

**Semi-Annual Parish Meeting Agenda
Sunday
March 19, 2017**

Opening Prayer	Father Brooks
Secretary's Report	Michele Lorimer Minutes from last Parish meeting November 6, 2016
Treasurer's Report	Nilda Salavachi
Pastor's Report	Father Brooks
Chairperson's Report	Donna Dimitri
Reports:	Sunday school - Steve Coraluzzi Charity & Benevolence Outreach Committee Nick Naum Scholarship
Old Business	Women's Day Celebration - Nilda Salavachi Old business from the floor
New Business	New business from the floor

MINUTES OF THE SEMI-ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - November 6, 2016
St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church

Father Brooks Ledford opened the meeting with prayer at 11:55 am.

Call to Order: The vice-chairperson, Peter Ghicondey, welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Elections of Officers for 2016/2017: At the parish meeting people are elected to the parish council. The council elects the positions at the first meeting.

Council Chair	Donna Dimitri
Vice-Chair	Janice Leyden
Treasurer	Nilda Salavachi
Secretary	Michele Lorimer
Trustees	William Bortner, Sergio Georgi, Jani Mara

As there were no other nominations from the floor, Linda Biando made a motion to accept the council as presented. Madge Graziani seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Secretary' Report: The March 2016 minutes were presented by Michele Lorimer. Dorothy Tomassini made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. John Cokos seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Michele Anderson. The motion to accept was made by Linda Notskas and seconded by Spartak Brahollari. All were in favor.

Proposed Budget: Michele Anderson presented the proposed budget for 2017.

Comments and Questions:

- Stephanie Kosta inquired about the deficit of the 2017 proposed budget. Michele Anderson gave a walk through and explanation of the budget.
- Dorothy Tomassini made a motion to accept the proposed 2017 budget and seconded by Kathy Costa. All were in favor.

Pastor's Report: Father Brooks

- Fr. Brooks expressed his gratitude to the people and that he feels very positive of the direction we are headed in as a parish.
- Outreach Committee will meet Dec. 3, 2016.
- Marinela Prifti is assisting Fr. Brooks with the high school class.
- Fr. Brooks raised a concern regarding the finances of the church and the need to focus more on this matter. He and Jamie are presently paying for their own health insurance.
- Fr. thanked Michele Anderson for all her work as Treasurer.
- Fr. also thanked Peter Ghicondey for his service on parish council as vice-chair.

Vice-Chairperson's Report: Peter Ghicondey

- For the past four years, Peter has served on parish council as well as taking on the role as commissioner of Fantasy Football. He thanked everyone for their support over the years.
- The church website is continuing to grow with an estimated 44 visitors per day.
- Stephanie Kosta commented on our church Facebook page and the progress it has made.

Chairperson's Report: Donna Dimitri

New Insurance Company: committee Linda Blando, Steve Coraluzzi, Father Brooks, Donna Dimitri met with insurance agent Joe Pakela. We are now with Utica Insurance Company and annual insurance premium will be \$13,053.00 for the year. The policy is 275 pages. If anyone would like a copy. Last year we paid \$14,750.00 with Guide One Insurance.

Building Update:

- Floor in church completed and paid \$17,776.00 for luxury vinyl tile and marble center aisle. Outstanding bill for pew removal and reset. Last year paid \$22,041.00 for the altar and Solea carpentry and marble installation.
- Michael Grabovari has been asked to build 4 radiator covers for the church. This will be paid for with the donation made by Stephanie & Victor Sarkissian made in memory of Rose Mary & Louis Notska.
- Side vestibule wainscoting and painted. New panic bar on big red door. Special thanks to Sergio Georgi for purchasing and installing cameras in the candle stand area, side vestibule and outside red door/parking lot. Can be accessed remotely, in fact used during class to monitor door.
- Roof south side lower roof emergency repair. Cost \$18,800.00 labor and materials. This repair was made as we had a number of leaks inside the church, the contractor was available and the repair needed to be made. Parish council agreed. Estimate for north side lower roof same. Also have to repair the roofs and gutters on the upper roof.
- In 2017 we will also begin the window project. Presentation will be made at the March meeting.
- Previous Projects:
 - 2009 new hall floor - money from insurance claim
 - 2009 fire - new boiler installed (fire in old boiler) - money insurance claim
 - 2010 - 2011 Spires project, money from fundraising and investment account
 - 2013 - 2014 Flood in Sunday School, PVC drain pipes installed - money insurance claim
 - 2015 Marble floor Altar and Solea, kitchen renovation - money from St. John the Baptist

Events:

- Picnic at the end of August was very successful. We will have another picnic next year. Many thanks to Nilda Salavachi for organizing the picnic.
- Gregory E Costa golf classic, on Oct 2nd this year. 65 people attended. Thanks to Linda Biando, Linda Kosta, Michele Anderson, Donna Pappas, Kathie Costa, Peter Ghicondey for their help. We raised \$5,468.00 for the parish.
- Halloween Party last Sunday, way to go Paula Bendo, Michele Lorimer and Melissa Zavatsky about 55 kids attended.
- Flag Day Nov 28th no dance at St. John's but there is one at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, NJ and another at the Radisson Hotel in Trevoise PA.
- Women's Day is March 8th, 2017, which is a Wednesday. We will have our annual Women's Day dance either March 4th or 11th. Nilda and Spartak organize this dance which is a fundraising event for our parish.

Parish Ministry Teams:

- Sunday School:** Steve Coraluzzi
- Registration is up this year. Our teachers this year are Melissa (pre-school) Michele & Nicole (K&1st), Merna & Georgette (2nd&3rd), Jamie & Christine (4th-7th), Fr. Brooks & Marinela (High School).
- Halloween party raised \$160.00 for Sunday School.
- Thanksgiving Presentation Nov. 27th
- Church Christmas Pageant Dec. 18th
- Gertrude Hawk Candy sale

Stewardship: Stephanie Kosta

- \$60,000.00 was budgeted in pledges. We have 104 pledges at \$53,000.00.
- Smile.amazon.com is a website you can use when making purchases from Amazon. Select St. John Chrysostom as your charity and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to St. John's.

Nick Naum Scholarship Committee: Diane Coraluzzi

- The scholarship committee formed this year in order to manage and award the money designated by Nick Naum to support our young parishioners and/or family members of Nick Naum who are engaging in higher education. The money amounted over \$119,00.00.

This year, we developed criteria for scholarship applicants, reviewed applications and awarded 4 scholarships of \$2500 each to 4 worthy candidates.

The committee met with Steve Muzekari, an investment officer from Wells Fargo who also manages the church investment fund, in order to make a plan to invest the scholarship monies. With Steve's input, the committee decided to approach

our investments to minimize risk while being able to extend the life of the fund to provide as many scholarships as possible over the next 10+ years. We have divided a portion of the money across 3 mutual funds to diversify our investments (16,500 into each of the 3 funds). We plan to keep money in these funds for at least 5 years. We will also be investing about \$15,000 each across 4 different fixed rate securities, which provide a fixed rate of return. These purchases are still being made.

Old Business:

-Archdiocesan Assembly

Marinela Prifti gave her views and impression of the assembly.

New Business:

-Nameday Celebration November 20th. Parishioners are welcomed to bring a favorite dish.

-Christopher Manosis and Zachary Dardaris will be tonsured.

Donna Dimitri thanked everyone for attending the meeting. A motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:57 pm was made by Michele Anderson. Spartak Brahillari seconded the motion. All were in favor, whereupon the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Lorimer

Secretary