

## PASSAIC VALLEY UNICO MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

**Place:** Holy Cross Church basement, Woodland Park, NJ

**Type:** Coffee and dessert

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

**Prayer and Flag Salute:** Dominick Bucci

**In Attendance:** Members - 22

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

### **OFFICERS' COMMENTS/REPORTS**

➤ **President Eileen Wood**

Eileen welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished all a Happy Valentine's Day

Eileen reported that we have received a patch for our banner from National commemorating 1922 as the 100th anniversary of the organization and she will be requesting a chapter 50 year patch from National.

➤ **1<sup>st</sup> VP Pat Ligouri**

No report

➤ **2<sup>nd</sup> VP Dominick Bucci**

Dominick welcomed everyone

➤ **Secretary Chuck Russo**

With no additions or corrections to the January minutes which had been distributed via email, the minutes were accepted. Motion by Steve P, second by Angelo V

- **Treasurer** Bruce Ponchak  
Treasurer's report had been distributed via email. Bruce mentioned a check of \$100 to each of the 2 new UNICO chapters, Elmwood Park and Orlando. With no other questions the treasurer's report was accepted. Motion by Sal B., second by Joe A.
- **Sgt at Arms** Jim Minnella – not present

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **GOLF OUTING** Joe Barone  
In the absence of Joe, John Morano gave the report. The outing will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Meadows in Lincoln Park. The committee is awaiting final pricing from the golf course. The committee will be meeting soon to discuss this and pricing from the Brownstone to make a determination about what we will charge for the outing.
- **FOOD PANTRY** Roni Corrado  
Roni was not present, but Eileen advised she had been contacted by Roni and advised that food collected tonight by Joe B would be going to 1<sup>st</sup> Reformed of Little Falls. Money can also be donated by sending to Roni as per her request. Last month we donated \$175 in gift cards (corrected to \$200 by Sal B) to LF United Methodist.
- **OVERSEAS SOLDIERS** Roni Corrado  
Evelyn Tosi advised that she has three grandsons who are currently in the military, two of whom will soon be deployed overseas (Egypt and Poland) and the third going to Drill sergeant school. Roni will take care of sending packages upon their deployment. The chapter thanks Evelyn for their service and for her service.
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE** Pat Liguori  
A date for our annual food drive at LF ShopRite has been secured by Sal B. It will be on April 23<sup>rd</sup>
- **SCHOLARSHIP** Pat Liguori

Applications have been delivered to Passaic Valley HS. The committee will be meeting soon to make plans for the dinner etc.

- **RAFFLE COMMITTEE** Carmen Gaita  
In Carmen's absence, Joe B has tickets tonight should anyone need them and urged members to bring tickets\money to the March meeting. The drawing will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> at St Agnes Church.
- **CHAPTER 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA** Joe Agresti  
Joe advised of the current approximate responses regarding ticket purchases and sale of ads for the journal and reiterated cost of ads. He again urged members to buy tickets, sell ads, and get the money in as soon as possible.
- **ITALIAN HERITAGE** Angelo Verrone  
No report
- **GOOD AND WELFARE** Sal Nocella  
Sal B brought us up to date with his latest information about Joe McGill who had been hospitalized for 3 weeks with Covid. He is now home and receiving home health care but still not doing well. We will reach out to Joe as we receive updated information. In the meantime, we are asked to keep him in our prayers.
- **MEMBERSHIP** John Barbieri  
John read off the February birthdays and alluded to the average age of the chapter members. John will get an updated dues paid roster from National to update our current membership count.

### **DISTRICT/NATIONAL**

NP Steve P spoke about the district pasta dinner which had been re-scheduled to April 22<sup>nd</sup> in Wayne, He again mentioned the 2 new chapters, Elmwood Park and Orlando. The National Board of Directors meeting will be in March at Myrtle Beach.

Steve also spoke about the UNICO National calendar which will be published soon. Our chapter has purchased a booster to help fund the calendar in the past.

National has been in contact with officials in Mayfield Kentucky which was recently devastated by a tornado. As of now, \$5000 has been raised by

UNICO and sent to Mayfield. Joe A made a motion that we donate \$100 to the fund for the Kentucky relief. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sal B. Voted and approved.

Steve also brought to the attention of the chapter a situation regarding the 6-year-old son of Woodland Park resident Al Capella who teaches at PVHS and was the photographer at the national convention last summer. Some discussion ensued and the executive board will convene at the end of this meeting to discuss and then present a dollar figure to the chapter for a vote.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Dominick B reiterated Holy Cross's need for money to replace the stolen Nativity Scene. Steve P made a motion we donate \$200, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe B. Voted and approved.

Sal B advised National would be interviewing candidates for the position of Executive Director, the position Sal currently holds. He is hoping for a new hire soon

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Eileen mentioned that Dominick B has been in touch with the Barnyard and possibly having monthly meetings there. Dinner would be \$30. Angelo V mentioned the fact that we had been and were going to continue to have our meetings as inexpensively as possible in order for members to offset the cost of the 50<sup>th</sup> Gala and the June Scholarship dinner. The consensus was that we table any discussion of restaurant dinner meetings until next year.

Bruce P advised we have received a request from the Coscia Institute to renew our membership. Joe B made a motion to pay and renew, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob A. Voted and approved.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by John B; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob A  
Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM

MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

*Secretary Chuck Russo*

Meeting Attendance - February

Twenty-two (22) members were in attendance.

Joe	Agresti	Jay	Sisti
Bob	Appaluccio	Evelyn	Tosi
John	Barbieri	Angelo	Verrone
Joe	Benvenuti	Eileen	Wood
Sal	Benvenuti	Henry	Youngster
Dominick	Bucci		
Frank	Capalbo		
Christina	Castillo		
Jean	Chomko		
Carmen	Criscione		
Pat	Liguori		
John	Morano		
Sal	Nocella		
Joyce	O'Hara		
Steve	Pelonero		
Bruce	Ponchak		
Chuck	Russo		

