

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting – July 8, 2014

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church Parish Council

The Council Chair, Donna Dimitri, opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M as the secretary was detained; the meeting began with Father's report. Father Brooks Ledford asked the blessing on the meeting.

Roll Call: Roll Call (Donna Dimitri in the absence of Linda Biando):

Council Members Present: Donna Dimitri, Michele Anderson,, Peter Ghicondey, Diane Lescas, Jani Mara and Linda Kosta (late). **Absent:** Linda Biando (in Massachusetts caring for her sick father) **Auxiliary Members Present:** Bill Bortner, Linda Notskas, Dorothy Tomassini, Janice Leyden and **Sunday School Director:** Steve Coraluzzi

Donna thanked everyone for coming.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Brooks Ledford

* Charities: Father spoke with Nathan Hoppe of the OCMC recently. Nathan suggested our charitable giving would be more productive and give us a closer connection with the missionaries if we chose only two families and distributed the funds on a monthly rather than a yearly basis.

* Young Adult Group: The ages will be between 18 and 35 years old. The goal is to have them meet about twice a month.

* Outreach Group: Will welcome visitors and visit, call or write the sick and shut-ins.

* Sunday School: The Sunday School program is being revamped. Father will teach the senior teens along with Mark and Vlad. This means Father will not be in Church during the dismissal; however, the Cross will be left to venerate. Father feels he needs to connect with the young people on a more consistent basis. Fr. And Steve C. will take the teachers out to dinner soon. The topic for discussion will be "How can we make the Sunday School better."

* Altar Servers and Readers: We currently have two steady people for behind the altar, David Biando and Bill Bortner. Fr. will establish a reader's schedule and an alternating team of altar boys. Some weeks we have too many and some weeks too few. It is hoped a schedule will work better. Bill is also handling the supplies needed for behind the altar.

* Parking Policy: Father presented a preliminary parking policy which would charge parishioners \$150 a month to park on a daily basis and parishioners who want to occasionally park must notify Father or the Counsel Chair of the day and should make a

donation. In the meantime, Steve C. and Father have put up signs warning against non-parishioner parking. Father Brooks will have a more formal policy to present next month.

* Odds and Ends: Home visitations are continuing and a revised schedule is coming out for Aug/Sept. Father also suggested that we send cards or call Rosemary Notskas and George Touros as they are both in need of cheering up. The newsletter will be out soon. Father has a funeral at Sts. Peter and Paul's tomorrow for Katherine Bishop. Father also suggested we order some tee shirts to sell with a cross on the front left and a picture of the Church on the back. Donna will look into ordering them.

Secretary's Report: the June 2014 minutes were presented by Linda Kosta. A motion to accept the minutes with some minor corrections was made by Michele Anderson and seconded by Diane Lescas. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: The June 2014 Treasurer's Report was presented by Michele Anderson. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Diane Lescas and seconded by Peter Ghicondey. All were in favor. Michele reported that there has been an increase in pledges to 97 and \$52,610.

Chairman's Report: Donna Dimitri.

* Audit: Donna, Michele and Fr. Brooks met with Robert Storey, a certified bookkeeper. He suggested that we go from a 1099 form for Father Brooks to a regular W2 form employee in 2015. A full report will be given next month.

*Sts. Peter and Paul's Name Day event was attended by Donna. She reported that it was lovely. Donna also spoke with Paula Steffa who is sending get-well or encouragement cards to people who need them. It costs \$10 and a donation is then made to the Church. Do we want to do something like this?

* Sexual Misconduct Policy: All council members must read it before the next meeting. It was emailed to all last month.

Vice Chair's Report: Pete Ghicondey

- Pete and Tish are continuing to update our website.
- There will be a Fantasy Football draft day in August.

Sunday School: Steve Coraluzzi . As previously mentioned under Father's Report, Steve and Father are working on a lot of plans for the fall. The day out for the kids to Dave & Buster's was a big success.

Building Maintenance: Donna (Position still open!) No report this month.

Old Business:

*Rugs and Flooring: Diane has samples with her for our review. For the altar and solea we will be getting marble or a faux marble. Donna is getting estimates from a man recommended by Tim Pappas and also one from Father Joe Toroney. We will need one more rug estimate after Diana has the pricing for the samples she brought.

* Sound System: Will be operational by September.

New Business:

- A Communion Kit for Father to use when he visits the sick and shut-ins has been donated in honor of Tim Pappas on the occasion of receiving his PhD.
- Back Stairs: Janice mentioned that she saw that the back stairs are in very poor shape with plaster falling, etc.
- Broken Fence – Jani reminded us that the iron fence in the back parking lot is still broken. It has been very hard to get someone to come for such a small job. Bill B. said he would speak with his father who used to be a welder about it.
- Newsletter: Donna suggested that articles about some of our parishioner's businesses might be a good addition to the newsletter.
- Father Page's Falling Asleep: It was with great sadness that we discussed Fr. Spero Page's passing. He was well loved during his time at St. John's. Father Brooks will write an article about him for the next newsletter. Our Church will remember Father Spero in prayer and on his 40 days with a Memorial Service on August 25th. Michele Anderson made a motion that we make a donation of \$200 to the charity of Father Spero's choice. The motion was seconded by Linda Kosta. All were in favor.
- **Next Council Meeting is Tuesday, August 5th, 2014 at 7PM.**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Pete G., seconded by Jani. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Linda M. Kosta, Secretary