

**CSJ Executive Board Meeting
June 12, 2018**

In Attendance: John Fratta, Eleanor Jobbagy, Mike Santo, MaryAnn Respoli, Marianne Bortone-Prince, Tom Adamo, Tony Rotoli, Anthony Corsello

Convention: John advised that we received more donations on the floor this year than we did last year – approximately \$8700. He said he was disappointed; he thought that because of the Columbus Day issue, we would have been able to get more donations.

At the convention table, we sold some Tshirts, magnets and 81 calendars for a total of \$1000. Tshirts sold for \$5.00, magnets \$3.00 each and 2 for \$5.00, and calendars \$10.00.

Next year John plans to show a CSJ video with the hope of raising more im donations.

Calendars: some Lodge are buying them to give out with their scholarships. The printing cost of the calendars was \$2480.

National Plenary: John is planning to attend the upcoming plenary to provide guidance and work with National CSJ and the states.

Southampton: We will stay on this. Mike Santo suggested doing a Utube video regarding the Columbus Day issue. We will pursue this. Mike advised that School Boards are a sub-division of government.

The school board candidate with our views on Columbus won his election.

Website: Our CSJ website has been updated by Terry Tanzer.

Fundraisers: In an effort to raise funds to fight the Columbus Day issue, we will have a couple of fundraisers. The first is a Night at the Races which will be held on Saturday, September 8 at Holy Family Church Cafeteria in Fresh Meadows. The second is an Italian Music Show. We are looking for a venue, perhaps St. John's or Queens College, and hope to have this in October. John is working on getting the entertainment – hopefully at no cost to the CSJ.

NYU Incident: A member, Frank Ruggerio, was speaking at an event at NYU when a staff member who obviously did not agree with what Frank was saying, made the comment “you are Italian.” and walked away. Frank is saying this is discrimination and wants the CSJ to get involved. Mike Santo will contact Frank to find out exactly what happened and determine if we should get involved..

Financial report: No financial report was given since both financial officers were not in attendance. Joe Vallone is in rehab and is slowly progressing. We will send him a get well basket. Since he will be out for a while, Lou Gallo, who is authorized to sign checks, will be handling the checkbook until further arrangements are made. A letter will be prepared for the bank to add another name on the account.

We will be purchasing more copies of the book La Storia. These books were given to the State scholarship recipients, Bella Lingua Award and CSJ Essay Contest recipients. Some districts expressed interest in giving these books to other award recipients in their district.

June 25 is Italian Night at Eisenhower Park. It will be from 7:00 pm. 9:00 p.m. CSJ will set up a table with CSJ positive image material, and will sell our calendar. Marianne Prince will man the table.

District Reports:

District I – Lou Gallo has been and will be making presentations on Columbus. The Essay Awards will be presented next week. Lou advised that Mike Florio, a staff member of Tom Suozzi, told him that Suozzi has reaffirmed his commitment regarding Columbus.

District II – La Bella Lingua presentation will be Saturday morning at the Marco Polo Lodge. Breakfast will be provided.

District III – La Bella Lingua presentation will be made on June 21 at the Museum. In addition, St. Bernadette's Catholic Academy and Notre Dame Catholic Academy, both on Staten Island, will each receive \$300 towards their Italian Program. All liaisons in the district were invited; Trustees were not, but will be.

Regarding transferring our videos to cd's, it was decided not to do this because of legal issues.

John advised that we (the Italian People) never received an apology for the New Orleans Massacre. He brought this to the attention of Kevin Cairra, National CSJ Chairperson. John plans to work with the local lodge(s) in New Orleans to rectify this situation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Jobbagy
CSJ Co-chairperson