

Rhode Island State Council, Knights of Columbus
2021 Virtual State Council Meeting
Saturday, May 1, 2021 Warwick Council
Script

State Deputy: David Quinn

Welcome to the Annual Meeting of the **Rhode Island State Council**, and I now call this meeting to order. As we open this virtual meeting, I would like to ask our **State Chaplain Father Joe Paquette to open with a prayer.**

PRAYER

State Chaplain: Father Joe:

Prayer for Protection in time of Pandemic

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure. Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

State Deputy:

Thank you, Father.

There are a few announcements I need to make as we proceed with this virtual meeting:

- We know that this will be a unique experience for all, including your state officers and staff, so I am grateful for your patience.
- **Delegates with voting rights must register with the ElectionBuddy platform to be able to vote during this business session.** If you are not registered with ElectionBuddy, you will not be counted in the official roll of voting members of the convention. If you have not done so, you may still register with ElectionBuddy by following the instructions you have received at your email prior to this business session. If you did not receive an email, please check your spam or junk folder. Additionally, the **Registration link has been placed in the Chat feature of the GoToWebinar platform.**
- **Delegates with proper credentials have the right to speak during this meeting. If someone with the right to speak wishes to do so, please press RAISE A HAND on the GoToWebinar**

platform. You will find the hand icon in the upper right corner of your screen under the microphone icon. When the Chairman of the meeting recognizes you, please ensure that you unmute yourself by clicking on the microphone icon on GoToWebinar. When you do so, please be ready to speak.

- The Minutes of the 2020 State Convention, and all Reports of Committees, Reports of Officers, Resolutions and the Budget for the next fraternal year have been distributed prior to this meeting (*and posted on the state Council website*) for review.
- Our goal is to complete the required business in 90 minutes, so many items will be abbreviated, or eliminated. I ask that everyone, especially Delegates, stay connected until we have concluded the Meeting.
- If you are dropped from this GoToWebinar video presentation, please rejoin the GoToWebinar in progress, by using the GoToWebinar invitation link that you have received.
- If for some reason you closed out your browser window with the ElectionBuddy voting platform, you may access it again by clicking on the link which has been posted in the chat box of the GoToWebinar. You can click on it and continue your participation as a voting delegate.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

Due to the circumstances of this virtual State Meeting, I have asked our **State Secretary, David Bebyn and State Treasurer Joseph Carrigan** to serve as our Credentials Committee.

I have also appointed Brother **James E. Gilcreast Jr.** to serve as our parliamentarian for this virtual meeting.

We are pleased to have a **message from Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly**, which we will play now.

Supreme Knight's Message – will be played

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

State Deputy:

At this time, I call on our State Secretary for the Report of the Credentials Committee.

State Secretary: David G. Bebyn

Having reviewed the list of delegates based on information provided by our councils, and cross checking this with the members that have registered today through ElectionBuddy for

this virtual meeting, on behalf of the Credentials Committee I report the following number of delegates:

6 State Officers

1 Immediate Past State Deputy

____ **Delegates**

____ **Total Voting Delegates**

State Deputy:

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

Without objection, the rules will be suspended, and the following **shortened Order of Business** will be adopted:

Prayer

Appointment of Committee on Credentials

Report of Committee on Credentials

Reports of Committees

Reports of State Officers

Nomination and Election of State Officers

Nomination and Election of Representatives and Alternates to the Supreme Council

Consideration of Resolutions

New Business

Prayer

Adjournment

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

At this time, we will proceed with the Reports of Committees. I would like to invite our State Scholarship Chairman, **Brother Adam Scott** to the podium for his report. Scholarship Report read.

I would like to invite **Brother Mike Colello, General Agent**, to the podium, to address the convention. Fraternal Benefits remarks read.

I would like to invite **Brother Robert Lynch, Programs Chairman** to the podium for his remarks regarding awards. Awards report read.

I would like to invite **Brother Jeff Gaulin, Membership Chairman**, to the podium for his report. Membership report read.

State Deputy: without objection these reports will be adopted as read and included in the minutes.

REPORTS OF STATE OFFICERS

Before we move to the Reports of Officers, I would like to remind delegates who have not registered with ElectionBuddy yet, that they should check their e-mail inbox or Spam / Junk box and register with ElectionBuddy to be allowed to vote during today's business session. After the State Deputy's report, the delegates' registration with ElectionBuddy will be closed.

We will now proceed to the report of the State Deputy. For that purpose, I turn the gavel over to the **State Secretary, David Bebyn**.

State Secretary: David Bebyn

My dear Brother Knights,

It is my very great honor as State Secretary to present, for the purpose of making his annual report on the **State of the Order in Rhode Island, our Worthy State Deputy David Quinn**.

State Deputy: Thank you, Worthy State Secretary. At this time, I would like to invite Past State Deputy and Supreme Warden Michael Benson to the podium to address the Convention, Brother Michael. Supreme Warden's Greetings and remarks.

State Deputy's Message

State Secretary: David Bebyn

Thank you, Worthy State Deputy, for your eloquent and inspiring report on the State of the Order in **Rhode Island**.

Without objection, these reports will be adopted as delivered and included in the minutes.

I now return the gavel to our Worthy State Deputy.

State Deputy: David Quinn:

Now the registration with ElectionBuddy is officially closed.

At this time, I will call on our **State Chaplain, Father Joe Paquette** for his report to the meeting.

State Chaplain's Message:

State Deputy: David Quinn

Thank you, Father Joe, your comments are greatly appreciated.

As the various reports of the other state officers have been distributed prior to the State Convention, **without objection they will be adopted as written and included in the minutes.**

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF STATE OFFICERS

I will ask our state secretary if there is an **update to the Report of the Credentials Committee.**

State Secretary: David Bebyn

The number of delegates has not changed:

6 State Officers
1 Immediate Past State Deputy
____ **Delegates**
____ **Total Voting Delegates**

Or:

*Since the initial Report of the Credentials Committee, we have had a number of delegates join us; the **new count is:***

6 State Officers
1 Immediate Past State Deputy
____ **Delegates**
____ **Total Voting Delegates**

State Deputy: David Quinn

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

State Deputy: David Quinn

We will now proceed to the election of officers. Please note that nominations submitted to the State Secretary will be considered as seconded nominations made from the floor for consideration of that respective position.

It is important that voting Delegates follow the instructions on how to vote. The voting will be anonymous. The system that we are using records the votes but does not show how any particular Delegate voted.

Remember that only credentialed Delegates, Past State Deputies and current District Deputies have rights to the floor, and you must be recognized to speak.

If someone with the right to speak wishes to do so, please press RAISE A HAND on the GoToWebinar platform. When you are recognized, please ensure that you unmute yourself by clicking on the microphone icon on GoToWebinar. When you do so, please be ready to speak.

Nominations presented from the floor today will be restricted to the straightforward format of:

“My name is Joe Delegate, from Council #_____, and I nominate Jim Knight for the position of State Warden.”

Even though we are using an electronic polling system for the vote, in case of an unforeseen issue, I have appointed **past state deputy Michael Dziok** as the judge and **past state deputies Ronald Parenteau, and Stephen Ciolfi** as tellers.

ELECTION OF STATE OFFICERS – REPEAT SECTION FOR ALL OFFICER POSITIONS

- *Prior to each position, make sure to announce what position is being considered.*
- *If the current State Deputy is seeking re-election, he should turn the gavel over to the State Treasurer, who would call on the State Advocate to second the nomination. After the State Deputy election is concluded, gavel can be turned back over to the incumbent State Deputy*
- *If nominations are submitted prior to convention, announce these nominations prior to recognizing nominations of other delegates*
- *If there are more than two nominations, the lowest candidate will be dropped for a subsequent vote, until one candidate has the more than half of the votes cast required to be elected.*
- *The officer reporting the votes cast (State Secretary or other officer) should not also nominate.*

As noted in the Guidelines distributed and posted on our State Council web site, the following nomination was submitted for the position of State _____, Brother _____.

If there are any other nominations, please press **RAISE A HAND** on the **GoToWebinar platform**. Once you are recognized as having the floor, please ensure that you unmute yourself by clicking on the microphone icon on GoToWebinar. When you do so, please be ready to speak.

STATE _____ ELECTION WARDEN

At this time, I recognize _____ {Nominating Brother}

{Nominating Brother delivers nominating speech}

State Deputy: David Quinn

At this time, I recognize _____ {Name of seconding Brother}.

{Seconding Brother}: I second that nomination. **Candidate can withdraw after being seconded.**

Are there any other nominations for State **WARDEN?** **At this time, I recognize _____**

Are there any other nominations for State **WARDEN?** **At this time, I recognize _____**

Are there any other nominations for State **WARDEN?** **At this time, I recognize _____**

If only one nomination:

Nominations are closed. Since there are no other nominations, the state secretary will cast one ballot for Brother _____ for State _____ for a one-year term commencing July 1, 2021.

If Additional Nominations

At this time, we will proceed to the balloting for the position of State _____.

If you lost your voting session – there is a link in the GoToWebinar Chat that you can use to resume with the voting process on ElectionBuddy.

You will be prompted by ElectionBuddy to vote for State _____. Please follow the instructions that you received on your device.

Balloting will be open for {two} minutes.

Please note that you are voting for State _____. Voting is a 3-step process: after you Verify your vote, you will need to Submit for it to be counted. After you have Submitted your vote, click on Next Vote to be prepared for the next potential vote. **(repeat this statement a few times)**

The ballot has been completed and closed, with the tally confirmed. I now call upon the State Secretary for the results.

State Secretary: David Bebyn

With the total of _____ ballots cast, the majority of the votes went to Brother _____, who has been elected State _____ for a one-year term commencing July 1, 2021.

Repeat the above for all positions

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND ALTERNATES TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL**

State Deputy: David Quinn

Now, let us move into the election of the representatives or **delegates and alternates to the Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council.**

Your state deputy and the immediate past state deputy are automatic delegates. In addition to these, Rhode Island can elect 1 more Third Degree member to represent us at the meeting

Let us start with the nominations for [Insurance or Associate] Delegate / Alternate:

For the purpose of making a nomination, I call on Brother _____:

{Nominating Brother}:

Worthy State Deputy, I nominate the following members as the Insurance Delegates / Alternates to the Supreme Council Meeting:

Brothers _____, _____, _____

And I nominate the following members as the Associate Delegates / Alternates to the Supreme Council Meeting:

Brothers _____, _____, _____

State Deputy: Dave Quinn:

If there are any other nominations, please press RAISE A HAND on GoToWebinar platform. When you are recognized, please ensure that you unmute yourself by clicking on the microphone icon on GoToWebinar. When you do so, please be ready to speak.

Are there any other nominations for *{Insurance or Associate}* Delegates / Alternates to the Supreme Council Meeting? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations?

If only nominations equal number of delegates required:

Nominations are closed. Since there are no more nominees than positions to be filled, the state secretary is directed to cast one ballot for the following Insurance / Associate Delegates / Alternates:

Brothers _____, _____, _____.

If more nominations than number required:

At this time, we will proceed to the balloting for the *{Insurance / Associate}* Delegates / Alternates.

If you lost your voting session – there is a link in the GoToWebinar Chat that you can use to resume with the voting process on ElectionBuddy.

If you clicked Next Vote during the previous Vote, you will be prompted by ElectionBuddy for this vote; if you are still at Next Vote, please click that button, which will bring you to vote for *{Insurance/Associate Delegates/Alternates}*. Please follow the instructions that you received on your device.

Note that since there are more nominations than positions available, the following rules apply. You must select _____ *{Insert Number of Delegates}* brothers as the *{Insurance/Associate Delegates/Alternates}*. Not more and not less. If your ballot contains names of more or less candidates than there are places to be voted for, your ballot will not be counted. Candidates that receive the highest number of votes shall be declared elected in order of the number of votes received and to the number of places to be filled.

Please note that you are voting for ____ {Number of Delegates} members for {Insurance/Associate} Delegates/Alternates. Voting is a 3-step process: after you Verify your vote, you will need to Submit for it to be counted. After you have Submitted your vote, click on Next Vote to be prepared for the next potential vote. **(repeat as required)**

Balloting will be open for 1 minute **(repeat as required)**

The ballot has been completed and closed, and the tally confirmed. I now call upon the state secretary for the results.

State Secretary:

With the total of ____ {Insert Number} ballots cast, the following individuals received the highest number of votes and will serve as {Insurance/Associate} Delegates/Alternates:

Brothers _____, _____, _____ {insert names}.

Repeat the above for all Delegate Types – Insurance Delegate, Associate Delegates, Insurance Alternate Delegates, and Associate Alternate Delegates.

State Deputy: Dave Quinn

I ask that all insurance and associate delegates, as well as the alternates for insurance and alternates for associate delegates, please email the state secretary your full name, membership #, Council #, date of birth and phone number. The State Secretary's email address is dbeyn@gmail.com Thank you.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

At this time, I call on the State Advocate to present to us the Report of the Resolutions Committee.

Before he starts, let me state that the recommendation of the resolutions committee will act as an active, seconded motion. If someone with the right to speak wishes to do so, please press RAISE A HAND on GoToWebinar platform. When you are recognized, please ensure that you unmute yourself by clicking on the microphone icon on GoToWebinar. When you do so, please be ready to speak.

If no one asks to speak, the dropping of the gavel will signal the approval of the committee's recommendation.

Worthy State Advocate, please proceed.

State Advocate: Eric Batista

Worthy State Deputy, there are __12-A__ Resolutions.

The recommendation of the Resolutions Committee is Adoption / Rejection / No Action

.....

If there is an objection to any recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, after any debate is concluded, proceed to voting with options:

“Again, if you lost your voting session – there is a link in the GoToWebinar Chat that you can use to resume with the voting process on ElectionBuddy.

If you clicked Next Vote button during the previous vote, you will be prompted by the ElectionBuddy platform for this vote. If you are still at Next Vote, please click that button, which will bring you to the vote on this {Resolution/Amendment}. Please follow the instructions that you received on your device.

Balloting will be open for ____ {Insert Minutes} minutes

Voting is a 3-step process: after you Verify your vote, you will need to Submit for it to be counted. After you have Submitted your vote, click on Next Vote to be prepared for the next potential vote. ***(repeat as required).***”

.....

If there are no objections to the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee, then the recommendations are adopted. Gavel Dropped

State Deputy: Dave Quinn

The recommendation of the resolutions committee is adopted/rejected.

State Deputy: Dave Quinn

Thank you, Worthy State Advocate.

NEW BUSINESS

Let us proceed to New Business.

I would like to invite Brother David Bebyn, State Secretary, to the podium to address the convention. Budget report read.

The first item in new business is the adoption of the 2021-2022 Fraternal Year Budget for the State Council. As the budget has been distributed previously, without objection it will be adopted as presented and included in the minutes.

- *If your State Council votes on future State Convention sites, this should be handled at this time.*

Is there any other business to come before the Convention?

PRAYER

Now, I call on our state chaplain to lead us in prayer for the Canonization of Father McGivney.

State Chaplain: Father Joe Paquette

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ADJOURNMENT

State Deputy: Dave Quinn

Since there is no other business, the meeting is adjourned. I thank everyone for your patience and time today.