

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting – September 9, 2014

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church Parish Council

(Approved on October 8, 2014)

The Council Chair, Donna Dimitri, opened the meeting at 7:03 P.M.; Father Brooks Ledford asked the blessing on the meeting.

Roll Call -Linda Biando: Council Members Present: Donna Dimitri, Peter Ghicondey, Diane Lescas, Jani Mara , Linda Biando, Linda Kosta and Michele Anderson **Auxiliary Members Present:** Linda Notskas, Tish Klus, Janice Leyden, Bill Bortner, **Sunday School Director:** Steve Coraluzzi and **Clergy:** Father Brooks.

Secretary's Report: the August 2014 minutes were presented by Linda Kosta. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Linda B. and seconded by Pete G. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: The August 2014 Treasurer's Report was presented by Michele Anderson. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Linda B and seconded by Diane. All were in favor. Comments: 1) The investment account is up to \$274,389.35. 2) The recent review of the books by an outside certified bookkeeper resulted in a mainly good report, but there were a few suggestions. One in particular concerned how to pay Father, W-2 as opposed to a 1099. The other suggestions will be implemented in the near future. Donna will email the report to the council members. It will be noted at the Parish Meeting in October that this has been done and the books are in good shape. 3) In reference to a discussion about lost pledges, Jani urged that we keep in touch and try to get them back. He mentioned the Bello family. Father will be seeing them this fall.

Vice Chair's Report: Peter Ghicondey: 1) Pete is still working on buying the domain name www.stjohnsphila.com. It is still owned by Father Matthew. It expires on September 18, but even if he does not renew it, it takes about 75 days for all his options to expire. A question arose, should we bid for it? The consensus was just to wait it out. Our sight is doing fine without it; however if it becomes available, we will buy it. 2) Fantasy Football: 16 teams, all but two are paid and everyone participating is having a lot of fun!

Chairman's Report: Donna Dimitri.

* **Elections:** Elections will be on October 12 at the Parish Meeting. Donna asked who would like to stay on the Council. Donna, Diane, Linda B, Pete G. and Michele said yes. Linda K. and Jani begged off due to other obligations. Janice Leyden suggested a nominating committee, so she is it! It is best if we have a slate before the meeting. The auxiliary committee will be Bill Bortner, Linda N. Janice, Linda K. and Jani. Other may join at any time.

* **Floors:** We have run into a snag with the floor project. The subfloor is most likely asbestos tile. A professional will be contacted about this before any work is started.

Father's Report: Father Brooks

- Church is opened almost every day. He usually gets one or two people.
- The Sunday School teachers workshop is this Saturday,
- The young adult's meeting is tomorrow night.
- The outreach committee meeting may be postponed for a week.
- We need regular greeters EVERY week.
- Reaching out to the shut-ins. Bill has volunteered to make some ceramic items with the Sunday School kids that could be taken to them.
- The Charity and Benevolence Committee will be spear-headed by Linda Notskas.
- Father thanked Donna for repairing the altar boy's and Priest's vestments that needed it. She also had several cleaned.
- There is a wedding coming up on October 11. Father meets with the couples three to four times before. Also, he has three Baptisms in the near future.
- Home Blessings are continuing, but he must rethink the notification system (in the newsletter) as it is not working.

Sunday School: Steve Coraluzzi.

- On Saturday, September 13, there will be a retreat for the Sunday School teachers followed by a luncheon.
- A fall activity is being planned.
- The Sunday School will again sell Gertrude Hawke candy.
- Bill will be doing a creative activity with the kids.
- Hot dog sale on Sunday.

Stewardship Report: Linda Biando: 102 pledges and our financial goal is almost met.

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

Old Business:

- **Sexual Misconduct Policy: Standards and Procedures:** The form was signed by all the Council members. Copies will be kept in the office. Steve C. will send the form and policy to the Sunday School teachers and it will be discussed on Saturday. Donna commented that Joe Pekala, our insurance agent did a background check on Father and Steve C. He only charges \$8 per and he keeps the file.
- **Tee Shirt** –Youth to adult: \$7.50 Plus sizes: 9.80.

- **The Greg Costa Golf Classic:** Michele will do the 50-50. Tickets went for sale last Sunday. The gift basket assembly meeting will be Friday or Saturday. We will see what works best for everyone.
- **AED System:** Emails went to the council for their review - the one Spartak recommended. There was a link attached. Fully automatic is recommended. A motion was made by Linda B. to proceed with the purchase, seconded by Diane. All were in favor except Jani who abstained because he felt it was unnecessary. Pete will order this week.
- **Archdiocesan Assembly:** Some changes have been made to our planned representation. Donna, of course, will go as a member of the executive committee and Father Brooks as a member of the clergy. Michele, Linda B. and Bill will attend as our representatives. The dinner is on Friday night, 9/26 at the Crown Plaza and the Liturgy will be Saturday morning at 9 AM.

New Business:

- **Elevation of the Cross** is September 15th. Linda K. will bring the flowers. Others will bring the basil. The Ciko family whose donation began our investment fund will be remembered in prayer and in the announcements on this day.
- **Blood Drive** – Linda B. will look into it, however, we can not fast beforehand.
- **Donation:** Bill would like to donate a small kiln to the Church. It only requires a dryer plug and would be kept in the tool room for safety.
- **The Ladies Club Memorial** was postponed until October 26th
- **Missing in action:** Janice reported that Betty Subashi will return in two weeks.
- **Next Council Meeting is Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 7PM.**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Diane L., seconded by Michele. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Linda M. Kosta, Secretary