

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting - March 5, 2019
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

Father Brooks Ledford opened the monthly meeting at 7:10 pm with prayer. Chairperson, Donna Dimitri, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Roll Call: Donna Dimitri. **Council Members Present:** Donna Dimitri, Michele Lorimer, Sergio Georgi, Nilda Salavachi, Janice Leyden. **Auxiliary Members Present:** Linda Notskas. **Clergy:** Father Brooks Ledford. **Absent:** Fiori Papa, Steve Coraluzzi, William Bortner. Also present during this evening's meeting were Elena Shomos, Jerry and Laura Hall.

Secretary's Report: The February 2019 minutes were presented by Michele Lorimer. Sergio Georgi made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Nilda Salavachi seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Nilda Salavachi

- 1) 27 Pledges for 2019. \$7,409.00 has been received as of February 28, 2019.
- 2) 2019 Icon payments received so far is \$5,535.00.
- 3) Bills are up to date.
- 4) Sergio Georgi presented graft charts for account activity, pledge activity, icon sale.

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

Pastor's Report: Father Brooks Ledford deferred his report to after "New Business".

Vice Chairperson Report: Fiori Papa was not present, therefore no report was given.

Chairperson Report: Donna Dimitri

- 1) Elena Shomos came to church on March 3rd to help out with the setup prior to the Divine Liturgy. Please check your calendars and let me know what Sunday you are available. Other council members should pick a date.
- 2) The Sexual Misconduct Policy sign off sheet and background checks were sent to the Archdiocese. Thanks to Fiori Papa for managing the background checks.
- 3) Liturgy in the park. A reservation was made for pavilion 1 - the pavilion we used last year- for Sunday, September 15, 2019, 12:00 pm. We will celebrate the Elevation of the Cross. Form a committee to coordinate activities for kids (and adults) at the picnic.
- 4) Soup-er Bowl Sunday. Online donations were made for \$250.00 to Sunday Breakfast Mission and \$250.00 to Chosen 300 Group.
- 5) Archdiocesan Teleconference, Feb 7th, the Strategic Planning Committee is trying to get together for a meeting. The assembly will be in Natick, Sept 20-21. We usually leave on Thursday (Sept 19) around 11:00. We check into the hotel and then have dinner. The business meeting is on Friday morning. Friday evening is the dinner. We stay for the

Saturday morning Thanksgiving Liturgy and brunch. Arrive home around 4:00 pm Saturday.

- 6) OCA Metropolitan Council meeting Feb 13-15. Restructuring of the leadership underway.
 - 50th anniversaries of the Canonization of Saint Herman of Alaska and the Granting of Autocephaly - both to be commemorated in 2020.
 - Baltimore, MD as the site of the 20th All-American Council [AAC], slated to convene from July 23 through July 30, 2021.

Other highlights of meeting

<https://oca.org/news/headline-news/metropolitan-council-concludes-spring-session2019>

- 7) Window update: waiting for final quote from Home Depot for 9 gothic windows and 2 smaller gothic windows. Received estimate from Mulroybay Construction Co. (window installer) approximately \$3,000.00 per window. Final prices will be presented during semi-annual parish meeting on March 24th. Will have fundraising for this project.

Committee/Other Reports:

- 1) Sunday School - Steve Coraluzzi not present, Donna Dimitri gave report.
 - Ice Skating outing scheduled for March 17th, 1:00-2:00 pm at the U of P Class of 23 Rink.
 - Good turn out of students last Sunday.
 - Teachers will discuss with their students about putting together a talent show.
 - Lazarus Saturday, April 20th.
- 2) Technology Update - Sergio Georgi
 - All information about upcoming events is now reflected on our website homepage.
 - Weekly messenger is now updated and current.
 - Nick Naum Scholarship forms and information are updated on website.
- 3) Sign Committee - Linda Notskas/Janice Leyden
 - Met last Friday with a sign company and was given a quote of \$3,700.00 to replace the church sign.

Pascha Preparations:

- 1) Order candle and holders
- 2) Flowers (Fiori Papa)

Old Business:

- 1) Plan for Sunday of Orthodoxy (March 17th)
 - Sunday school students will be involved in running the church this day.
- 2) Women's Day Dance - Nilda Salavachi
 - Was a successful night with 76 adults and 6 children in attendance. This event raised \$4,320.00 (not including food & decorations).
 - Many thanks to Sergio for providing the entertainment and to Donna Dimitri and her daughters, Kristin and Traci, on an excellent job catering this event.
 - Great job Nilda and Fiori on organizing the Women's Day Dance!

New Business:

- 1) St. George Cathedral in Boston apparently livestream their Liturgy on Facebook. Nilda asked if we should entertain this, council rejected the idea. We need as many people present in church as we can get.

Pastor's Report: Father Brooks Ledford

- 1) Father Brooks expressed his love for this parish, the people, the community.
- 2) Discussion on change in culture was had. Our children are involved in many other activities, is this interfering with church?
- 3) Father touched upon the personal issues he has had in the past due to the passing of his family.
- 4) An important question that Father asks himself is whether or not the changes he has made in the Liturgy are making a difference, and in a positive or negative way.
- 5) Father concluded his report by again expressing his love for this parish, the people, the community.

Next Parish Council Meeting - Monday April 8, 2019.

Michele Lorimer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. Janice Leyden seconded the motion. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer
Secretary