



St. Luke Serbian Orthodox Church

10660 River Road, Potomac, MD 20854

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www.svluka.org

*** FOR DISTRIBUTION TO PARISH ***

Trusteeship Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2018

The meeting began at 7:15 pm with a prayer led by Father Vasilije. The motion to accept/approve the minutes from our January 2018 trusteeship meeting was passed unanimously.

Major Discussion Items

Cultural Project Proposal. Mrs. Svetlana Rogic requested in advance to come and address the trustees. She began the meeting by presenting an idea she has for a cultural project for our parish to promote. Each year, typically in November, the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities sponsors "FotoWeek DC"—a celebration of photography in Washington, DC. Its primary purpose is to provide exposure for photographers and make diverse, quality photography accessible to audiences through collaborations with the local and international community. The basics of Mrs. Rogic's proposal are to participate in this year's event by inviting the official photographer of the Serbian Orthodox Patriarchate to exhibit a selection of his photographs. All trustees present considered this to be a very interesting and promising proposal and were in unanimous agreement in requesting that Mrs. Rogic proceed with initial planning and regularly report back to the trustees with additional details and information. We will keep parishioners informed going forward.

Annual Fundraising Event. Our parish's fundraising event with special guests His Grace Bishop Irinej, Royal Couple, and Prime Minister of the Republic of Srpska, held this past Friday February 9, was a success. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy yesterday, celebrated by His Grace Bishop Irinej, was very moving.

Annual Diocesan Assembly. The Eastern American Diocese's annual assembly will take place later this week, February 16-17, in Clearwater, FL. Father Vasilije, Mark Rasevic, and Milan Visnick will represent our parish.

Lenten Season. Cheesefare Sunday, also known as Forgiveness Sunday, will take place on Sunday February 18. Forgiveness Vespers will be served that afternoon. Great Lent will begin on Monday February 19. Father Vasilije will finalize the plans and schedule of services for Great Lent, Holy Week, and Easter and inform parishioners.



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Financial Report. Peter Bizic presented the Treasurer's Report with updated financial data on our St. Sava celebration and annual fundraiser events. Cash flow continues to be our major issue. Peter stated that he expects to make this month's mortgage payment on time, but that we are continuing to live month-to-month. Peter took the action to submit our completed 2018 budget forms to the Diocese and Deanery, and this action will be completed soon.

Fundraising Initiative. Dejan Bujak provided an update on fundraising activity since last month's meeting. With the completion of our annual fundraiser event on February 9, Dejan reminded everyone that we have accomplished about as much as can be done right now in terms of the 4 "prongs" of the strategy being followed. The next steps to be taken include: 1) Immediately undertaking a "Mini Campaign" to refocus our parishioners and community on how critical our financial difficulties are and what needs to be accomplished in the coming months in order to obtain bank refinancing of our loan; and 2) Giving top priority to investigating how we might establish some kind of regular and dependable revenue-generating "business" to supplement donations and further strengthen our loan refinancing application. More details will be communicated to parishioners soon.

Coffee Hour. Because lining up enough volunteers to host coffee hours continues to be an issue, the trusteeship is considering options for "outsourcing" this function. Further information will be announced soon. Parishioners may still volunteer to host a coffee hour after Divine Liturgy on a Sunday of their choosing by using the easy on-line signup sheet at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4fafa72ca75-coffee>.

New Business

Elevation. The trustees were unanimous in expressing congratulations to Father Vasilije upon his elevation by His Grace Bishop Irinej to the rank of Protonamesnik. This rank bestows the honor of wearing the red sash over the cassock if Father so chooses. Axios! Dostojan! - He is Worthy!

We closed the meeting with a prayer at 11:20 pm. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday March 12, 2018.