

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting - November 17, 2015
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church Parish Council

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

Election of new Officers for 2016: Nominated and seconded:

Council Chair - Donna Dimitri
Vice-Chair - Peter Ghicondey
Treasurer - Michele Anderson
Secretary - Michele Lorimer
Trustees - Nilda Salavachi, William Bortner, Jani Mara

Symbolic vote cast for all new officers.

Roll Call (Michele Lorimer): All of the above were present, as well as Elvira Gusho (former Trustee).

Auxiliary Members Present: Linda Notskas, Dorothy Tomassini, Tish Klus.

Sunday School Director: Steve Coraluzzi

Clergy: Father Brooks

Secretary's Report: The October 2015 minutes were presented by Michele Lorimer. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Michele Anderson and seconded by Peter Ghicondey. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was presented by Michele Anderson. Michele reported that some expenses paid for new Feast Day Icons. Memorial donations are still coming in. We received a sizable donation made from a past memorial. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Peter Ghicondey and seconded by Bill Bortner. All were in favor.

Pastor Report: Father Brooks

1) Update on the Parish Ministry Teams:

- **Charity and Benevolence** met on November 12th. Working on a billboard which will exhibit the support we are giving to Albania, as well as updates of what is going on there. Next meeting is January 5th.
- **Outreach Committee** met on November 5th. In the process of working on a presentation of what outreach is all about.

- **Stewardship Committee** met on October 19th. Working on a pamphlet of time, talent, and treasure. The pamphlet will explain what this committee's target is. On January 10th, after the blessing of the water, the committee will give a presentation and educate the people of what stewardship is all about. Next meeting is December 2nd.
 - **YAL** will meet November 21st.
 - **Youth Group** met November 6th for a movie and pizza night. They watched "God Must Be Crazy". Michelle Dardaris brought the pizzas. It was a nice get together.
- 2) Adult classes went on for six weeks during the fall. The focus was on Scripture and the Apostle Paul. During this time it gave everyone a chance to voice their opinions. It was a good experience with delicious food as always.
 - 3) Winter Newsletter will get started on next week. Fr. would like to have a newsletter go out about four times a year. He thanked Florina for putting the Newsletter together.
 - 4) Home visitations are on hold until January 10th. Fr. visited Rosemary Notskas in the hospital a few weeks ago and gave her communion.

Chairman's Report: Donna Dimitri

- 1) The mailing permit, which costs \$225.00, will not be renewed this year. About 280 letters are mailed out. It will cost about \$150.00 per mailing.
- 2) Looking at changing the parish council meetings to the second Tuesday of every month to better serve everyone's schedule.

Sunday School: Steve Coraluzzi

- 1) Registration is at 31 students.
- 2) Sunday School made \$150.00 so far selling the religious ornaments during coffee hour.
- 3) Gertrude Hawk Chocolate Fundraiser begins next Sunday. The money raised will go towards the ice skating outing in February.
- 4) Thanksgiving play will be Sunday, November 22nd.
- 5) Christmas play will be Sunday, December 20th.

Old Business

- 1) NAMEDAY Celebration Review
 - it was suggested that there should be a sign-up sheet listing the foods that our parishioners are bringing in
 - announcement should be made that Fr. will be blessing the food before people begin to eat

New Business

- 1) Linda Notskas will be sending the Christmas cards to the shut-ins, sick, and the military.
- 2) Ladies Christmas Outing - Nilda Salavachi - Saturday, December 5th beginning at 12 noon for lunch at La Fontana Della Citta,

\$28.95 per person. Followed by a 3 P.M. concert, Philly Pops Christmas Spectacular at the Kimmel Center, \$40.00 per person.

- 3) Albanian Flag Day - November 28th
- 4) Christmas Preparation
 - Church decorating - Saturday, December 12th at 10:00 A.M.
 - Christmas show - Sunday, December 20th
 - Christmas Eve - Vesperal Liturgy 6:30 P.M.
- 5) December 20th
 - 3 year Memorial for Peter Kosta
 - Chrismation of Bella, Thomas, and Olivia Lorimer
 - Sunday school Nativity Pageant
- 6) Peter questioned if and when there was any discussion of removing the pews from the church. It was said to have been discussed, but not noted in the minutes (going back a few months earlier in the summer).

Michele Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 P.M. Jani Mara seconded the motion. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer
Secretary