items were discussed under unfinished business:
  + Kurt Gibson reported on developments with the raffle fund-raiser committee. It is expected final details will be presented to the council, likely at the June business meeting. Currently, the committee is trending towards recommending the raffle be conducted over a 26-week period beginning with the first week in January 2026. Ticket sales would begin with a soft roll out over the summer, with individual Brothers from both the Downs Council and our council selling tickets in the fall.
  + Kurt Gibson reported back to the council regarding the vestment donation program sponsored by the Peoria Diocese. Kurt reported that a donation could be made to either the Parish or the Diocese, with a note to the church that the council was making a contribution for the vestments. After discussion, the council made a recommendation to contribute $600 to the program.
    - 1st Jeff Lopez
    - 2nd Tim Abel
    - Motion to be voted on at the May business meeting
  + Jeff Lopez reported that is still trying to confirm a date for the work crew to assist with the home ‘work’ to be done for a parishioner. Jeff will let those interested in helping with this know when a date has been confirmed.
  + Jeff Lopez reported on the traveling Sacred Heart Holy Hour initiative discussed last month. Jeff has reached out to other councils in the B-N community to gauge interest in participating alongside our council with this. At this point, it appears the event will be held at some point during the week of June 23-27.
  + Jeff Lopez reported that he is working on getting a date set for a visit to the Seminarians this spring.

**New Business:**

* Two items were discussed during new business:
  + The council agreed to again sponsor a Habitat for Humanity wall build. Jeff Lopez and Tim Abel will spearhead the initiative. At this point, a date for building must be determined along with assurances from Habitat that the amount the council is willing to sponsor ($3,500) is acceptable. The council recommended expending $3,500 for the wall build and will take a formal vote on the matter in May.
    - 1st Tim Abel
    - 2nd Jake Newman
    - Motion to be voted on at the May business meeting
    - NOTE: in this discussion, the council charged the Grand Knight to reach out to the Downs council to make a formal request for their participation. The request will include an ask for manpower and for funds to help cover the remaining cost of the wall.
  + After discussing whether or not to conduct a meal event in the coming months, the council agreed to form a sub-committee whose charge will be to create a ‘calendar’ for future meal-related events. It is hoped by doing this type of long-range planning, the council will be better able to market the events and build participation in those over time. Jeff Lopez agreed to lead this committee.

**Field Agent Report:**

* No Report

**Good of the Order:**

* Nothing brought forward

**Prayer Requests:**

* Intentions offered for the Holy Father on his recovery from his recent illness.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

* 1st Rich Staley
* 2nd Joe Klinger
* Motion carried

Closing Prayer including the intentions mentioned above under ‘prayer requests’.

Meeting called to close at 8:09 pm.