

PASSAIC VALLEY UNICO MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, JUNE 8, 2022

Place: Basement of Holy Cross Church Hall, Woodland Park, NJ

Type: Year-end pizza meeting

Prayer and Flag Salute: Sal Benvenuti

Meeting called to order at 7:40PM by President Eileen Wood

In Attendance: Members – 25

<u>CHAPTER OFFICERS</u>	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
President Eileen Wood	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
1 st VP Pat Ligouri	o	x	x	o	o	x	o	o	o	o
2 nd VP Dominick Bucci	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Secretary, Chuck Russo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Treasurer Bruce Ponchak	x	x	o	o	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sgt At Arms James Minnella	o	x	o	x	o	o	o	o	o	o

OFFICERS' COMMENTS/REPORTS

- **President Eileen Wood**
Eileen welcomed all and wished a happy Father's Day to the fathers of the chapter
- **1st VP Pat Ligouri** - Not Present
- **2nd VP Dominick Bucci** – Dominick welcomed all, encouraged all to enjoy the food and said he hoped to see everyone at the Scholarship Dinner on the 21st
- **Secretary Chuck Russo**
No additions or corrections to May minutes which had been emailed. Motion by Carmen G. 2nd by Frank Capalbo. Minutes accepted.
- **Treasurer Bruce Ponchak**
Treasurer's report had been sent out by email. Figures at end of May do not include final golf outing figures. Motion to accept: Steve P, 2nd by Bob A. Accepted
- **Sgt at Arms Jim Minnella** – not present

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Eileen reported that we have received thank you notes for food drive donations from: St James, LF United Methodist, The Little Sisters at St Joseph's Home. Another from Carol Verrone after her surgery. Also received were requests for donations from LFFD and Special Olympics for donations. Based on past precedents – no action.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

➤ **GOLF OUTING** Joe Barone

In the absence of Joe, John M gave the golf outing after action report. There are still some outstanding bills but as of now the profit from the outing looks to be around \$6700. John expressed both his and Joe's sincere appreciation for all chapter members who participated in and supported the outing in any capacity. The outing and the dinner at the Brownstone were exceptional.

➤ **FOOD PANTRY** Roni Corrado

Donations collected tonight will go to St James.

➤ **COMMUNITY SERVICE** Chuck Russo

Chuck reported that the cash donations collected at the food drive had been converted to 8 \$100 SR gift cards which he has distributed over the last couple of weeks to each of the food pantries we currently support.

➤ **SCHOLARSHIP** Chuck Russo

Chuck reported the numbers for the dinner do not look good at the present. Only about 20 from the chapter and 22 recipients and guests. We had guaranteed the Barnyard a minimum of 60 so we might be taking a big loss on the dinner. As he has done many times in the past, Chuck emphasized that this is the culminating event of our chapter year and it's very disappointing that more chapter members have not committed to attending. There will be a President's cocktail hour for members and significant others only at 6PM

➤ **ITALIAN HERITAGE** Angelo Verrone

Angelo updated the chapter on the information he has found regarding a bus trip to the NY Botanical Garden and Arthur Avenue. Thinking the expense of the trip including the Botanical Gardens might be too high, Angelo suggested the trip may only include Arthur Ave and he would continue along those lines. However, following the very positive input of Sal B, the sentiment of the chapter members present was that the Botanical Gardens should still be included. Thus, Angelo will continue pursuing that plan for September. Unfortunately, a very negative member cast a pall over the meeting by questioning the Italian heritage aspect of such a trip evidently failing to see the value of a chapter social outing which would finish on Arthur Avenue, sometimes referred to as the “real Little Italy” of NY with all its Italian restaurants, and pastry and specialty shops.

➤ **GOOD AND WELFARE** Sal Nocella

Sal has sent out on behalf of the chapter two \$50 ShopRite cards – Ashley Liguori and Carol Verrone.

➤ **MEMBERSHIP** John Barbieri

John reported that as of now we still have 58 members.

John read off the birthdays and alluded to the average age of the chapter members.

DISTRICT/NATIONAL

Steve P advised the July district dinner meeting would be hosted by our chapter. It will be at Amore in WP on July 14th. Both Steve and Eileen stated they were looking for a good turn out by our members since we are hosting. Steve also reported the district pasta dinner had made a profit of about \$12,000 which will go to the Special Needs Christmas Party. Steve thanked the chapter for all the support and efforts that were so vital in the process of his becoming National President.

He then reiterated national convention information.

Sal B advised the chapter of the proposed amendment to the national by-laws; that is to eliminate the 2nd district Governor from voting as suggested by the Board of Directors in order to streamline the voting process. Our delegates will be directed to vote in favor of this amendment at the convention.

OLD BUSINESS

Steve P stated that since he will be sworn in as chapter secretary at the scholarship dinner, one of the first things he will do is send out dues notices. There was no discussion and evidently no follow up on Joe Agresti’s recommendation last month to do some advertising, specifically to place an ad on menus at Falls Kitchen in Little Falls.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Before adjourning Eileen thanked the chapter for having her as President for the last 2 years and expressed her gratitude to all members for helping to make her 2 years as President so enjoyable.

Motion to adjourn by Sal B; 2nd by Joe B.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:10pm

MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

Secretary Chuck Russo

Meeting Attendance - JUNE - twenty-five (25) members

Bob	Appaluccio	Joe	McGill
John	Barbieri	John	Morano
Joe	Benvenuti	Sal	Nocella
Sal	Benvenuti	Joyce	O'Hara
Mark	BiFalco	Tony	Orlando
Dominick	Bucci	Steve	Pelonero
Frank	Capalbo	Bruce	Ponchak
Christina	Castillo	Chuck	Russo
Jean	Chomko	Jay	Sisti
Roni	Corrado	Evelyn	Tosi
Carmen	Criscione	Angelo	Verrone
Carmen	Gaita	Eileen	Wood
		Henry	Youngster