

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting - October 13, 2015
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Church Parish Council

The Council Chair, Donna Dimitri, opened the monthly meeting at 7:05 P.M. Fr. Brooks Ledford led the meeting in prayer. Donna thanked everyone for attending.

Roll Call - Council Members Present: Donna Dimitri, Michele Anderson, Michele Lorimer, Elvira Gusho. **Auxiliary Members Present:** Dorothy Tomassini, Linda Kosta, Linda Notskas, Tish Klus. **Sunday School Director:** Steve Coraluzzi. **Sunday School Assistant Director:** Bill Bortner. **Clergy:** Father Brooks. **Absent:** Peter Ghicondey, Nilda Salavachi, Linda Biando.

Secretary's Report: The September 2015 minutes were presented by Michele Lorimer. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Donna Dimitri and seconded by Elvira Gusho. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was presented by Michele Anderson. Michele reported that we received another check for \$25,000.00 from St. John the Baptist Church in Boston. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Michele Lorimer and seconded by Elvira Gusho. All were in favor.

Pastor Report: Father Brooks

- 1) Fr. Brooks gave an update on the Parish Ministry Teams:
 - **Charity and Benevolence** - Fr. Brooks would like feedback about this group becoming independent. He would like to have a chairperson to represent this group who will report to parish council meetings and give an update of what is going on.
 - **Outreach Committee** - Greeters, Parish Pamphlet (Tish, Albana, Tatjana). The pamphlets will be in English and Albanian. Working towards spreading the word of St. John's in Center City. Next meeting November 7, 2015.
 - **Stewardship Committee** - will meet October 19, 2015.
 - **Young Adult League** - getting together November 21, 2015.
 - **High School Group** - Pizza and movie night November 7, 2015.
- 2) Fall Class
 - This year on Scripture and the Apostle Paul. Good turn out with 18 people.
- 3) Press Conference with Sister Maureen
 - September 16, 2015, all were pleased and very thankful that we allowed them to use our church.
- 4) Home Visitations still ongoing.

- 5) Hospital Visit
 - Jorgjia Kashari sadly passed on Tuesday, October 12, 2015.
- 6) Bishop Nikon's Visit November 14 and 15.
 - Saturday, November 14 at 6:00 P.M. Vespers, potluck following.
 - Sunday, November 15 - 10:00 A.M. Liturgy, luncheon following.
 - Donna ordered the trinity and candle holders for the Bishop totaling \$400.00.
- 7) Halloween Party - Paula Bendo and Michele Lorimer
 - Sunday, October 25 during coffee hour.
- 8) Nativity Fast and Feast Day
 - Entrance - Saturday, November 21st at 10:00 A.M. Liturgy.
 - Nativity Fast begins November 15th.
- 9) Christmas date
 - Vesperal Liturgy 6:30 P.M. Christmas Eve.
- 10) Possible trip to Texas in November.

Vice Chairman's Report: Peter Ghicondey (absent - no report)

Chairman's Report: Donna Dimitri

- 1) October 25th - memorial service for the members of the Ladies Club who have passed.
- 2) Marble piece for the step in the church has been installed.
- 3) In the process of getting some estimates on a wood floor for in the church. Project probably will not begin until 2016.
- 4) Kitchen countertop with a pass through shelf and hot dog stand will be installed. The price was \$1,855.00.

Committee/Other Reports

Sunday School: Steve Coraluzzi

- 1) Registration is down, about 17 children are registered so far.
- 2) Several new and returning teachers. Christine Dardaris is helping Linda Biando with the middle school children. Merna and Michele Lorimer are teaching the elementary children. Fr. Brooks and Marinella are teaching the high school students.
- 3) Working on the Thanksgiving play.
- 4) Gertrude Hawk Chocolate Fundraiser will begin soon.
- 5) We will be selling 52 religious ornaments as a fundraiser for Sunday School.

Archdiocesan Assembly: Elvira Gusho and Linda Notskas

- 1) Elvira reported it was a very nice event. During the meeting there was a slide presentation of the Holy Land from one of the Pastors.
- 2) The Bishop spoke about building up our parishes.
- 3) A Thanksgiving prayer was attended at St. Mary's Church.
- 4) Our fair share to the Archdiocese annually is \$9,530.00.

Icon Committee: Bill Bortner and Linda Notskas

- 1) An icon company was chosen from where we will purchase a whole set of 11x14 icons. The cost will be \$619.00. They will be ordered this week and delivered by next week.

Old Business

- 1) Nameday Celebration and visit from the Bishop November 15th.
- 2) Semi-Annual Parish Meeting October 18.
 - slate of candidates
 - present the 2016 budget

New Business

- 1) St. John the Baptist Church in Boston property sold for \$4,000,000.00. The money is going into escarole. We, St. John's. received a second check for \$25,000.00 from them.
- 2) Bishop's chair is being reupholstered.
- 3) Received the Housing Allowance estimate from Fr. Brooks and Jamie for 2015. Michele Anderson made a motion to approve \$24,500.00 for the housing allowance. The motion was seconded by Elvira Gusho. All were in favor.
- 4) Donna Dimitri was appointed to the OCA! She attended the meetings and was thanked for all her commitment.
- 5) Next meeting scheduled for November 17, 2015.

Michele Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 P.M. Michele Lorimer seconded the motion. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer
Secretary

