

**SPRING 2016**  
**ORDER OF ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH**  
**GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 3, 2016**

Meeting opened at 9:47 a.m. with a prayer by our newly appointed national chaplain, V. Rev. Moussa Haddad.

Fawaz El-Khoury, Vice Chairman of the Archdiocese Board of Trustees, mentioned that Bob Laham has stepped down as Chair of the Antiochian Village Council. Dimitri Zeidan has been appointed the Chair.

Fawaz also discussed the meeting of the Archdiocese Departments held in March, 2016 at the Heritage and Learning Center.

Fawaz introduced Amy Stiffler, interim director of the Heritage and Learning Center.

**I. Report of the Chair**

Roger David, Chair of the OSIA, spoke about the meeting format and our income from membership, which is not where it should be. He discussed the survey referred to below and the OSIA financials.

**II. Report of Vice Chair** – Bill Tsoukalis was not present due to a work commitment.

**III. Secretary's Report**

Elias Hebeke made a motion seconded by Sam Chacra to accept the minutes from the October 23, 2015 Governing Council meeting. Voted: unanimously.

**IV. Treasurer's Report – Anne B. Thomas**

The balance sheet, statement of budgeted projects and the report of the project committee were distributed.

Anne reviewed the reports.

- A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the negative net revenue over expenditures and the fact that the negative \$105,000 is really not a negative for FY 2016 because the October, 2015-January 31, 2016 life investment income has not yet been allocated.
- Discussion about changing our year-end to December 31.

**V. Project Request**

- Anne reported one grant request was received from Christ the Savior School for a permanent playground.
- A motion was made by Mary Winstanley O'Connor and seconded by Debbie Laham to approve the Christ the Savior grant request for playground equipment in the amount of \$15,000. Voted: unanimously.

**VI. Finances**

Salim Abboud as CFO of the Archdiocese reported as to the following:

- Salim is reviewing all accounts and will report at a later date.
- Elias Hebeka made a motion to approve the OSIA financial report, seconded by Ray Rishwain. Voted: unanimously.

**VII. Clergy Benefits**

Report was presented by V. Rev. Michael Elias. Father Michael may ask for indexing of contributions by the OSIA for the Clergy Retirement Fund in the future.

**VIII. Diocesan Chair Reports**

On file.

**IX. Communications Committee – Michael Srour**

- The website has been updated and is intended to be integrated into social media. Should be user-friendly. Diocesan chairs will be able to upload information.
- Need better communication with members.
- Private funding for \$2,000.00 was received to do the work.
- Richard Ajalat, Eric Zakab, Michael Srour and Roger David worked on the website update. A thanks to them for a job well done.

**X. Old Business**

- a. Life membership – 32 members have upgraded since the rewards program was rolled out.
- b. Fr. Anthony Yazge provided the Scholarship Camp Report – He encourages camps to fundraise, not just depend on Order. \$30,000 received in 2015 from camp alumni.

Approximately 800 children receive some form of scholarship money from OSIA.

- c. Credit Card use for OSIA members – new forms sent out.
- d. Web Conferences have gone well.
- e. Membership Survey –
  - i. 1,823 email surveys sent. 43% opened and 12.1% fully or partially completed.
    - 40% members have been members of the Order for 5-14 years; 25% of respondents 70 or older; 55% of members are 50 and older.
  - ii. Most members are entry level (knights or dames). Positive commitment.
  - iii. Programs for youth is one of the major reasons for joining.
  - iv. Negative comments – an elitist organization. Don't like ribbons or "reserved" seating.
  - v. Need more communication and education.
  - vi. Complained about lack of response to questions from members from archdioceses office.
    - 66% said very likely to remain as members.
    - 10% said they may be willing to get more involved.

Roger thanked Elias for helping with authoring the survey.

## X. New Business

- a. OSIA Tool Kit
  - To be provided when completed.
  - Diocesan chairs will have packets that will be sent out.
- b. Organizational Structure
  - i. See Organizational Chart.
  - ii. Event Coordinator – volunteer job – Kelley Khouri Nagel will coordinate with Bishop Basil as to visits. Dimitri Zeidan will coordinate with Bishop Alexander. Gayle Farha Malone and Debbie Khouri could work with Bishop Basil.

iii. Elias Hebeka will handle recruiting ambassadors.

c. Metropolitan Level Membership Discussion

i. 30K; 10K over 3 years.

ii. Ed Assile made a motion to create a new level of membership of \$30,000. For existing life members, they would pay \$15,000. Payment can be made over 3 years. Seconded by Elias Hebeka.

Mary Winstanley O'Connor proposed the following amendment to the motion:

That a new level or levels of membership be investigated and that a committee be appointed to report at the OSIA Governing Council meeting in October, 2016, which report shall contain specific recommendations for levels and implementation. The proposal shall be submitted to His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH for his comment, review and approval. The amendment was accepted.

The committee shall consist of Roger David, Elias Hebeka, Ed Assile and Mary Winstanley O'Connor. Ed Assile shall coordinate a conference call. Voted: unanimously.

Dr. George Madanet spoke about OCMC.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dimitri Zeidan  
Recording Secretary