

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting - May 5, 2015
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church Parish Council

The Council Chair, Donna Dimitri, opened the monthly meeting at 7:00 P.M. Fr. Brooks Ledford led the meeting in prayer. Donna thanked everyone for attending.

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

Secretary's Report: The March 2015 minutes were presented by Michele Lorimer. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Linda Biando and seconded by Peter Ghicondey. All were in favor. Michele reported she is in the process of sending thank you notes for the memorial donations we have received as well as Pascha donations from non-parishioners.

Treasurer's Report: The March and April Treasurer's Report were presented by Michele Anderson. **1)** The church received a large donation of \$7,500.00 on March 15, 2015 from a past parishioner. **2)** Money is still coming in from memorial and Pascha donations. We are ahead of last year with Pascha donations. **3)** \$3,500.00 was budgeted. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Linda Biando and seconded by Michele Lorimer. All were in favor.

Pastor Report: Father Brooks

- Father Brooks will take the Youth Group to lunch at Bliss Restaurant on May 31, 2015 at at which time they will discuss the books they read during Great Lent.
- A motion was made by Michele Anderson to approve \$450.00 for the youth lunch which was seconded by Peter. All were in favor.
- Fr. is still making his rounds with home visitations.
- Fr. Gill emailed Fr. Brooks regarding a group that would like to use our church on the Friday (September 25th) the Pope will be in town since the Basilica will not be available. Fr. Brooks agreed that he would allow that to happen.
- The Feast of the Ascension will be celebrated at St. John's on Sunday, May 24. Pentecost May 31st.
- Fr. Brooks excused himself early from the meeting to visit with some friends.

Vice Chairman's Report: Peter Ghicondey

- Peter was happy to announce the wonderful job that Tish Klus is doing with our website. She has updated the site with new information and we are very thankful to have her!
- The domain of stjohnsphila.com is redirected to stjohnsphila.org.

Chairman's Report: Donna Dimitri

- We are looking to purchase icons that we either do not have or that need to be replaced. Linda Notskas and Bill Bortner volunteered to look into and take care of this issue.
- Every month St. John's sends \$50.00 to Cranford Coulter, The King's Jubilee. A motion to discontinue this donation was made by Michele Anderson being we have never received an acknowledgement for the donations. Linda Biando seconded the motion. All were in favor. Linda Notskas also indicated she received information that the King's Jubilee is in the process of discontinuing assisting the homeless.
- The Bishop will be coming November 15, 2015.
- Marguerita Haxhistasa will no longer be cleaning the church as of July 1st. Miranda Lakuriqi has offered to take over the cleaning.

Sunday School: Bill Bortner

- June 14th will be the last day of Sunday School.
- Marinella is helping out with the senior class.
- Fr. Brooks visited the Sunday School students this past Sunday. The children were very excited to see him!

Building Maintenance:

- A crew is working on repairing the stairwell and choir loft in the church.
- The window in the office is going to be replaced.
- All of the air conditioners were serviced.
- The gas and the electric companies came out and changed the meters.

Old Business:

- Review of Holy Week and Pascha
 - *looking into a 7:00 PM start instead of 6:30 PM
 - *the Pre-Sanctified Liturgies had an up and down attendance
- Race for the Cure and Mother's Day is Sunday May 10th.
 - *Ann Gjoka will make the flowers for the women in celebration of Mother's Day

- Richard received \$250.00 from St. John's for his beautiful singing during the Pre-Sanctified Liturgies and Holy Week.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Michele Anderson to send a \$250.00 donation to SS Peter and Paul Basilica. The motion was seconded by Linda Biando. All were in favor.
- The rail at the altar will be taken down.
- Next Council Meeting is Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 7 PM.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michele Anderson and was seconded by Linda Biando. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer
Secretary