

**NYS CSJ BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 13, 2021
VIA ZOOM TECHNOLOGY**

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:35 P.M. BY CHAIRMAN JOHN FRATTA
THE PLEDGE WAS SAID AND THE MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS HELD
THE ROLL CALL SHOWED THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

- **J FRATTA**
- **E JOBBAGY**
- **K WILSON**
- **G GRAHAM**
- **J GROVE**
- **T ROTOLI**
- **L GALLO**
- **V MARMORALE**
- **J PARAZELLI**
- **M PRINCE**
- **M RISPOLI**
- **J ALFONSO**
- **C FEDERICO**
- **M FOCARAZZO**
- **ALL OTHERS WERE EXCUSED**
- **3 GUESTS WERE ON THE CALL FROM THE SYRACUSE DIST. 7 FOR THE UPDATE ON THE COLUMBUS STATUE ISSUE UP THERE.**

THE MINUTES OF THE FEB. 2021 MEETING WERE ACCEPTED WITH ONE CORRECTION.

TREASURER G GRAHAM REPORTED THE FOLLOWING UPDATES:

\$21,828.89 MARCH BALANCE ALL SHAMROCK WINNERS PAID. NOT ALL CASHED
COLUMBUS ACCT. \$828.53 BALANCE OF MARCH MONTH \$20,596.34
CONSOLIDATED BAL \$4424.87

CONVENTION DONATIONS 2020 RECEIVED BY GERI FROM THE GRAND LODGE
OF \$5010.00 IN APRIL. JOHN SUGGESTS THAT WE PUT THE CONVENTION DONATIONS IN THE
COLUMBUS ACCOUNT. KEITH WILSON MOVED AND SECONDED BY M PRINCE
DISCUSSION ENSUED. MOTION AMENDED TO PUT HALF THE CONVENTION DONATIONS IN
THE COLUMBUS ACCOUNT AND PASSED.

FS J GROVE REPORTS ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

WE ARE FINALLY IN THE BLACK REGARDING DISBURSEMENTS AND WE ALSO NEED TO
ESTABLISH A BUDGET FOR THE NEW YEAR. NET FOR THE YEAR \$3,635.00 OFFICE CHARGES HAVE
BEEN PAID. BOTH REPORTS WERE ACCEPTED BY THE BOARD. JOANNE WILL PREPARE THE
BUDGET AND SUBMIT TO JOHN FOR REVIEW. DIST 1, 2 AND 3 BALANCES ARE ALL THE SAME AS
BEFORE THE PANDEMIC STARTED. MOTION TO APPROVE AND PASSED BY THE BOARD.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

JOHN FRATTA UPDATED THE BOARD ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BUSINESS SINCE THE
LAST MEETING.

SHAMROCK POOLS:

JOHN FEELS WE NEEDED TO DO A BETTER JOB IN SELLING OUT THE BOXES AND HE FEELS THAT
CSJ IS OUR HERITAGE AND WE NEED TO SUPPORT OUR REVENUE FOR THE ISSUES WE FACE.
SOME EXPECTED DID NOT TAKE A SHAMROCK AS THEY REALLY SHOULD HAVE.
PARTICIPATION WAS DISHEARTENING FOR MANY INVOLVED. ELEANOR GAVE FINALS
109 SHAMROCKS SOLD AND EXPENSES **NET \$6,000.00** NOT MUCH WE CAN DO TO INCREASE

PARTICIPATION. JOHN FEELS MAYBE IN OCTOBER WE COULD DO A ZOOM VIRTUAL ITALIAN MUSICAL SHOW AS NEEDED AND PUT THE REVENUE IN THE SAVE COLUMBUS ACCOUNT.

SYRACUSE REPORT:

NICK PIRO WHO WAS A GUEST ON THE CALL REPORTS ON THE SYRACUSE ISSUE AND THE MAYOR TRIED TO APPEASE PEOPLE BY TAKING DOWN THE CITY MONUMENT. NICK SHOWED US A REPLICA OF THE STATUE GIVEN BY THE SCULPTOR. FORMER JUDGE AND OTHER COUNTY ATTORNEYS ARE ASSISTING WITH THIS BATTLE. IT MAY END UP IN THE COURTS TO FIGHT ALSO. BILL BOARD AND SOCIAL MEDIA ARE BEING USED AND **WWW.COLUMBUSMONUMENTSYRACUSE.COM** IS THE WEBSITE TO LOOK AT.

PLEASE REVIEW AND DONATE AS WELL AS THE LAWYERS ARE MEETING THIS WEEK AND PLANNING A STRATEGY. ANTHONY DILACQUA SHOWED THE BILLBOARD BEING USED FOR THIS BATTLE OF KEEPING THE STATUE IN CITY OF SYRACUSE. MANY PEOPLE ARE SUPPORTING THEM FROM OUTSIDE THE CITY. THEY WILL TAKE THIS HEAD ON TO THE MAYOR AND KEEP THE BATTLE GOING. THIS STATUE WAS DONATED BY THE ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY. THE MAYOR IS RUNNING FOR RELECTION AND IS IN A WEAKENED STATE AS THE ISSUE IS HURTING HIS CHANCES. BILLBOARD IS ABOUT \$2,500.00 AND TWO WILL BE DONE BY THE COMMITTEE AND 4 POSTER SIZE WILL BE USED AND 800 LAWN SIGNS AS WELL WILL BE USED.

JOHN ASKED HOW WE CAN ASSIST WITH THIS PROJECT. BEN WALSH IS THE CURRENT MAYOR WHO WE WANT TO DEFEAT. STATUE HAS BEEN LANDMARKED AS WELL. THEY SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO TOUCH THE STATUE WITH THIS DISTINCTION. ATTORNEYS MAY NEED TO LOOK AT THIS. THE SYRACUSE DIOCESE BISHOPS' OFFICE IS 50 FEET AWAY AND SOME PEOPLE WANT THE LOCAL CROSS/CRUCIFIX DOWN AND THE DIOCESES ARE UPSET WITH THIS. THE COMMITTEE THANKED THE CSJ FOR THEIR COOPERATION ON THIS MATTER.

MAJOR ITALIAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS:

SUB COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY JOHN AND A VIVOLO AND THEY ARE CALLED COMMITTEE TO SAVE COLUMBUS DAY AND STATUES. GREAT EXCITEMENT ON THIS COMMITTEE. OF 5 SUB COMMITTEES THIS IS THE ONLY COMMITTEE THAT MET TWICE. PHILADELPHIA LAWSUIT HAS THIS COMMITTEES NAME TO IT. 56 OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WERE ON AS WELL. THE COLUMBUS ITALIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE COMMITTEE WANTS THEIR NAME OFF THE LAWSUIT. JOHN EXPLAINS THAT THE CALANDRA INSTITUTE MAY BE INVOLVED WITH THIS REVERSAL OF POSITION AND THEIR NAME CANNOT BE REMOVED FROM THE LAWSUIT BUT THEY ARE REMOVED FROM THE COMMITTEE.

NIAF WANTS TO BE REMOVED AS WELL AS THEY WERE NEVER PRO COLUMBUS DAY. JOHN EXPLAINED THE ISSUE WITH THE CALANDRA INSTITUTE AND OUR HISTORY WITH THEM. DR TAMBURRI NEEDS TO BE SPOKEN WITH ON THIS ISSUE AND THE GOVERNOR WILL BE CONTACTED BY A. VIVOLO ON THIS MATTER AND WE GIVE MONEY TO THIS COMMITTEE AS WELL. LOU FEELS WE NEED TO GO AFTER DR A. TAMBURRI AND NIAF AND WE NEED TO GET OUR POINT ACROSS.

JOHN FEELS THAT WE NEED TO HAVE THIS COMMITTEE SPEAK TO THE POLITICIANS ON THIS MATTER. WE WILL REACH OUT TO THE DOMINICAN AND JEWISH COMMUNITIES AND GET THEIR ASSISTANCE. JOHN IS KEEPING NATIONAL AND NY SEPARATE BUT SUPPORTIVE. THIS COMMITTEE MAY TRY TO RECLAIM THE STATUES THAT WERE TAKEN DOWN IN COMMUNITIES. PHILADELPHIA MAYOR WANTS TO ALSO CHANGE THE HOLIDAY AND A FEDERAL HOLIDAY CANNOT BE DONE AS THIS IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. THIS MAYOR HATES THE ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

SAG HARBOR SCHOOLS:

LOU GALLO REPORTS THAT THE SUPT. WAS VERY CONGENIAL. THE SUPT. NEEDS TO BE COMMENDED AND THEY ARE KEEPING COLUMBUS DAY ON THE CALENDAR AND MAKING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY THE DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING. THIS IS A MAJOR VICTORY FOR US AND THOSE INVOLVED. LOU REFERRED THEM TO OUR WEBSITE. JOHN FEELS NAACP MAYBE ABLE TO ASSIST WITH THIS ON THE HISTORY OF ITALIANS AND BLACKS AND MAYBE WORK TOGETHER ON THIS ISSUE. WE ARE LOOKING FOR ALLIES ON THIS AND BUILD A BIGGER TENT ON THIS MATTER WITH OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS.

DEBUNKING BOOKS:

THE BOOKS OUT AND AVAILABLE IF NEEDED BY ALL. JOHN HAS EXTRAS.

FOUNDATIONS:

M PRINCE WILL GET BACK TO THIS PROJECT IN A FEW WEEKS

WEBSITE:

ALL GOOD AND WE NEED TO PUT MORE MINUTES ON PER BOB GRAHAM. KEITH WILL SEND THE LATEST MINUTES TO BOB.

WE STILL HAVE AN ACTIVE PETITION ON THE WEBSITE TO SAVE COLUMBUS.

SHAMROCK:

JOHN THANKS TONY ROTOLI ON THIS FOR A GREAT JOB AND ALL HIS WORK.

WE MAY LOOK TO SUPPLEMENT THE ANNUAL LUNCHEON WITH THIS SHAMROCK PROGRAM.

TONY THANKS ALL FOR THE SUPPORT.

EDUC SUB COMMITTEE

WEBSITE UP AND RUNNING AND PODCAST IS NEXT FOR THIS PROJECT.

KEITH WILSON MOVES TO SPEND UP TO \$200.00 FOR A PARTING GIFT FOR JOSEPHINE COHEN AND THIS MOTION PASSED. THE LADIES ON THE COMMITTEE WILL PICK OUT A GIFT.

BELLA LINGUA:

M RISPOLI REVIEWED WHO HAS BEEN PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM IN THE DISTRICTS.

DABBENE ESSAY CONTEST:

G. GRAHAM REPORTS THAT ALL PRES. WERE CONTACTED AND WE NEED TO GET MOVING ON THIS PROGRAM AND ONLY ONE CONFIRMATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED TO DATE. DISAPPOINTING RESULTS. ONLY DIST 1 HAS SUBMITTED THE PAPERS SO FAR.

JOSEPHINE FEDERICO HAS BEEN PROMOTING THE ESSAY AND BELLA LINGUA CONTEST ON RADIO AND RESPONSE HAS BEEN VERY MINIMAL. WE CAN EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR THE PROGRAM ALSO TO JUNE 1 2021. PASSED TO EXTEBD THE DEADLINE BY THE BOARD.

HOLOCAUST PROGRAM:

V MARMORALE REPORTS THAT DR TAMBURRI REFUSED TO SHOW HIS DOCUMENTARY ON THE ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY. WE MAY HAVE AN OUTDOOR SHOWING AT THE CASA BELVEDERE. LOU RECEIVED A BROCHURE FROM THE NATIONAL HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND ITALIANS WERE NOT MENTIONED IN SAVING THE JEWS IN WW II. KEITH W MENTIONS THAT WE SHOULD HAVE OUR OWN BROCHURE ON THE HOLOCAUST FOR THE CSJ AND GIVE OUT AS NEEDED. SUB COMMITTEE WILL MAKE THIS BROCHURE AND JOHN APPROVED.

SYRACUSE PROGRAM:

KEITH W GIVES MOTION FOR \$800.00 FOR 100 MORE LAWN SIGNS IF NEEDED AND SECONDED BY ELEANOR AND PASSED.

DIST CHAIRS REPORTS:

DIST 1 G GRAHAM: CANDIDATE FOR BELLA LINGUA AND WINNER WROTE ON COLUMBUS AND PRESERVING THE DAY. ESSAY WAS WELL DONE AND ZOOM MEETING WILL BE END OF THE MONTH

DIST 2

KEITH W REPORTS MINUTES ARE GOING OUT AND WE WILL TRY TO MEET SOON.

DIST 4

J ALFONSO KEEPS ALL THE PRESIDENTS UPDATED AND WORKS TO GET THE WORD OUT.

DIST 7

C FEDERICO HAS BEEN HAVING TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS AND WILL FORWARD JOHN THE INFO FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

KEITH WILSON WILL ASK BOB GUARDINO ON PUTTING TOGETHER A MANUSCRIPT ON THE COLUMBUS STAUTE AND WHAT THEY DID.

ZINN RESOLUTION WAS SENT TO THE LOCAL COLLEGES THAT WE SUGGESTED CONDEMNING HIS PROGRAM.

LOU GALLO SPEAKS ABOUT COLUMBUS BEING PORTRAYED AS A SLAVE TRADER AND SEX TRAFFICKER BY A BIO PHARMACY COMPANY AND KEEPING OUR EYES ON THE BALL WITH CORPORATIONS.

BROOKLYN COLLEGE JUST ELIMINATED ITALIAN LANGUAGE AS A MAJOR PROGRAM. LETTER WAS SENT TO THEM BY JOHN FRATTA ON ELIMINATING ADVANCE PLACEMENT IN THAT PROGRAMS.

NATIONAL ASSOC OF SCHOLARS IS CREATING A K-12 CURRICULUM AND MAYBE WE COULD GET INVOLVED WITH THIS GROUP AND GET OUR MESSAGE OUT THERE ABOUT OUR POSITION ON COLUMBUS LEGACY AS WELL WITH THE CIVICS ALLIANCE. THIS COULD BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:55 P.M. NEXT MEETING MAY 11, 2021.

MINUTES TAKEN BY

KEITH WILSON
REC SECTY.