

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting – May 15, 2018
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

Father Brooks Ledford opened the monthly meeting at 7:10 pm with prayer. Donna Dimitri welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Sergio for providing dinner this evening.

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

Secretary's Report: The April 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.

Treasurer's Report: Donna Dimitri presented the April 2018 Treasurer's report. 1) Transferred \$20,000.00 from the investment to checking account in preparation for the window project. 2) Pledges are still coming in, we received 56 Pledges totaling \$33,395.00. 3) 42 people bid on icons, we received \$7,010.00 and are promised \$16,575.00. 4) Pascha Donations received is \$4,875.00. 5) Comcast made a donation to St. John's for \$1,500.00. Michele Lorimer made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Janice Leyden seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Vice-Chairperson Report: Janice Leyden

- 1) Janice reported that the speakers were working just fine during the Divine Liturgy this past Sunday.

Pastor's Report: Father Brooks

- 1) Youth Group is a small group this year but great bunch of people. Next year the plan is to study scripture, going through the Hebrew Scriptures book by book, then leading into Greek Scriptures.
 - Amanda suggested having pen and tablets to take notes.
 - Juliana suggested a creative project.
 - Planning to get together this summer for pizza and movie, The Little Budha.
- 2) Parish Council: philosophy – business verses Christianity. What do we do about being Parish Council members and our responsibilities as Orthodox Christians? Father Brooks would like the members of Parish Council to start exploring the scriptures and have a better understanding for theology. Father expressed his concern of where are we heading not just as a business, but as a church.
- 3) Parish Ministry Team
 - Charity & Benevolence and the Outreach Committee are rescheduling their meetings.
- 4) Baptisms & Weddings – Father was approached by two couples who are interested in Baptism for their children. He would like to sit with each couple, get to know them in

regards to their background, and discuss their situation.

- 5) Ascension Thursday will be celebrated Wednesday, May 16th at 7:00pm.

Chairperson Report: Donna Dimitri

- 1) Building update: We are in the final planning stage for the window project. Home Depot was less expensive than the vendor we previously used. Waiting for confirmation from the contractor on the dimensions. Casement windows and 1 Gothic window will be ordered and installed.
- 2) OCA All American Council meeting in St. Louis July 23rd-July 27th. Priest and 1 delegate can vote. Nilda Salavachi is not able to attend the All American Council due to a work commitment. Bill Bortner has volunteered to go in her place. An announcement was made in church and also placed in the Weekly Messenger to determine if anyone else is interested in attending.
- 3) Archdiocesan Teleconference Thursday 5/3/18. Spoke about Archdiocesan Assembly in St. Louis Monday, July 23rd. Went over the usual financial information. Cindy Brown and Father Mark Doku spoke about the Archdiocese lack of a plan for the future. It would be nice to have a meeting where we do not talk finances but rather brainstorm for the future. Hopefully this is what will occur at the Archdiocesan Assembly on July 23, 2018.
- 4) Background checks for members of Parish Council and Sunday School teachers have been completed and the information forwarded to the Archdiocese. The PSP forms were signed and sent to Audra, Archdiocesan Administrative aid. We are in compliance. Special thanks to Fiori Papa for spearheading the background checks. If we have a new council member or Sunday school teacher they will have to have a background check. Otherwise we are good until 2021.

Committee/Other Reports:

- 1) Sunday School - Steve Coraluzzi
 - Sunday, June 10th will be the last day of classes and the day of graduation.
 - Saturday, June 16th will be the Sunday school end of year pool party at Kathie Costa's home.
 - Sadly, Steve will be resigning as our Sunday School director this year. Steve has given his love and dedication to our Sunday school program for the past five years. A special thank you goes out to him for the excellent job he has done!
- 2) Technology Update: Sergio Georgi
 - new modem has been installed
 - Phase 2 of the calendar has been completed.
 - Church website is well updated.

Old Business:

- 1) Paint Event – Fiori Papa
 - Planning on having the painting event again next year, possibly sometime in September.
 - The church made a profit of \$370.16 from this event, about 28 people attended.

New Business:

- 1) Next Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday, June 5th at 7:00pm.

Michele Lorimer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm. Bill Bortner seconded the motion. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer
Secretary