



Knights of Lithuania
www.knightsoflithuanianwaterbury.org
Council 7 Waterbury, CT
Minutes of March 26, 2023

Council President Linas Balsys called the meeting to order at 10:35 am; members recited the Our Father and Pledge of Allegiance, and we offered prayers for members and family.

Treasurer's Report

Al Ulozas was unable to attend, so Linas Balsys provided the following Treasurer's report:

February 2023

Checking Balance forward		\$3,231.30
Total deposits	Dues (\$175), Eversource refund (\$17.78)	\$192.78
Total expenses	OLMC donation for Dec. Hall Usage	\$100.00
Checking Account Balance	as of 2/28/2023	\$3,324.08
CD Balance		\$2,054.14
Total	as of 2/28/2023	\$5,378.22

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Violeta Stasonis and seconded by Aldona Onalfo; motion carried. Based on the February meeting, Al will send a check in the amount of \$600 to the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in Putnam to sponsor one Ukrainian family.

Minutes

Gintas Zemaitaitis made a motion to accept the minutes and Joe Karmuza seconded the motion; motion approved unanimously.

Financial Secretary's Report

Linas Venclauskas reminded all that 2023 dues are being collected and must be paid by April 1st. He reported that about 2/3 of the current membership have paid their 2023 dues. Four new members were sworn into the Council: Kristina Johnson, Sara Johnson, Joseph Grincunas, and Matthew Conte-Lerner.

We also agreed to reinstate the 50/50 raffle beginning at the next meeting. Fran Stiklus will run the raffle at each meeting.

Membership Magic Contest

Two new members paid their dues at the last meeting, so an executive decision was made to award prizes for both referrals. As a result, Violeta Stasonis and Christian Allyn qualify as being the first members to refer new members and are both eligible for \$15 Visa gift cards at the end of the contest. Kristina Johnson referred her daughter Sara and Anna Juraska referred her brother Joe, so both will be eligible for \$10 Visa gift cards at the end of the contest.

Membership Revitalization Committee (MRC) Report

Traditional Advertising Tools - Flyers – Joe Karmuza and Kristina Johnson worked together to print flyers that were inserted in the St. Joe's and OLMC bulletin. The OLMC flyers resulted in us welcoming two guests to today's meeting – Mary Jane Mazzairelli and Lauren Mancini. Joe and Kristina plan to print more flyers and insert not only in the St. Joe's and OLMC bulletins, but the St. Patrick's Church bulletins as well. To date, Joe has paid for the ink and paper needed to print the flyers, but he was encouraged to submit his receipts for payment by the Council. We will then submit a reimbursement request for 50% of the cost to the national Treasurer. President Balsys offered the use of his printer as it prints very quickly.

Marlene Warren reported that the website is almost ready to be sent to the Supreme Council in advance of the 4/22 meeting. The MRC will be demonstrating the refreshed website at that meeting and hopes to receive approval to go live on 5/1. Pictures are needed and can be sent to Christian, Marlene or contact@knightsoflithuania.com. Christian also plans to investigate linking the national membership application to our website.

4/30/2023 – NED Meeting in Putnam – Marlene Warren and Fran Stiklus are planning to attend. Marlene is hopeful that they'll be able to do a demonstration of the new website. Marlene will contact the sisters to determine technical capabilities for this purpose. If you plan to attend, please notify Linas Balsys before Saturday, 4/15 so he can notify Dave Boucher at the NED.

5/7/2023 - Club Building Clean Out – Volunteers are needed **to** help clean the household items out of the old club building on May 7th after mass. Our intent is to donate these goods to the Ukrainian home or another local charity. Vita and Linas volunteered to coordinate the clean out and donation.

6/23/2023 – Jonines Celebration – Erik Bartkus is hosting his annual Jonines Day event; please mark your calendars. It was suggested that our Council request a special, possibly afternoon mass from Father Aniello before the festivities begin later that evening.

7/8/2023 - Mayor for the Day at 10 am at City Hall – We expect to use the press release developed by the MRC team in advance of this event. All were encouraged to start thinking about Mayor for the Day candidates. Linas Balsys encouraged all to attend the event to show our support for Lithuania and its statehood day. He hopes that attendance will be great since this year's event will be held on a Saturday.

TBD - Spring Fling/Social Events – Kristina Johnson graciously volunteered to coordinate our next social event; Marlene will send her samples of past flyers and the income and expense reports. Thank you, Kristina!

St. Joseph's Church - Marion Pelletier reported that she has been tracking parishioner attendance to prove to the Arch Diocese that the church should remain open.

9/14 – 9/17 - National Convention – Marlene Warren plans to attend via zoom to present an MRC update if a zoom option is offered. More details to come, but some event information is published on the national website. Please check it out and consider attending the convention if you can.

9/16 – The Gathering – We need a volunteer to coordinate our Council's booth and marchers the day of the event. This is an excellent opportunity to recruit new members and publicize our Council.

Next Meeting – Sunday, April 16, 2023, at 10:30 am – after coffee hour

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 am was made by Marian Pelletier and seconded by Christian Allyn; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Warren
Recording Secretary