

**NYS CSJ EXEC BOARD MEETING**  
**OCT. 10 2023**  
**VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7: 30 P.M. BY CHAIRMAN JOHN FRATTA  
THE ROLL CALL SHOWED THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

- ***B ISGRO, STATE PRES.***
- ***J FRATTA***
- ***E JOBBAGY***
- ***K WILSON***
- ***M PRINCE***
- ***G GRAHAM***
- ***R GRAHAM***
- ***J GROVE***
- ***M RISPOLI***
- ***C FEDERICO***
- ***L SERAFINI***
- ***A ILLIANO***
- ***A VITTUCCI***
- ***A GLOVER***
- ***V MARMORALE***
- ***J ALFONSO***

**ALL OTHERS WERE EXCUSED.**

THE MINUTES OF THE PRIOR MEETING WERE ACCEPTED AS CORRECTED.

THE PRAYER WAS LED BY KEITH WILSON AND PLEDGE WERE HELD ALONG WITH THE MOMENT OF SILENCE.

COMMUNICATIONS READ AS FOLLOWS: DIRECTORY AND E MAILS MENTIONED.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

**TREASURY:**

G. GRAHAM REPORTS AS FOLLOWS:

SEE ATTACHED ENDS SEPT 29 2023. ALL MONIES IN CORRECT ORDER. ALL BALANCES AGREE WITH F.S.

**FS REPORT:**

J. GROVE REPORTS AS FOLLOWS: ALL BALANCED WITH BANKING STATEMENTS. \$5,658.91 IS INCOME TO DATE. RESERVE MONIES INCLUDE RAFFLE AND LUNCHEON MONIES.

M PRINCE MOVES TO ACCEPT AND SECONDED BY JANNE ALFONSO AND PASSED. THE REPORTS WERE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

**\*\*\*AGENDA ITEMS\*\*\***

**CHAIRMAN JOHN FRATTA REPORTS OR ASKED FOR INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:**

**COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY ISSUES:**

MANY VERY VICIOUS ISSUES CAME UP AROUND THE HOLIDAY AND MOUNT VERNON IS STILL ON THE FRONT BURNER.

ALBANY CITY COMMON COUNCIL HELD HEARING ON CHANGING THE HOLIDAY. LETTER WAS SENT AND OUR STATE PRESIDENT REPORT THAT ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL WAS QUIETLY TRYING TO HAVE A MEETING ON THIS CHANGE. THEY SPOKE AT THE MEETING AND OBJECTED TO THE CHANGE. TABLED AT THIS MEETING AND THE NEXT MEETING BIAGIO AND PHIL DENOVO ATTENDED. THE COUNCIL BROUGHT UP THE RESOLUTION TO ADD INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY TO THE SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER. IF ALBANY CHANGES THIS HOLIDAY THIS COULD BE MAJOR ISSUE WITH NYS LEGISLATURE AND THE CHANGE IN NY STATE. WE NEEDED MORE SUPPORT ON THIS EVENT FROM OUR PEOPLE.

WE NEED TO BE FULL FORCE ON THIS ISSUE. PLEASE ATTEND THE NEXT MEETING. LISA ASKS TO SEND NOTIFICATION ABOUT THE NEXT MEETING TO ALL DIST. 6 LODGES. MAURICE ANDREOZZI ATTENDED WITH BIAGIO AND NO ONE ELSE ATTENDED. JOHN WILL BE CONTACTED ABOUT THE NEXT MEETING AND TRY TO GET MORE CSJ COMMITTEE PEOPLE TO ATTEND AND DISTRICTS AS WELL. WE NEED TO KEEP THE PRESSURE ON THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND ASK THEM TO KEEP THE PRESSURE UP AND NOT IGNORE US. WE NEED TO DEFEND AND RESPOND ACCORDINGLY. SEND E MAILS AS REQUESTED. MOTION TO CHANGE WAS TABLED AND THEY NOW CELEBRATE BOTH HOLIDAYS. JOHN FEELS THAT THE ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY AT LARGE NEEDS TO GET EDUCATED ON THIS ISSUE AND TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE MORE SO.

THE ELECTED OFFICIALS FEEL NO THREAT FROM US AT ALL AND NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO US. SCHOOLS MENTIONED THAT WE NEED TO GET OUR AGENDA IN THE SCHOOLS AND FIGHT BACK AGAINST ACADEMIA AND THIS BATTLE. ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH NEEDS TO BE PROMOTED MORE. M PRINCE BROUGHT UP NORTH HEMPSTEAD AND THE RECOGNITION THAT WAS NOT GIVEN TO THE MONTH OF OUR CULTURE. OCTOBER 12 WILL BE THE DAY OF RECOGNITION. EDUCATION PIECE VERY IMPORTANT AS VINCE MARMORALE EXPLAINS AND OUR FOUNDATION OF OUR COUNTRY IS AT STAKE. SCHOOLS TEACHING VERY TROUBLING STUFF TO OUR CHILDREN ON THIS AND OTHER ISSUES. SLAVERY AND OWNERSHIP WAS ALSO MENTIONED BY VINCE. THE TRUTH NEEDS TO GET OUT AND USE THIS AS BEST WE CAN. SCHOLARSHIPS CAN BE LOOKED AT FOR PROMOTION OF COLUMBUS AND THE HOLIDAY AS THIS WOULD PRESENT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLUMBUS PROMOTION. JOHN THINKS WE SHOULD LOOK AT ANOTHER SCHOLARSHIP TO GIVE AWAY BASED ON THIS ISSUE OF COLUMBUS AND POSITIVE PROMOTION. KEITH FEELS THAT WE ARE NOT FIGHTING THIS CORRECTLY AND WE NEED TO CONTACT EVERY SUPERINTENDENT IN THE STATE AND ASK THEM WHAT THEY OFFER ON COLUMBUS AND THE CURRICULUM OF OUR ITALIAN LANGUAGE. JOHN WILL SEND LETTER TO ALL SUPERINTENDENTS FOR THIS INFO AFTER GETTING ADDRESSES.

**ITALIAN AMERICAN MUSEUM AMBASCIATORE AWARD:**

MARYANN RISPOLI WILL BE RECEIVING THIS AWARD AFTER BEING NOMINATED BY JOHN F. JOHN WILL BE AWAY FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AND ELEANOR WILL REPRESENT THE CSJ COMMITTEE. WE WILL SEE WHO WANTS TO ATTEND. KEITH MOVES TO PURCHASE A TABLE UP TO \$750.00 FOR 10 ATTENDEES AND BALANCE TO BE PICKED UP BY THE ATTENDEES AS THE TOTAL IS \$145.00 PER PERSON.

**NATIONAL CSJ:**

JOHN REPORTS THAT MASSACHUSETTES VOTED TO ELIMINATE COLUMBUS DAY AND NOT SURE IF IT'S FINALIZED. APOKA FLA. KEPT COLUMBUS DAY ON HOLIDAY CALENDAR AND MADE AUGUST 9 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY. FLA DOES NOT CELEBRATE COLUMBUS DAY AT ALL. PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL IS VOTING SOON TO MAKE COUMBUS DAY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY.

**BELLA LINGUA PROGRAM:**

M RISPOLI REPORTS THAT SHE WILL GET MAILING OUT TO DIST CHAIRS FOR THIS PROGRAM STATE WIDE. EARLY JANUARY WILL BE THE MAILING FOR THE PROGRAM. MAY IS THE AWARDS TIMEFRAME FOR ALL TO USE. DIST 5 WILL HAVE NEW LIASION AND HE WILL BE THE CONTACT FOR THIS PROGRAM.

**SYRACUSE STATUE ISSUE:**

C FEDERICO REPORTS THAT A BUSY WEEKEND WITH A RALLY AT THE MONUMENT AND ALL OTHER GROUPS HAD A SPEAKER FROM DIFFERENT ETHNICITIES. SOME PROTESTERS WERE PRESENT AND POLICE CHASED THEM AWAY. MASS WAS HELD SUNDAY AND A LOT OF SUPPORT FOR THAT AS WELL AND MONDAY HOLIDAY WAS HELD AT THE MONUMENT AND ALL WENT WELL. LUNCHEON WAS SOLD OUT WITH OVER 400 PEOPLE. LAWYERS HAVE RESUBMITTED APPEALS PAPERS TO THE COURTS AND WE ARE WAITING FOR NEXT MOVE.

**BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB:**

JOHN THANKED LISA AND ALISON FOR THEIR GREAT WORK REVIEWING THE FIRST BOOK AND "THE HERO" IS THE NEXT BOOK TO BE REVIEWED. NOV 8 IS DEADLINE FOR GOLDEN LION ARTICLE. THEY WILL TRY TO GET THIS DONE BY NEXT GL ISSUE FOR REVIEW.

**LITERATURE FOR CSJ:**

KEITH REPORTS THAT ALL HAS THE QR CODE ON ALL THE LITERATURE FOR ALL TO USE AND DONATE. WE WILL USE THIS AT MEMBERSHIP TABLES AND OTHER VENUES AND STORE AT HIS HOME FOR ALL TO USE AS NEEDED.

**DABBENE CONTEST:**

G. GRAHAM REPORTS 7 ENTRIES ARE TURNED IN AND WE WILL GIVE LAST CALL FROM TONY D AND M PRINCE SENT OUT TO ALL TO SUPPORT AND ONLY ONE RESPONSE WAS OBTAINED. VERY DISCOURAGING.

**HOLOCAUST PROGRAM:**

VINCE M REPORTS THAT ROCKVILLE CENTER SCHOOLS WILL BE BRINGING BACK ITALIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM. VINCE WILL BE AT MANHASSET LIBRARY WED NIGHT AND PRESENTING AT ITALIAN AMERICAN PROGRAM AT GLEN COVE LIBRARY. CARMINE REPORTS THAT HIS GRANDSON IN GEORGIA IS TAKING ITALIAN.

**LUNCHEON:**

ELEANOR REPORTS THAT ALL ON HOLD UNTIL AFTER CHARITY BALL MAILING. WE HAVE RESERVE MONEY FROM LAST DINNER THAT WAS POSTPONED UNTIL NOW. HONOREES ARE IPP TONY N. AND JOE SCELSA. WE HAVE 9 BOXES LEFT FROM STW BOARD THEY ARE ALMOST GONE FOR THE FUNDRAISER AND ONLY THREE LEFT FOR SALE AFTER TONIGHT.

**WEBSITE/QR CODE:**

BOB GRAHAM SAID NO MUCH TO REPORT AND ALL IS WORKING WELL AND WE NEED PEOPLE TO DONATE. HE WILL SHOW JOANNE AND GERI TO GET THE MONEY INTO OUR BANK ACCOUNT.

**STORAGE UNIT:**

GERI FEELS WE NEED TO GET DOWN THERE AND LOOK AT THE ITEMS IN THERE AND WHAT WE NEED TO KEEP ON HAND AND NOT USE.

**DIST CHAIRS:**

1. GERI REPORTS THAT SUFFOLK IS DOING THE TASTE OF ITALY AGAIN AND WILL BE HELD EVERY YEAR. OCT 23 IS THE DAY FOR THIS YEAR AND A TRIBUTE TO LOU GALLO AND COLUMBUS WILL BE MENTIONED ALSO. 11 AM IS THE START TIME. THIS WILL BE HELD AT THE DENNISON BUILDING MAIN LOBBY.
2. KEITH WILL BE CALLING A MEETING AND WE WILL MEET ALSO WITH GLEN COVE SUPT FOR DISCUSSION ON THESE MATTERS WITH ACADEMIA AND BELLA LINGUA GOING WELL WITH MARYANN CHAIRING AGAIN.
3. ANDY ILIANO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A DIST MEETING SOON AND WE WILL SEND MATERIALS AS NEEDED TO HIM AND HE HAS MADE BROCHURES FOR ALL TO USE.
4. NO REPORT
5. NO REPORT
6. LISA SERAFINI ENJOYED THE PARADE IN NY CITY AND WENT WITH ROCKLAND LODGE. WREATH LAYING WAS HELD IN SCHENECTADY TODAY FOR COLUMBUS.
7. C FEDERICO REPORTS BINGHAMTON HAD THEIR PARADE FOR THE COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY.
8. NO REPORT.

STATE PRES BIAGIO ASKS ALL TO KEEP THE FIGHT UP AND KEEP GIVING OUT MATERIALS TO SUPPORT THE CSJ AND WHAT WE DO AND HE APPRECIATES OUR WORK. JOHN HAS HIS FULL SUPPORT AS NEEDED. J. GROVE MENTIONS THAT THE SHOW ON FOX THE 5 MENTIONED THE COLUMBUS DAY STATUE AND ITS IMPORTANCE. JOANNE WAS WATCHING 11:00 PM CBS NEWS WEATHER SUNDAY AND THEY MENTIONED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY. JANIS PARAZZELLI MENTIONS THAT TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD IS HAVING A FLAG RAISING CEREMONY AT TOWN HALL THURSDAY AT 10 AM. ELEANOR REPORTS THAT STONYBROOK IS ADDING AN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES STUDY PROGRAM.

LYNBROOK VILLAGE WILL DO AN ITALIAN APPRECIATION NIGHT AND SOME PERSEMPRE MEMBERS WILL ATTEND. MILDRED MANCUSI APPROACHED SCHOOLS ABOUT PROMOTING ITALIAN AMERICAN MONTH AND A DISPLAY WAS DONE FOR OUR HERITAGE. CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE DEC 14 AT CIMINELLIS REST IN BETHPAGE. KEITH MOVES TO ADJOURN AT 9:35 P.M. PASSED.

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY NOV 14 VIA ZOOM

**MINUTES TAKEN BY:**

**KEITH WILSON  
CSJ REC. SECTY.**