



Knights of Lithuania
Council 7 Waterbury, CT
Minutes of April 24, 2022

Council President Linas Balsys called the meeting to order at 10:26 am; members recited the Our Father and Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Members present acknowledged reading the March meeting minutes; Christian Allyn made a motion to accept the minutes and Bill Stokes seconded the motion; motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Al Ulozas provided the following Treasurer's report:

March 2022		
Checking Balance forward		\$1,896.81
Total deposits	Annual Dues - \$435, Ck # 184 for \$75 dated 10/22/20 never cashed; deposited back to account	\$510.00
Total expenses	\$30 – Reimbursement to F. Stiklus for degree certificates, \$250 to Ukrainian National Home for supply postage	\$280.00
Checking Account Balance	as of 3/31/2022	\$2,126.81
CD Balance		\$2,053.94
Total	as of 3/31/2022	\$4,180.75

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Marlene Shea and seconded by Joe Karmuza; motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report

Linas Venclauskas was unable to attend the meeting, so no report was available.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Cultural Committee – Thanks to Jonas Zemaititis for agreeing to bring us news of Lithuanian history and cultural events. At the April meeting, he gave a presentation about Lithuania having been through 3 wars within the last 100 years, and he drew parallels between Lithuania's history against Soviet aggression and the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. He will send the YouTube link to Marlene Warren so she can send to members with email.

Ukrainian National Home Donation – President Balsys shared the thank you he received from the Ukrainian National Home; they are grateful for the shipping expense support from our council. Peter Verseckas asked about contributing to the Vilnius soup kitchen however Joe Karmuza cautioned that charitable donations to Lithuanian organizations don't always get to the intended audience.

Meeting Start Time – To avoid conflicts with the coffee hour, Fran Stiklus motioned that we push our meeting time up from 10 am to 10:15 am and that we meet in one of the classrooms instead of the gym. Christian Allyn seconded the motion; motion carried.

Club Building Update – Bob Orintas noted that the Parish Center stained glass windows are not going to be removed and stored in the Church as indicated in the March meeting minutes; instead, they will be left at the Parish Center. He also summarized the proposal he prepared regarding the Club building after the purchase is complete.

Christian Allyn noted that the Parish Center stained glass windows are uniquely Lithuanian and suggested that we negotiate a long term lease with the City post sale to include provisions for the K of L and the St. Joe's Coffee Hour

to use a classroom or the gym for meetings and the coffee hour; the City will most likely be agreeable given the current situation in Ukraine.

President Balsys thanked those that attended the recent Aldermanic meeting and made all members aware of the follow up meeting to be held on April 25th. He plans to attend and supports the plans for the city to purchase the Parish Center, our Club building, and the school. Once the City finalizes the purchase, the Lithuanian community can negotiate the purchase of the Green Street building.

Revitalization Sub Committee – Christian Allyn, Linas Venclauskas and Marlene Warren continue to meet regularly with the National sub-committee. Work has shifted from reviewing the National Constitution to focusing on retaining and acquiring members with a emphasis on enhanced social media channels. The goal is to prepare a presentation with recommendations from the committee for the National Convention to be held in Washington DC the weekend of 9/11/22.

2022 Mayor for the Day – The City of Waterbury will host our Lithuanian Mayor for the Day/flag raising event on Friday, July 8th (rain date is 7/15) at 10 am. We will vote on the candidate names put forth at the January meeting at the May meeting: *Eleanor Barkauskas, Peter Gervickas and Lillian Benesevich*. *Mr. Karmuza also suggested that we honor all the 1918 and 1990 Lithuanian Freedom Fighters.*

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES

Spring Fling 2022 – Saturday, June 18th beginning at 1 PM – The event will be held at the Café on Congress; the menu will be announced at the May meeting, and a flyer with details will be distributed shortly. We expect the cost to be the same as the Christmas Party at \$20, and we plan to have a 50/50 raffle. Members are encouraged to bring one item for the raffle.

St. John's Day Celebration hosted by Erik Bartkus on Thursday, June 23rd – Erik is planning a Jonines celebration at his house on John Street beginning at 8 pm; he is providing the food and drink and welcomes all to attend.

Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival - May 21st at 6 pm – The details for the Lithuania Folk Dance 50th Anniversary Celebration were provided in the April newsletter. President Balsys is selling tickets for \$25 each and stressed that none will be sold at the door; he will also be performing at the event.

Future Fundraising Suggestions – Vice President Stiklus is getting more details regarding the Polish Club "prize a day" raffle and will investigate to see if a permit is required. More to come at our next meeting.

Next Meeting May 15TH at 10:15 am – The next monthly meeting will be held in the St. Joseph's School on Sunday May 15th.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Marian Pelletier and seconded by Joseph Karmuza; motion carried, and the meeting concluded at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Warren
Recording Secretary