

**NYS GRAND LODGE
ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA
NYS CSJ EXEC BOARD MEETING
GRAND LODGE OFFICE
TUESDAY 10-10-17**

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:40 P.M. BY CHAIRMAN JOHN FRATTA
ROLL CALL SHOWED THE FOLLOWING WERE IN ATTENDANCE:

STATE PRESIDENT ROBERT FERRITO

CSJ CHAIRMAN JOHN FRATTA

CO-CHAIRPERSON E. JOBAGGY

STATE DEPUTY KEITH WILSON

IP CHAIR L. GALLO

J VALLONE

C LUCIE

J PARAZZELLI

J COHEN

T ADAMO

M SANTO

V MARMORALE

E BOCHYNSKI

R DICHIARA

T CORSELLO

ALL OTHER BOARD MEMBERS WERE EXCUSED.

JOHN ASKED SECRETARY TO ADD BOB CANGELIOSI FROM CABOTO LODGE TO THE EXEC.
BOARD MEMBERSHIP. JOHN MANCINI WAS ALSO IN ATTENDANCE TO DISCUSS CASA ITALIANA.

- **CASA ITALIANA:**

JOHN MANCINI CAME TO PRESENT THIS ISSUE TO THE BOARD. HE MENTIONS THAT HE WAS A FORMER BOARD MEMBER OF THE CSJ AND HE ENJOYED THAT VERY MUCH.

HE EXPLAINED THE HISTORY OF THE CASA ITALIANA AND HOW THE INSTITUTE HAS GONE FROM A GREAT ITALIC INSTITUTE PROMOTING ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE AS WELL AS BEING TAX EXEMPT FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES. SEN. KEN LAVALLE WAS HELPFUL GETTING THE EXEMPTION. AFTER BEING TAKEN OVER BY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND NOW HAS NOT EVEN ONE ITALIAN AMERICAN MEMBER ON THE BOARD. JOHN IS WAITING FOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT FOR DECISION ABOUT PLACING ONE ITALIAN AMERICAN MEMBER ON THE BOARD. JOHN FRATTA FEELS THAT THIS IS WRONG AND WE NEED TO ADVOCATE FOR THIS REASON. MIKE SANTO ASKS FOR COPY OF LEASE WITH COLUMBIA THAT THEY HAVE.

KEITH WILSON MENTIONS THAT WE SHOULD HAVE 6 OR 7 PEOPLE OF ITALIAN EXTRACTION ON THE BOARD. JOHN FEELS THAT THE ITALIAN GOV'T. IS AFRAID OF COLUMBIA AND DAVID FREEDBERG OF THE UNIVERSITY. JOHN ASKS MIKE SANTO TO LOOK INTO THIS AND REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD. JOHN AND MIKE WILL COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER ON THIS ISSUE.

- **TREASURERS REPORT:**

JOE VALLONE REPORTS ON RECENT EXPENDITURES FOR HIMSELF AND JOANNE GROVE AS SHE WAS EXCUSED. COPY ATTACHED. JOHN MENTIONS EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS THAT WERE SENT OUT FOR APPROVALS OF NEEDED EXPENDITURES FOR CSJ MATTERS IE MAGNETS AND TEE SHIRTS AND PUBLICITY FOR PRESS CONFERENCE OF \$950.00. ALL CONCURRED.

- **COLUMBUS ISSUE:**

JOHN REPORTS THAT LETTERS WERE MAILED OUT TO ALL STATE OFFICIALS ASKING THEIR POSITION ON THIS MATTER AND TO DATE 52 RESPONSES WERE RECEIVED. THIS BEING THE NUMBER ONE ISSUE FOR ITALIAN AMERICANS HE FEELS THAT IT IS TIME FOR A RALLY TO SHOW OUR FEELINGS ON THIS MATTER IN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR US.

JANIS PARAZZELLI FEELS WE NEED TO REACH OUT TO OTHER ETHNICITIES AND LOU GALLO ASKED FOR UPDATE ON THE ITALIAN LEG CAUCUS INVOLVEMENT WITH THIS ISSUE. JOHN MENTIONS THAT WE WILL NEED FUNDING FOR THIS ISSUE AND ROE DICHIARA SUGGESTS A "GO FUND ME" PAGE FOR THIS ISSUE. WE WILL ALSO NEED A SEPARATE SAVINGS ACCOUNT FOR THIS. ROBERT FERRITO MENTIONS THAT THE PR PERSON WE HAVE WILL HELP US WITH ALL THIS MATTER AND PRESS RELEASES LOOK GREAT. MIKE SANTO FEELS THAT SOCIAL MEDIA IS VERY EFFECTIVE AND THE INDIAN GROUPS ARE VERY ORGANIZED. JOHN MENTIONS THAT WE SHOULD LOOK TO BOYCOTT THE INDIAN OWNED CASINOS AND KEITH WILSON FEELS THAT IF THEY GET INVOLVED IN LOCAL POLITICS THEY SHOULD HAVE THEIR TAX EXEMPT PROPERTY STATUS LIFTED.

SOME BOARD MEMBERS HAD MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT THE BOYCOTT OF CASINOS. VINCE MARMORALE FEELS THAT THIS IS A COORDINATED ATTACK ON OUR CULTURE AND SOME WANT TO ELIMINATE WESTERN HISTORY. THIS IS NOT JUST AN "ITALIAN THING." JOHN MENTIONS THAT NYC PUBLIC ADVOCATE LETITIA JAMES IS IN STRONG SUPPORT OF OUR POSITION AS WELL AS COUNCILMAN RICH TORRES. MIKE SANTO FEELS NO BOYCOTT OF CASINOS IS BETTER AS WE DO NOT WANT TO LOOK LIKE THE BAD GUYS. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR WATCH ON THIS ISSUE.

- **CONVENTION DONATION FUNDS:**

JOHN FRATTA MENTIONS THAT WE HAVE NOT GOTTEN DONATED FUNDS YET AND NEED TO CLOSE THIS MATTER OUT. HE WILL SPEAK WITH LUIGI AND JIM SPATAFORA.

- **CSJ GRANT PROGRAM:**

JOHN FRATTA FEELS THAT WE SHOULD HAVE A GRANT PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS TO APPLY FOR CULTURAL AND HERITAGE INTEREST. SOME DISCUSSION ENSUED AND KEITH WILSON RECOMMENDED THAT A SUB-COMMITTEE BE FORMED TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD A FULL FLEDGED PROGRAM. JOHN ASKED CHARLIE LUCIE TO CHAIR AND MEMBERS AS FOLLOWS: J VALLONE, T ADAMO, J. PARAZZELLI AND L GALLO. THEY WILL REPORT AT THE NOV. MTG. JOHN WOULD LIKE TO GIVE OUT AT THE ANNUAL CSJ BRUNCH IN FEB.

- **LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST:**

JOHN FRATTA WOULD LIKE THE CSJ TO START AN ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST TO HAVE THE PUBLIC OFFICIALS HEAR OUR CONCERNS AND THEY CAN THEN ADVOCATE FOR US WHEN THE NEED ARISES. KEITH EXPLAINS THE CONCEPT AND WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT. JOHN ASKS KEITH AND ELEANOR TO CO CHAIR THIS EVENT. THEY WILL EXPLORE A LOCALE FOR THIS AND IT WILL BE HELD IN THE SPRING TIME FRAME.

- **HOFSTRA DAY:**

ELEANOR FEELS THAT THIS DAY WENT VERY WELL AND A LOT OF LITERATURE AND MEMBERSHIP LEADS WERE OBTAINED. OVER 600 COLUMBUS PETITION SIGNATURES WERE OBTAINED. STATE PRES. FERRITO WAS FIRST SPEAKER AND TOUCHED ON ALL GREAT POINTS ABOUT OUR HERTIAGE. HE FEELS THAT WE WILL BE TAKING THE BREAKFAST PART OF THIS PROGRAM BACK AND WILL PURSUE THIS WITH COMMITTEE AND INCLUDE OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS. JOHN HAS CURRENTLY 10,000 MORE SIGNATURES ON PETITIONS TO PRESENT TO NATIONAL AND LOU G. ASKS WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN DOING ON THIS MATTER. JOHN FEELS THAT THEY ARE LETTING US TAKE THE LEAD. HE SPEAKS TO KEVIN CAIRA EVERY DAY AND COORDINATES WITH HIM. JOHN TOLD THE BOARD THAT OTHER STATES ARE CALLING HIM FOR DIRECTION.

- **ITALIAN CULTURAL CALENDAR PROGRAM:**

ELEANOR PASSES OUT COPIES OF THE CONCEPT OF A FULL CULTURAL CALENDAR AND USING AS A FUNDRAISER BY SELLING FOR 2019. THIS WOULD HAVE ALL PERTINENT ITALIAN

DAYS AND EVENTS IN HISTORY ON IT. JOE VALLONE AND MARIANNE PRINCE WILL SERVE ON THIS COMMITTEE.

- **TEE SHIRTS/MAGNETS:**

JOHN ASKS HOW MANY MORE "SAVE COLUMBUS DAY" SHIRTS WE SHOULD ORDER AND BOARD FEELS 1000 MORE WITH EMBLEM IN ORIGINAL PLACE. JANIS PARAZZELLI ALSO FEELS WE SHOULD SELL "SAVE COLUMBUS DAY" MAGNETS FOR A FEE. BOB FERRITO WILL BE RE-APPOINTING THE GIFT GALLERY AND WILL INCORPORATE THE CSJ FOR SALE ITEMS WITH THIS WHEN ORGANIZED.

- **CSJ INFO. BROCHURES:**

ROE DICIARA WILL BE ORDERING THE CSJ TRI FOLD INFO BROCHURE AND MOST FEEL WE SHOULD LEAVE THE BOARD MEMBERS AND STATE PRESIDENT NAME ON THIS ITEM. THIS WILL BE DONE IN THAT FORMAT. WE WILL ORDER 500 AND USE AS NEEDED SO AS NOT TO HAVE TOO MANY.

- **DISTRICT CHAIRS REPORTS:**

DIST. 1:

C. LUCIE REPORTS THAT THEY WILL SOON BE HOLDING ESSAY CONTEST, AND BELLA LINGUA WILL BE IN SPRING.

DIST 2:

KEITH WILSON REMINDS BOARD THAT JEAN GAGLIARDO HAS BEEN ILL AFTER A FALL AND JOHN WILL SEE IF MEETING WITH DIST. 2 LIAISONS NEEDS TO BE HELD.

DIST 3:

TONY CORSELLO REPORTS THAT THEY VOTED TO GIVE \$1,000.00 SCHOLARSHIP TO DIOCESAN SCHOOL AND CARL CIACCIO IS ORGANIZING. THIS IS FOR 8TH GRADE PROGRAM. STATE PRESIDENT AND CSJ CHAIR ARE INVITED. THIS WILL BE PRESENTED OCT. 18 ON STATEN ISLAND. THE NEXT DIST. 3 MTG. IS NOV 17.

- **OTHER CSJ MATTERS:**

JOHN FEELS THAT THE GL OFFICE IS BEST PLACE TO MEET AS WE CAN USE SKYPE FOR UPSTATE DISTRICTS. HE ALSO WANTS TO LOOK INTO A CLOSER STORAGE FACILITY IN BELLMORE FOR OUR CSJ ITEMS.

VINCE MARMORALE RECOMMENDS GIVING EACH SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT A COPY OF BOOK ENTITLED "LASTORIA" ABOUT OUR CULTURE. PRICE IS \$16.00 PER BOOK. ED BOCHYNSKI REMINDS ALL THAT MANY STUDENTS NOW READ ON IPADS AND TABLETS RATHER THEN FROM BOOKS. LOU GALLO MOVES TO ORDER 1000 MORE EACH OF THE DELBIANCO AND MARCONI BOOKMARKS SECONDED BY TONY CORSELLO AND PASSED.

- **CSJ LUNCHEON:**

JO COHEN REMINDS ALL THAT WE WILL DO THE MAILING FOR THE LUNCH AFTER WINTER CHARITY BALL AND HONOREES ARE AS FOLLOWS: C RERES, L GALLO, ASSY. RON CASTORINO AND ANTHONY COLAVITA FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY. THIS WILL BE FEB. 25 2018 AT RUSSO'S ON THE BAY.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS THE MEETING WAS CLOSED BY JOHN FRATTA AT 9:45 P.M. NEXT MEETING IS NOV. 14 AT GL OFFICE.

MINUTES ATTESTED TO:

KEITH WILSON
REC. SECTY.

ATTACHMENTS