

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting – May 2, 2017
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

Father Brooks Ledford opened the monthly meeting at 7:06 pm with prayer. Donna Dimitri thanked everyone for attending.

Roll Call: Janice Leyden. **Council Members Present:** Donna Dimitri, Michele Lorimer, Janice Leyden, Sergio Georgi, William Bortner, Nilda Salavachi. **Auxiliary Members Present:** Dorothy Tomassini, Linda Notskas, Linda Kosta. **Sunday School Director:** Steve Coraluzzi. **Clergy:** Father Brooks. **Absent:** Jani Mara, Linda Biando.

Secretary's Report: The April 2017 minutes were presented by Michele Lorimer. Janice Leyden made a motion to accept the April 2017 minutes as presented. Nilda Salavachi seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: The April 2017 Treasurer's Report was presented by Nilda Salavachi. 1) The checking account as of April is \$22,853.55. 2) Investment account is \$274,598.77. 3) Pledges for 2017 are at 73.8%. Michele Lorimer made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Bill Bortner seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Vice-Chairperson Report: Janice Leyden (nothing to report for this month)

Pastor's Report: Father Brooks

- 1) Reported on Penn's Village Clergy Breakfast held on Thursday, April 27, 2017.
- 2) Report on Parish Ministry Team
 - a) **Stewardship Committee** - Stephanie Kosta, Chair
Met on April 25th
Discussed strategies for upping our pledges
John Cokos brought an interesting article in "Orthodoxadvocate.com"
Will write a letter to former parishioners about the things committee is doing
 - b) **Outreach Committee** - Janice Leyden, Chair
Greeters going well - thanks for including young adults
Discussed reaching out to newlyweds (perhaps a small party)
"Bring a Friend to Church Day" May 7th
Outreach will sponsor Coffee Hour
 - c) **C and B Committee** - Sandy Fiss, Chair
Feeding the homeless
Getting the youth group involved
Planning a visit to Broad Street Ministries
Next meeting, May 18th
 - d) **Sunday School** - Steve Coraluzzi
 - e) **Music Ministry** - Vlad Melnik
 - f) **YAL** - Fr. Brooks
Meets on the last Saturday of every month
 - g) **Youth Group** - Marinela Prifti, Fr. Brooks
Annual luncheon and discussion of books - May 28th

3) Sacraments

a) Weddings:

Anesa and Greg, June 30th

Katerina and Enau, July 9th (with Fr. Emmanuel)

Florina and Drew, August 19th

Marysa and Louis, in Boston

b) Baptism - Pojallari

c) Feast Days

Ascension - May 25th (celebrated Wednesday night on May 24th 7:00 pm)

Pentecost with Kneeling Vespers - June 4th

Memorial Prayer at the cemetery - May 29th

Chairperson Report: Donna Dimitri

1) Building Update

South side upper roof/gutter project will begin in the middle of June. Same vendor Brian - Mulroy Construction

Hall windows - Jim Little, Northeast Building Products, Phila. Will call me tomorrow to discuss windows.

A/C will be serviced tomorrow. We have new WiFi thermostats and will be setting them up. One for the heater/boiler and the other for one A/C unit in the church. If they work out well we will get a WiFi thermostat for the hall A/C.

2) Website

Update weekly during Lent and Holy week. Thank you Tish and Sergio.

3) Parish Directory

Took many photos during Holy Week and Pascha. Nilda has been helping by contacting parishioners and having them send in a photo. Directory will be emailed, some copies available for those without email.

4) Father Brooks 2017 estimated housing allowance.

5) Annual Parish Compliance Report completed and will be sent with Policies and Procedures of the OCA on Sexual Misconduct to the Archbishop. We are in compliance.

6) Criminal History new forms on PA Website. All Sunday school teachers and parish council members will have a background by September.

7) Arch Assembly - committee: Father Brooks, Bill Bortner, Nilda Salavachi, Spartak Brahollari, Steve Coraluzzi, Linda Notskas will meet in the next month.

8) Mother's Day Flowers will be purchased and distributed by Father Brooks when the ladies venerate the cross.

Committee/Other Reports:

1) Sunday School

Last day of Sunday School for this year is June 4th. Graduation ceremony after Liturgy. Kathie Costa has kindly offered her home for an end of the year pool party.

Old Business:

1) Liturgy/Picnic

Will be held on Sunday, August 20th at Neshaminy State Park. Liturgy will begin at 10:00 am. Nilda Salavachi is organizing this event.

2) Icon Update

Bill Bortner reported that the cost of shipping for the icons is \$200.00. The total cost of icons (including shipping) is \$1,000.00

New Business:

1) Pascha Review

Attendance for Pre-sanctified liturgies during Lent was approximately 10-20 people.

Holy Wednesday the crowd was less than usual.

Holy Thursday about 20 people in attendance.

Holy Friday great crowd, about 120 people. Next year we will ask for more help to stay and clean up on Good Friday.

Pascha about 160 people attended. Crowd was very good and respectful.

2) Youth Sunday

Sunday of Orthodoxy

3) Award for Diane Lescas

4) Next Council Meeting Monday, June 5, 2017.

Michele Lorimer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm. Nilda Salavachi seconded the motion. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer
Secretary