



Knights of Lithuania  
[www.knightsoflithuanianwaterbury.org](http://www.knightsoflithuanianwaterbury.org)  
Council 7 Waterbury, CT  
Minutes of April 16, 2023

Council President Linas Balsys called the meeting to order at 10:32 am; members recited the Our Father and Pledge of Allegiance, and we offered prayers for members and family.

**Treasurer's Report**

Al Ulozas provided the following Treasurer's report:

March 2023		
Checking Balance forward		<b>\$3,324.08</b>
Total deposits	Member Dues	\$1,055.00
Total expenses	Dues to National (\$1,285), Family to Family Ukrainian Donation (\$600)	<b>\$1,885.00</b>
<b>Checking Account Balance</b>	<b>as of 3/31/2023</b>	<b>\$2,494.08</b>
CD Balance		\$2,054.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>as of 3/31/2023</b>	<b>\$4,548.22</b>

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Violeta Stasonis and seconded by Gintas Zemaitaitis; motion carried.

**Minutes**

Bill Stokes made a motion to accept the minutes and Ruta Kazakaitis seconded the motion; motion approved unanimously.

**Financial Secretary's Report**

Linas Venclauskas was unable to attend the meeting, but Linas Balsys reminded all that 2023 dues are being collected and were supposed to be paid by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Membership Magic Contest**

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, Violeta Stasonis and Kristina Johnson worked together to print over 400 flyers that were subsequently inserted in the St. Patrick's bulletin on Easter Sunday. Joe and Violeta submitted their flyer printing expense (for paper and ink) totaling \$264.90 to the Treasurer for reimbursement. Marlene Warren will submit for 50% traditional advertising reimbursement from the national organization but cautioned payment may take a while.

Marlene Warren reported that the webmaster will be doing a live demo of the refreshed website for the Supreme Council on 4/22 meeting. Marlene W will follow Pamela's presentation with a separate power point presentation re: online donations and membership payments using PayPal.

Pictures are still needed for our local and national website and can be sent to Christian, Marlene or [contact@knightsoflithuania.com](mailto:contact@knightsoflithuania.com).

Christian Allyn suggested that we promote Brooklyn's Little Lithuania with a flag fundraiser. Basically, we could sell Lithuanian flags and line Commerce and John Streets with both Lithuanian and American flags. It was suggested that Christian check with Jerry Covino because Lisa Velez had purchased American flags, and these may still be available. The membership liked the idea and urged Christian to proceed with preparing a flyer to sell Lithuanian flags at \$40/flag, flagpole and bracket.

**4/30/2023 – NED Meeting in Putnam** – Marlene Warren, Fran Stiklus and Christian Allyn are planning to attend. Marlene requested time on the agenda to demonstrate the new website. Linas Balsys will provide the mandates for the attendees before the meeting.

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

**6/3/23 - Spring Fling/Social Events** – Kristina Johnson secured the OLMC hall from 11 am to 4 pm on Saturday, 6/3 for our annual spring fling event. Kristina needs volunteers to help set up and clean up after the party, and to sell raffle tickets. Please let her know if you can help. Fran Stiklus offered to pick up the paper goods needed for the party, and although she will be unable to attend, she will be sure to provide the raffle tickets to Kristina in advance. More details to come at the next meeting, but all are encouraged to mark your calendars now and save the date.

**6/23/2023 – Jonines Celebration** – Erik Bartkus is hosting his annual Jonines Day event; please mark your calendars. President Balsys is following up to see if Father Voldemaras Visockis is available to serve mass at the start of the celebration.

**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.

**St. Joseph's Church** – Bob Orintas reported that the furnace is now fully operable and all the valves on the radiators were changed (\$10,000 total expense), the 100 year old organ motor was repaired (~\$8,000), Roof membrane has separated causing water damage (expect \$9,500 - \$10,000), and that the St. Joe's statue repair quote from Ciarlos' Monument Works is \$5,600.

**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** – Linas B. reported that the Lithuanian Club is thinking of selling beer again if it is available, and that he is going to contact the NJ vendor to see if they will attend on behalf of Council 7. 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. Marlene Warren is hopeful that we will have brochures printed by National for the event.

**50/50 Raffle** – After a long hiatus, we held our first 50/50 raffle. Our winner was Vita Ciullo. Congratulations.

**Next Meeting – Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 10:30 am** – after coffee hour. Judy Vecchitto requested a hybrid meeting option (e.g., in person and zoom) which will require a laptop, camera, microphone and Wi-Fi or hotspot access. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 am was made by Aldona Onalfo and seconded by Perter Verseckas; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Warren  
Recording Secretary