

**NYS Commission for Social Justice
Grand Lodge of NY Foundation
Executive Board Meeting
September 11, 2018
Grand Lodge Office**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairperson Eleanor Jobbagy at 7:30 p.m.
John Fratta was excused.

The following were in attendance:

- **E. Jobbagy**
- **K. Wilson**
- **T. Corsello**
- **M. Rispoli**
- **T. Adamo**
- **J. Grove**
- **C. Lucie**
- **M. Santo**
- **V. Marmorale**
- **M. Prince**

All others were excused

The pledge and opening ceremony was held

The prayer was led by Keith Wilson

The minutes of the prior meeting were accepted as read

Keith passed out copies of the flyer for the CSJ Board Christmas party on Dec. 3 at Ciminelli's in Bethpage. \$40.00 per person for the party.

The new directory for the committee was passed out also.

The New CSJ Info brochure is now available and Keith passed some around for all to see and take if need be. He thanked committee of M. Prince and others for assistance.

- **Treasury:**

Eleanor reports for Joe Vallone that we have on hand the following:

CHKG \$8,015.36

Save Col Acct \$293.53

Wells Fargo \$122,879.00

All the bills are currently paid.

- **FS Report:**

Joanne Grove reports that she met with Eleanor and reconciled all accounts for the time that Joe was in the hospital. All balances agreed. She will have full report at next meeting.

Marianne Prince inquired if the CSJ books need to be audited and Eleanor will speak to John about this being done as it has been done in the past. Eleanor reports that all the necessary paperwork has been given to the accountant and we will get report in the future.

- **Committee Reports:**

The Following Committees Reported:

- **Columbus Issue:**

Keith Wilson reports that John brought up to the Foundation Board about our Contribution for the Columbus Heritage Coalition. After the request was made and explained by John to the Board. Past State and National Pres. Joe Sciame explained that at the last coalition meeting which he attended that the coalition still needed to solidify the plans for the committee going forward on A 501 c3 exemption and other issues. This was tabled for this reason at the

Foundation meeting until we get more of a clear picture where they are headed. All concurred and John will bring back up again to the board at that time. Mike Santo reports that he also feels the Board needs to be kept updated on this matter and the expenditure for this coalition is very worthwhile. Keith also reports for John that Rocco Carriero may want us to come to the Southampton School Board meeting in October and keep our presence felt there for saving Columbus Day purposes. All concurred. Discussion ensued about the NYC landmarks recognizing the NYC Columbus Day Statue. This is in the hand of the Commission at NYC levels and then will be forwarded to National Landmarks as well.

- **Storage Unit:**

Keith Wilson updates all on the unit being in Good Shape after a new company bought the warehouse. Marianne Prince, Lou Gallo and Eleanor took care of the business of getting our invoices for payment up to date and we are now good to go. Keith and Charlie Lucie will be going there on Saturday to PU some materials for the Hofstra day and other events.

- **New Orleans Lynching:**

Mike Santo addressed the Board for John on this issue of the 1891 lynching of Italian men in Louisiana and the disgrace that this was to the Italian community. Keith reported that he and John attended the National Plenary and John and the NYS CSJ under Robert Ferrito were asked to take the lead on this issue for the country. John will keep all updated as he would like an apology issued by the current Governor and Mayor of New Orleans and Louisiana. Google has much information on this issue posted. Mike also has been working with some investigators on this for info purposes and may have located a family descendant about this for needed input on this matter. He also will speak to U.S. REP. Steve Scalise who may be of assistance on this matter as well. We want a marker in their memory for this not to ever be forgotten.

- **CSJ Complaint Directory:**

Preliminary copies of the revised Complaint directory were handed out for all to review and the hope is that at the next Board meeting we will be ready to adopt. Keith reports that some small adjustments need to be made for the completed document. All will review and give input as needed.

- **Luncheon:**

The luncheon will be Feb 24, 2019 and Carol Surace Whalen will be one of the honorees as she was related to Dr. Sellaro. Other honorees will be decided very soon. The affair will be mailed out as usual after the winter charity ball paperwork is out.

- **Calendars:**

Eleanor Reports that to date we have sold 172 calendars and collected \$2, 2220.00 almost breaking even on the expenditure. We will be selling at Hofstra along with tee shirts and other materials.

- **John Dabbene Memorial Essay Contest:**

Charlie Lucie reports that the contest will be conducted as agreed upon in the fall and the deadline for returns will be Dec. 1 2018. criteria will be the same as last year and expanded to

Other middle schools. This applies to all children and grandchildren of members. Judging committee is Charlie, Lou, Tom and Joe V.

- **Bella Lingua:**

MaryAnn Rispoli handed out a written process for the Bella lingua program with full packets going to all Dist. Chairs next month. Returns and results are made by the Dist. Chairs when received locally. The foundation funds the awards for this annually.

- **Holocaust Museum:**

Vince Marmorale reports that he will be speaking at the Gulotta Lodge for Heritage month in October as well as the Italian Labor Council in Oct as requested by Stella Grillo. He will also be speaking at the Chicago social studies conference in the fall as well.

- **Hofstra Day:**

Eleanor reports that this will be this Sunday Sept 16 from 11-5 and our State Pres Robert Ferrito will be one of the Keynote Speakers. Lou Gallo will present History in a Box to the student theatre. Camp Italia will also be there as well. They will be giving Language lessons that day to students.

- **Night at the Races:**

Eleanor reports that this was cancelled but due to donations we made \$200.00 for this event. We needed more support for this to have happened. This concluded committee reports.

- **Dist. Chairs Reports:**

Dist. 1: C. Lucie reports that his next meeting will be 9-22 at the Commack Library. He also recapped his last meeting and how his liaisons have agreed to hold the local essay contest and have chosen 6 school districts to host the contest. Awards will be given in the spring. Charlie reports that Donna DeNatale has been very helpful to his committee.

Dist. 2: M. Rispoli reports that Aug. 16 was the last meeting at Jean Gagliardo' s house they would like all to send liaisons to the meeting as needed. Maryann will chair Bella Lingua for Dist. 2 again this year.

Dist. 3: T. Corsello reports that his last meeting was Aug 16 and had 6 attendees. This represented only 4 lodges. Tony reviewed the minutes of the meeting and the need for a fundraiser for Dist. 3 CSJ. The Bella Lingua was presented at Dist. 3 at the GMM and all went well. Tony reminded all his liaisons to make a CSJ report at all local Lodge meetings. His next meeting will be in November at Pirandello Lodge.

- **New Business:**

Tom Adamo proposed a subcommittee to go out and solicit donations for CSJ from small and big businesses. He and Mike Santo will work on this presentation business plan and report back to the board. Committee will be called a Corporate Funding Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

The next board meeting will be Oct. 9, 2018. at the GLO.

Minutes attested to:

Keith Wilson
Secty.
Attachments

