4075 Council Business Meeting Minutes: October 12, 2026

Opening and Roll Call

- Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, and opening ode completed
- Officers present: Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Advocate, Lecturer, Recorder, Inside Guard, Outside Guard, First Year Trustee
- Absent/excused: Chaplain, Two Year Trustee, Three Year Trustee, Warden

Membership and Recruitment

- New transfer member joining: Larry Thrasher (from Glen Burnie area), expected at next meeting
- Supreme Council incentive: recruit 2 members, earn one entry into $2,000 drawing (Sept 1 to Dec 31)
    - Prize goes to the recruiting member, not the council
    - One entry per two recruits; four recruits earns two entries
- Online applications: members must use Delaware address, not Maryland zip code; otherwise Supreme routes to wrong council
- Physical applications available; preference is to hand them out and help candidates fill them in
- OCIA prospects look good this year; new members typically come in after Easter

Insurance Degree and KofC Financial Products

- New founders' degree requirement: 5 associate members (those without KofC insurance) must meet with the insurance agent
    - Meeting is informational only, no purchase required
    - Buying an annuity would move a member from associate to insurance member status
- Agent transition underway: Paul (covered Middletown south and possibly entire state) has retired; new agent TBD
    - Pete Marisco name mentioned as a contact
- Key products available:
    - Life insurance: ~$50/year for a small policy

    - Annuities: currently 3 to 3.5% annually
    - Long-term care insurance: still affordable through KofC; most other providers have stopped selling it or priced it out of reach
- Grand Knight to reach out and confirm new agent's name for the minutes

Treasury Report

- Opening balance: $17,802.55
- Checks written: Sussex Pregnancy Center ($500), Maria's ($2,604), dinner dance advance to BE ($100), Tim for dinner dance ($339.84)
- Deposits: $1,530, $640, $2,647
- Current balance: $19,075.71
- Scholarship fund balance: $9,376.51 (savings account, earning minimal interest)
    - Suggestion raised to move $5,000 into a CD; tabled as new business

Dinner Dance Review and Fundraising Concerns

- Event well-attended (~111 tickets collected, ~150 total including widows and Father Paul; capacity is 304 per fire marshal, ~150 practical with current tables/chairs)
- Financials were poor:
    - Ticket revenue: $4,110; total income: $4,717; expenses: $3,535
    - Net profit ~$500 after removing donated alcohol and 50/50 raffle proceeds
- Volunteer turnout: only 9 knights helped (out of 81 members); Tim Morris's family filled the gap
    - Helpers did not receive free meals; raised as an issue
- Root causes identified:
    - Membership too low to staff events independently
    - No advanced sign-up process for setup, serving, and cleanup (used to be standard practice)
    - Newer OCIA members not showing up to help
    - Same small group burning out across all events
- Proposed solutions discussed:
    - Partner with parish ministries (e.g., St. Vincent de Paul) for labor in exchange for a donation or split proceeds

    - Designate one person each for setup, serving, and cleanup to recruit their own teams
    - Raise ticket prices; Maria's prices have gone up and are unlikely to drop
    - Invite non-knight parish men to participate; five regular helpers noted who won't formally join
- Key point: the event brought joy to 100+ parishioners; community value matters beyond profit

Social Meeting and Community Building

- Motion passed unanimously: reinstate the fourth Monday social meeting with no business agenda
    - Format: pizza, soft drinks, TV/football, open socializing
    - Separate from the officers' meeting held on the second Monday
- Rationale: newer and younger members (including OCIA recruits) find business-heavy meetings off-putting; social connection is the core draw
- Suggestion to publish a six-month calendar of all council activities so parishioners know what to expect
- Domino's outreach proposed: one member offered to negotiate a discounted pizza deal for social nights
- Living Rosary on October 26th (7:00 PM, arrive 6:30):
    - Rosary in the church; refreshments in the parish hall afterward
    - Bulletin already lists refreshments; need to confirm quantity (suggested 3+ pizzas, soft drinks, cookies)
    - Steve to contact Pastoral Care and Legion of Mary to invite the ~40 people who came to the icon event
    - Bilingual rosary tabled for now; one Spanish prayer book on hand for future use

Health Report and Other Business

- Health Literacy Month (October): four pillars covered: cultural knowledge, oral communication, print literacy, and numeracy
    - Key theme: two-way communication between physicians and patients; avoid jargon, understand cultural practices
- Fourth Degree meeting next week at St. Jude: rosary at 6:30, meeting at 7:00

    - Zoom/equipment question (re: Jim's equipment) to be discussed at that meeting
- Widows: ~5 attended the dinner dance at no charge; widow cards noted as a Maryland-specific practice
- Food safety certification: Tim Morris holds the only certified food safety manager license; valid for 5 years, ~3 years remaining
    - Grand Knight to clarify knights' kitchen vs. hall responsibilities in new business
- Prayer list: moved to website; recent additions noted in minutes; suggestion to set time limits (1, 3, or 6 months) for entries

Next Steps

- Confirm new KofC insurance agent name and add to minutes

Paul has retired; members need a contact to arrange the 5 associate-member meetings required for the founder's degree.

- Contact Pastoral Care and Legion of Mary for Living Rosary on October 26th (Steve)

Same outreach that brought 40 people to the icon event; aim to replicate that turnout.

- Arrange pizzas and refreshments for post-rosary social on October 26th

At least 3 pizzas suggested; scale up if 40 attendees expected. One member offered to negotiate with Domino's.

- Submit program reports for the dinner dance and Living Rosary/Sacred Heart icon events (Tim Morris)

Reports not yet filed; offered to coordinate with another member to avoid duplicates.

- Explore partnership with St. Vincent de Paul (or similar ministry) for future dinner dance labor

Offer a donation or proceeds split in exchange for staffing; model proven by two-phone-call outreach for the icon event.

- Discuss CD investment for scholarship fund in new business

$9,376.51 sitting in a savings account earning minimal interest; $5,000 CD proposed.