



Knights of Lithuania Council 7 Waterbury, CT Minutes of September 18, 2022

Council President Linas Balsys called the meeting to order at 10:20 am; members recited the Our Father and Pledge of Allegiance and suggested others we should be praying for.

Awards

Third degree medals were blessed at today's mass and subsequently awarded to Fran Stiklus, Marlene Warren, Jonas Zemaititis, and Gintas Zemaititis.

Cultural Committee – Lithuanian Trivia Contest

Jonas Zemaititis tested members' knowledge of Lithuanian events and history with several trivia questions. Prizes were awarded to the top 3 members with the correct answers: Joe Karmuza, Vytas Jankauskas and Christian Allyn.

Minutes

None due to June Spring Fling. Instead, the party income and expenses was presented as follows:

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|------------------|
| Cash Received from Treasurer prior to event | | | \$ 600.00 |
| Deposits back to Treasurer | | | |
| Cash - Marlene | Refund - Café Bill was \$500 | | \$ 100.00 |
| Cash - Marlene | | | \$ 70.00 |
| Checks/Cash Deposit - Linas | Includes ticket sales and raffle proceeds | | \$ 685.00 |
| Grand Total | | | \$ 855.00 |
| Income | Ticket Price | Ticket Sales | Income |
| Advance Ticket Sales | \$20.00 | 25 | \$500.00 |
| Tickets at door | \$20.00 | 5 | \$100.00 |
| Raffle proceeds | | | \$155.00 |
| Total Income | | | \$755.00 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Café on Congress meals | \$ 15.00 | 28 | \$420.00 |
| Tip | | | \$80.00 |
| | | Catering Total | \$500.00 |
| Fran | | Paper goods \$ 18.03 | |
| | | Cheese trays 9.98 | \$40.79 |
| | | Veggie trays 12.98 | |
| Total Expenses | | | \$540.79 |
| Net Profit | | | \$214.21 |

Treasurer's Report

Al Ulozas provided the following Treasurer's report:

May - June 2022

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Checking Balance forward | | \$2,126.81 |
| Total deposits | | \$0.00 |
| Total expenses | Cash Advance – M. Warren for Spring Fling | \$600.00 |
| Checking Account Balance | as of 6/30/2022 | \$1,526.81 |
| CD Balance | | \$2,052.70 |
| Total | as of 6/30/2022 | \$3,579.51 |

July – August 2022

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Checking Balance forward | | \$1,526.81 |
| Total deposits | Spring Fling proceeds and reimburse Treasury \$600 advance | \$855.00 |
| Total expenses | Supreme council – dues | \$60.00 |
| Checking Account Balance | as of 8/31/2022 | \$2,321.81 |
| CD Balance | | \$2,052.70 |
| Total | as of 8/31/2022 | \$4,374.51 |

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Jonas Zemaititis and seconded by Vytas Jankauskas; motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report

Linus Venclauskas reported that the Sunshine Fund remains at \$44.87. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Gintas Zemaititis and seconded by Jonas Zemaititis; motion carried.

Although the Supreme Council agreed to waive 2022 dues, several members paid their dues in advance. Those who paid their 2022 dues have 3 options:

1. If the check has not yet been deposited, Linas can return to the member.
2. If dues were already deposited, they can be returned, or
3. 2022 dues payments can be donated to the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception Family to Family fund.

Please let Linas Venclauskas know which option you prefer. At the National Convention, the Supreme Council announced that dues will be collected in 2023.

Information regarding the Family to Family fundraiser was distributed at the meeting; the forms are also available in the latest Vytis issue. Additionally, members were asked to consider donating the housewares (dishes, pots, pans, silverware, etc.) that is still housed at the old club building to a Ukrainian relief organization. Alternatively, Vita Ciullo suggested donating these items to Make A Home LLC in Waterbury because they donate or give items to veterans. Linas Venclauskas made a motion to collect all the usable items and donate to one of these organizations, Fran Stiklus seconded the motion; motion carried.

Vytis Articles

Thanks to Marlene Shea for her submissions to Vytis. Because of her efforts, Council 7 events and updates have been regularly featured in the magazine.

National Convention and New Ideas Revitalization Sub Committee Report – Linas Balsys and Marlene Warren attended the National Convention via zoom. The New Ideas presentation at the convention resulted in 3 Resolutions being approved by the delegates:

1. Traditional Membership Recruiting partnership – The convention delegates agreed to reimburse Councils up to \$250 for traditional advertising expenses such as newspaper ads, radio, TV, etc.). Councils seeking reimbursement must submit a copy of said expenses in the form of a Reimbursement Warrant with a valid receipt.

2. Budget request for a social media Contractor and/or intern to assist the organization in attracting and retaining members of all ages - \$5,000 allocated in the national budget for the 2023 calendar year.
3. Resolution timeline – delegates approved a 2 year timeline to assess the success of the New Ideas Committee resolutions (e.g., 2024 convention)

The New Ideas Committee will continue to meet to implement the resolutions, and it appears that Debbie Miller is interested in joining the team to assist with hiring a Social Media contractor to update the National website. We also requested that National provide standard, compliance approved ad templates for use by all councils.

NED Convention – September 25th – Council 7 delegates to the NED Convention are: Christian Allyn, Julie Minkunas, Fran Stiklus and Marlene Warren.

2022 Mayor for the Day/flag raising. - President Balsys noted that Eleanor Barkauskas was honored and thrilled to be selected as the Mayor for the Day. In past years, the ceremony was held in February with a “rain/snow date in March. To avoid this in the future, the Mayor for the Day will be scheduled around King Mindaugas Day in July.

Nominating Committee – Officer elections are due this year, and Bob Orintas, Aldona Onalfo and Ruta Kazakaitis agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee. They will present the proposed officer slate at the October meeting. Officers will be sworn in at the November meeting.

Sunshine Committee - Thanks to Bob Orintas, Aldona Onalfo and Gintas Zemaititis for agreeing to serve on the Sunshine Committee. This group is tasked with sending out get well, sympathy or other greetings to our members and for contacting those that do not have email to let them know about meetings, events and fundraisers. Linas Venclauskas will provide each of them with an updated member list that includes phone numbers and addresses.

Member Recruitment Strategies– In an effort to recruit new members to our Council, we’re going to place ads in church bulletins. Linas Balsys will follow up with Our Lady of Mt Carmel and St. Joseph’s and Fran Stiklus agreed to contact St. Francis. Additionally, Linas B encouraged all to add our council’s website (www.knightsoflithuanianwaterbury.org) to their Facebook pages. A flyer with the website was distributed at the meeting and all were encouraged to visit and get back to either Christian Allyn or Marlene Warren with suggestions and ideas for the website.

Christian Allyn explained the expenses associated with the council’s website as follows: \$10 for the domain name and \$120 for website design and maintenance from GoDaddy. He paid the fee out of pocket, so Linas Venclauskas made a motion to reimburse Christian for the website expenses upon submission of an invoice to the Treasurer; Aldona Onalfo seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Calendar of Events – A draft Calendar of Events was distributed to those present. We are looking for volunteers to teach us about various Lithuanian traditions such as egg etching, straw ornaments or speakers that would be of interest to our members. Please let Fran Stiklus or Marlene Warren know if you can teach us a Lithuanian craft or tradition or can arrange for a speaker.

Christmas Wafers – Bob Orintas ordered the Christmas wafers but explained that the price increased this year. Members suggested he charge \$2.00 instead of the original \$1.50 he proposed.

Kucios Dinner – President Balsys is discussing the possibility of holding the Kucios dinner this year and will let us know the status at the October meeting.

Next Meeting - October 16 at 10:15 am

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Julie Minkunas and seconded by Ruta Kazakaitis; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Warren
Recording Secretary