

ACYOA Central Council Meeting Minutes (Abridged)
Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 9:30 AM CT
St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Church, Chicago IL

Attendance: Ani Misirliyan (Chair), Jackie Russell (Vice Chair), Maddie Ovassapian (Secretary), Michael Sarafian (Treasurer), Yn. Lucine Sabounjian (Ministries & Outreach), Mardig Klachian (Ministries & Outreach), Andrew Yenicag (Communications), Jennifer Morris (Diocesan, Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries Program Administrator), St. Gregory the Illuminator General Assembly Sports Weekend Committee (Alisha Panthier, Maria Panthier, Cynthia Panthier, Tanner Asadorian, Mary Keutelian, Nora Knadjian)

1. Opening Prayer - Mardig led this.
2. Adoption of Agenda - approved
3. Acceptance of September Meeting Minutes - accepted
4. Liaison System
 - a. Central Council shared about a few chapters that were unresponsive. Discussed ways to reach out. Jackie will send out a reminder to inactive chapters about Secret Santa, podcast, and mission trip..
5. Ministries and Outreach
 - a. Hope and Healing - Great series overall for Fall 2023. Not huge turnout per session, but saw new faces participate.
 - b. Podcast, Chapter Chair Connections, seasonal prayers, etc. will be virtual ministries for now
 - c. Podcast Update
 - i. First episode, future topics, clergy pairings were discussed, goal is to have it released by the beginning of the new year
 - d. National Fall Retreat
 - i. Central Council reviewed the summary of feedback from the fall retreat
 - ii. Central Council discussed policy in regards to no show participants at retreats/events.
 - e. Secret Santa
 - i. Sign-ups are going well- people assignments will be sent by December 20th
 - f. Bishop's 5K
 - i. Locations will be Detroit, New England, and TBD on any others.
 - g. Mission Trip
 - i. 11 people signed up so far. Mentioned ages are mostly 28-35 and some are repeats.
 - h. ASP
 - i. Jenni shared the itinerary. Jenni went through expenses and revenue from 2022 to 2024. Central council agreed that in future, dates should not be at time of camp.
 - i. Lenten Daylong Retreats
 - i. Possible parishes- Dallas, Detroit, Springfield, Cheltenham

- j. Palm Sunday Planning
 - i. Council most likely will not be traveling this year unless parishes request the visit, and plan to create an ACYOA Day promotional video that parishes can play at fellowships.
 - k. Chapter Connections
 - i. Worcester January 20th, Bayside January 27th, Cleveland February 10th, Wynnewood (date unknown)
 - l. Chapter Chair Connections Update
 - i. Ani said the last one did not have a large turnout, but the three that logged on did have good conversations. Still successful - can have a couple more by May.
6. Review Goals
- a. Central Council read through goals and agreed they are working towards all.
7. Committee Updates
- a. 2024 GASW Committee Update
 - i. The GASW committee explained where they are at in the planning process. They reviewed hotel and venue contracts, sports, projected budgets, fundraising, and any additional questions that might have come up. They will continue reaching out to the council if they have more questions/need support.
 - ii. Bylaws Guidelines Committee- Q&A went well this week, with attendance from ACYOA Juniors advisors, and Seniors interested in forming a Regional Chapter.
8. Communications
- a. Social Media, E-Blasts, and Website
 - i. Andrew is creating another e-blast this week, instagram will be utilized more than in a promotional way, talked about getting Alumn more involved
9. Treasurer
- a. Financial Report
 - i. Michael went through the financial report and explained it.
10. New Business
- a. Discussed how GIFT Plan and DYYAM/CC all connect.
 - b. Fundraising
 - i. Custom Ink and CafePress are being looked into for ACYOA online store.
11. Review Next Meeting Dates
- a. Council discussed next important dates for meetings/events.
 - b. December 18th: Secret Santa- Ani and Yn. Lucine meet to figure out assignments 7:30 ET/6:30 CT
 - c. January 20th: Worcester Chapter Connection
 - d. January 27th: Bayside Chapter Connection
 - e. February 2 - 4: Central Council meeting- St. Hagop, Pinellas, Park, FL
 - f. February 10th: Cleveland Chapter Connection
 - g. February 10th: Possible Bishops 5K in Boca Raton
 - h. February 15th-18th: Mission Trip

- i. February 12th-March 18th: Monday night prayers 8ET/7CT
 - j. March 2nd or 9th: All Lenten Retreats
 - k. March 24th: Potential Palm Sunday visits
 - l. April 20th: Bishops 5K in Detroit
 - m. April 27th: New England Bishops 5K
 - n. May 3 - 5: Central Council Meeting- St. Mark, Springfield, MA
 - o. May 24th-27th: General Assembly Sports Weekend
12. Closing Prayer- Yn. Lucine led a closing prayer.

Additional info: During lunch, members of the GASW committee joined Central Council to review GASW updates.