

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting – November 4, 2014
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church Parish Council

The Council Chair, Donna Dimitri, opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Fr. Brooks led the meeting in prayer.

Election of new Officers for 2015: Nominated and seconded:

Council Chair -	Donna Dimitri
Vice-Chair -	Peter Ghicondey
Treasurer -	Michele Anderson (not present but accepted)
Secretary -	Michele Lorimar
Trustees -	Elvira Gusho, Linda Biando, Nilda Salavachi

Symbolic vote cast for all new officers.

Roll Call (Linda Biando): All of the above but Michele Anderson were present, as well as Linda Kosta (former secretary)

Auxiliary Members Present: Linda Notskas, Janice Leyden and Dorothy Tomassini

Sunday School Director: Steve Coraluzzi - not present

Donna thanked everyone for coming.

Secretary's Report: Linda Kosta did not bring in the Minutes of the last meeting but will do so at the next meeting in December.

Treasurer's Report: The Income and Expense Statement (unaudited) for October 2014 was handed out. There have been more candle sales than budgeted. Memorials were also up this year. Treasurer's report has not been emailed to our parishioners; each month a few left on the table in the side vestibule. Linda Biando made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Michele Lorimar and approved by all present.

A cash gift of \$500.00 would be presented to Fr. Steven Siniari at our Church's Nameday on Sunday, November 9, 2014, for being so supportive of our Church to date.

Pastor Report: Fr. Brooks

- ⤴ The October fall classes are going well.
- ⤴ One wedding; 2 baptisms (Marisa and Elizabeth Papa)
- ⤴ Father is enjoying teaching the Sunday school senior class: 2 classes a month taught by him and two taught by David Biando (at which time, Father goes downstairs to visit the younger kids). On November 22, 2014, there will be a pizza and movie night for the senior class students.
- ⤴ Held meeting with the Outreach committee: Betty Subashi, Linda Biando and Carolyn Dardaris. Greeters needed.
- ⤴ Nov. 20 plan to meet with YAL (young adults).
- ⤴ Nameday celebration: Bishop Seraphim will be here.
- ⤴ Continues to meet with the John Jay Institute people.

- ✦ Continues with house blessings.
- ✦ Vacation: Father leaves December 15 – 30, 2014. Fr. Deacon Greg Vrato will serve on Dec. 21st, Fr. Mark Koczak will perform Christmas Service at 7:00 p.m. on December 24th, Father Stephen will serve on Dec 28th.
- ✦ Good news: Father's family hopes to move up here in June of 2015, at which time he may take more time off.

ICON AUCTION DATES:

January 4, 2015 – Epiphany Service and 1st Sunday for the Icon auction
 January 11, 2015 – second Sunday of Icon auction

Vice Chairperson Report:

- ✦ Steve Coraluzzi just sent Peter an email that the website stjohnsphila.com may become available.
- ✦ Peter will email to each member of Council their email address using the stjohnsphila.org address
- ✦ Installing a WI+FI booster upstairs.
- ✦ AED device has been ordered. Will be placed between the Men's and Ladies' lavatories.
- ✦ Dave Biando is working on getting elevator information.

Chairman: Donna Dimitri

- ✦ New council members must fill out background investigation consents. They will then be sent to J. Pekala Associates for the actual background investigation. This is per OCA and Albanian Archdiocese guidelines.

Building Maintenance:

- ✦ Nick Mandia will install a camera outside the door.
- ✦ Tim Pappas: getting down to the original wood floor is not feasible. Recommends engineered wood or similar product for the church proper. Pick out marble or tile for the solea and altar areas.
- ✦ Upstairs floor will be refinished (waxed and polished) in a few weeks.
- ✦ Nilda Salavachi dubbed "Director of Social Media" as she puts Donna's bulletin information and church photos on Facebook.

Sunday School: Steve Coraluzzi not present, Linda Biando gave a report:

- ✦ Sunday School trip to the Franklin Institute on Sunday, November 16, 2014: adults are \$10.00 each; children \$5.00.
- ✦ Plan a teacher meeting to look at books for various classes: OCEC
- ✦ Sunday School program: November 23, Albanian Thanksgiving day. Sandy Fiss in charge.

Stewardship: Linda Biando.

- ▲ To date, we have 103 pledges.
 - ▲ Linda feels that our pledge goal has not been realized and thought perhaps someone else should take over this Committee. However, everyone thought she has done a super job and wants her to stay on.

Old Business:

- Linda Biando – Blood Drive – on hold.
- Flag Day Celebration – November 29, 2014: Nilda Salavachi and Fiori Papa will sell tickets: \$40.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children over 10 years of age.

New Business:

- ▲ Ladies Club Dinner: Nilda Salavachi – in lieu of dinner at Charlottes, she is making plans at a Dinner/Theatre venue in Lancaster to see “A wonderful Life.” Date to be determined as well as transportation.
- ▲ Christmas Cards to shut-ins. List to be made available soon.
- ▲ Christmas Decoration: December 6 (St. Nicholas Day) at 10:00 a.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Elvira Gusho, seconded by Peter Ghicondey. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Tomassini
Secretary pro tem