

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting - December 10, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

Father Brooks Ledford opened the monthly meeting at 7:00 pm with prayer.

Roll: Donna Dimitri. **Council Members Present:** Fiori Papa, Donna Dimitri, Sergio Georgi, William Bortner, Michele Lorimer. **Auxiliary Members Present:** Dorothy Tomassini, Linda Notskas. **Sunday School Director:** Steve Coraluzzi. **Clergy:** Father Brooks Ledford.
Absent: Janice Leyden, Nilda Salavachi.

Swearing in of 2019 Parish Council: Father Brooks

Election of Officers for 2019: all elected officers listed below were nominated, seconded and approved.

Chairperson	Donna Dimitri
Vice-Chairperson	Fiori Papa
Secretary	Michele Lorimer
Treasurer	Nilda Salavachi
Trustees	William Bortner, Sergio Georgi, Janice Leyden

Secretary's Report: The November 2018 minutes were presented by Michele Lorimer. Bill Bortner made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Sergio Georgi seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Pastor's Report: Father Brooks

- 1) New Skete Retreat with Bob Flanagan. Father explained how the retreat was a renewal for both him and Bob, and that he brought back what he had learned and experienced to the parish.
- 2) YAL get-together on Sunday evening at Elena & Zach's. Good food & fellowship. Spoke about YAL taking a weekend retreat to New Skete in late summer or early fall.
- 3) Translation of the Lord's Prayer for our pews. We will move from "thee and thou" as we do for the rest of the liturgical services. The translation is from the New Skete Monastery.
- 4) Typica Service (January 27). This is a reader's service, one done without a priest present. Father put together one that will work for our parish in the event he is away. In this case, Bob Flanagan will lead the service along with Vladimir and the choir. We will begin announcing it after the first of the year. It should take about 45 minutes, after which, the parishioners will venerate the cross, take some of the antideron, and head upstairs for coffee hour.
- 5) Vespers service will begin one Saturday a month after Father's return from his vacation. This service will be combined with talks over a potluck dinner, including guest speakers.

- 6) We will no longer have non-liturgical events on days we celebrate a major feast (i.e. the icon auction will not be combined with the Feast of Epiphany after this year). We will celebrate each feast with the liturgy (and its accompaniment of proper prayers and processions), and then head upstairs for fellowship and food.
- 7) Great Lent and Pascha
 - March 11 Great Lent begins
 - March 24 Annunciation
 - April 28 PaschaHoly Week
 - April 21 Entrance into Jerusalem
 - April 22 1st Bridegroom Matins 7:00
 - April 23 2nd Bridegroom Matins 7:00
 - April 24 Holy Unction
 - April 25 Vespers Liturgy 10:00, 12 Gospels 7:00
 - April 26 Morning service 9:00, Royal hours 5:00, Funeral 7:00
 - April 27 St. Basil Liturgy 10:00am, Paschal services 11:30pm

Treasurer's Report: (Nilda absent, report given by Donna Dimitri)

- 1) Bills are current
- 2) Pledges are low this year. \$49,197.00 was pledged, \$41,549.00 has been received so far.
- 3) 2018 Icons - we were promised \$16,575.00 and have received \$12,305.00 so far.

Fiori Papa made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Sergio Georgi seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Chairperson Report: Donna Dimitri

- 1) I have the 24 Christmas letters printed. We will stuff for mailing tonight.
- 2) 2019 Calendars arrived and are at the candle stand.
- 3) Small but enthusiastic group decorated the church Dec 1st. Looks great.
- 4) Preparing for Epiphany and the Icon auction. Holy water bottles ordered.
- 5) Met with insurance adjuster about the Gothic window. Waiting to hear from company.

Committee/Other Reports:

- 1) Sunday School- Steve Coraluzzi
 - Sandy Fiss worked on the Thanksgiving Presentation and it went very well. She will also be organizing and running the Christmas Pageant this year.
 - Looking at an ice skating event at the end of January.
- 2) Technology Update- Sergio Georgi
 - Light project is completed, all are replaced with LED bulbs.
 - Brochures are completed, they turned out beautifully.
- 3) Sign Committee- Linda Notskas
 - Linda made a call to a company regarding the church sign, waiting to hear back from

them.

Old Business:

- 1) Christmas Outing- Donna Dimitri
 - 50 people attended the play. Paid for 55 people at lunch.
 - Unfortunately the restaurant ran out of food, low on servers.
 - Excellent job on this event by Nilda Salavachi.
- 2) Parking at the Basilica on Christmas Eve
 - Father Brooks will speak to someone regarding this issue.
- 3) Epiphany/Icon Auction - January 6
 - Sergio will conduct the auction in both English and Albanian.

New Business:

- 1) 2019 Housing Allowance for Father Brooks
- 2) Name and address for military, sick/shut-in cards (council agreed that cards should be sent out.
- 3) Christmas preparations, prepare mailing.
- 4) Next Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday, January 8th.

William Bortner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. Fiori Papa seconded the motion. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer
Secretary