

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

The Council Chair, Donna Dimitri, opened the meeting at 7:10 P.M. Father Brooks Ledford asked the blessing on the meeting.

**Roll Call:** Fr. Brooks, Donna Dimitri; Pete Ghicondey; Michele Anderson; Linda Kosta, Linda Biando, Jani Mara. Diane Lescas was absent.

**Auxiliary members present:** Dorothy Tomassini, Steve Coraluzzi – Sunday School Director

**Secretary's Report:** The January 2014 minutes were presented by Linda Kosta. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Linda Biando, seconded by Michele Anderson. All were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Michele Anderson presented the treasurer's report from January 2014. The motion to accept was made by Linda Kosta and seconded by Linda Biando. All were in favor. Comments: There have been several generous donations so far for 2014. One donor was extremely generous. We have pledged to date: \$19,420. Our goal is \$62,000.

**Chairman:** Donna Dimitri.

⑩ Icon Sale: \$14,010 was pledged the day of the sale. 24% has been received: \$3425. Sts. Peter and Paula had a booklet made up with a picture of each Icon and an explanation of the significance of the particular Icon. Is this something we may want to consider in the future?

⑩ Charities – Missionaries in Albania

- OCMC: A motion was made by Peter Ghicondey to give \$500 each to the five missionary families that are currently serving in Albania for a total of \$2500.00. The motion was seconded by Michele Anderson. All were in favor.

- IOCC: A motion was made by Michele and seconded by Linda Biando to send \$500.00 to the IOCC to fund children's programs.

- Part of the money will come from the candle profit and the remainder from our general fund.

⑩ Pension: Father Brook's percent of salary to be contributed by the Church has been raised from 6% to 8%. Father's contribution remains at 6%. The total going into the pension fund will be 14% of his salary.

⑩ Pascha Donations: The stationary has been ordered. The aim date for the mailing is March 3 or earlier. Pascha is April 20, the same as the other Christian denominations.

⑩ Church Hall: The hall is reserved Sunday after coffee hour for a baby shower.

**Vice-Chair:** Pete Ghicondey: There is interest in including a link to "Journey to Orthodoxy" on our website. Father Brooks will review it and let Pete know if it is an appropriate site for us to link to.

**Pastor's Report:** Fr. Brooks

⑩ Thank you to Linda Biando for bringing the idea and running the "Souper Bowl" event. \$350 was raised for Covenant House. We had 20 kinds of soup. It was a fun and worthwhile day. David and Linda Biando donated all the containers for "take-out" soup.

⑩ **Newsletter:** For next newsletter scheduled for March, Linda Kosta will write an article on service to the Church.

**Sunday School:** Steve Coraluzzi

⑩ Ice skating is scheduled for Feb 23 from 1:00 to 3:30 at the U of P Class of 23 rink. We will be inviting our parishioners and extending the offer to St Peter & Paul's to join us. There will be a pizza lunch. Steve also designed a nice poster for the event.

⑩ The Sunday School is looking for a date to have a hot dog sale. There have been so many Memorials, that the sale has been postponed several times.

**Building Maintenance – Donna (position still open!)**

⑩ Church Basement: We did receive two insurance checks for \$436 and \$7658. The checks are being held until this issue is reviewed.

⑩ It is \$3100 to replace the soil pipe in the basement which includes 2 new sump pumps and a pump for the dehumidifier. A motion was made by Michele and seconded by Pete to proceed with this project. All were in favor.

**Stewardship:** Linda Biando: The committee has met and the letters are out.

**Old Business:**

⑩ Sound System: We have four quotes: \$22,680 from Audiobahn; \$17,007 from Clear Sound, \$4,430 from Sound Design and \$5,300 for Blackmore. Donna recommended Blackmore as she knows of their reliability. Steve C. will review all the options. Linda K. made a motion to spend up to \$5000 on this project. The motion was seconded by Linda B. There were four votes for and one abstention. We will have the opportunity to review the vendors again before it is final.

⑩ Forgiveness Sunday also called Cheesefare Sunday, on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Council will host a luncheon. Names and dishes will be collected. Father will have the Rite of Forgiveness.

**New Business:**

⑩ Albanian Women's Day dance is on March 8 in the Church Hall from 7 PM to 11PM. Donna said she hoped all the Council members would support this event. The cost is \$40.

⑩ Semi-Annual Parish Meeting will be on March 23 after the Veneration Of the Cross.

**Next Council Meeting is Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Linda Biando, seconded by Jani Mara. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Kosta, Secretary